



New Zealand Amateur Rock'n'Roll Association Inc.



JUDGES WORKSHOPS AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2008

1. Code of Conduct and Obligations for Judges, Head Judge of Club Competitions and Floor Managers

Draft guidelines to be prepared and sent to Judges for editing. If no Head Judge at the Club Competition, guidelines will also assist Floor Managers.

2. **Restricted** weight bearing rule. Dancers are pushing the limits and all Judges need fully comprehend the rule and its interpretation.
3. Best Dressed: Complete overall effect. Top to Toe, Back and Front. Special attention to men's, collars, ties and fit of jacket. Hems of both ladies dress/petticoat and men's jacket to be looked at. Complimentary colours are very important for the overall effect. Reference to Top Team Shoes not needing to be the same has been removed from the rule book. Judges are to make their own determination to this detail.
4. Top Teams: Unison of all 3 couples is paramount. Detail to presentation points, i.e. lines and movement of team around the floor, are covered in variety points. Faults which break harmony, must be marked accordingly as unison is broken. Extra points can be gained by use of music/words, keeping in mind that it is not a novelty. Entry and Exits, no matter how novel, or clever, are not to be marked. Marking, starts and finishes with the music.
5. Harmony where you have a smooth and /or accomplished easy on the eye dancer, partnered by a rough or unaccomplished dancer. Unison is paramount. We are not just looking at 1 of the partnership/team, overall effect of dancing **as "1"** is the ideal, in harmony with each other and the music
6. Timing Guidelines:
Both workshops spent time discussing the Timing guidelines. This was a carry over from the Combined Workshop.

– Mastery, Talent, IMPROVISATION. – these three ingredients indicate that moves are necessary to gain good timing marks.

Judging Guidelines:

“To be read in conjunction with Rule Book A

A-One timing is an essential ingredient within the 3 categories along with a well balanced routine.”

7. Tempo:

Is Tempo keeping in time with the music. i.e keeping up to speed ?
We will look at this in more detail in the next round. “ Perhaps expression of Rhythm is a more valuable tool than Tempo?

9. ‘ENTIRETY OF THE SONG”

What constitutes – entirety of the song.

Obviously it is up to be Judge to determine what constitutes “stopped dancing for a period of time”.

Because of the ambiguity of this guideline, for the next Nationals I am instructing as follows:

1. A couple/team stop dancing, do not get up and continue – they do not complete the song for whatever reason – Placings X Points – “O” no marks, did not complete, even though they started.
2. A couple/team stop dancing for whatever reason, get up and attempt/complete the song – Placings – 4th or last in the final. Obviously all three categories for that song are affected.
3. Points – awarded **based** on what they have done, eg, did they start/finish on time etc.

This shall be re-addressed at the next workshops.

10. Re-assessments: Please be very aware that the Head Judge or an Executive Committee member, if you are unable to contact the Head Judge, need to be notified of all assessments/re-assessments.

Jeff Alley, Bryan Wales and Brent Miles have completed all armchair assignments. Rana Mitchell has passed her exam and is able to assess.

The more judging, officially or armchairing is always invaluable.

We welcome Mr Rodney Moore to the Trainee List.

Jan Morgan
Head Judge