



**NEW ZEALAND AMATEUR
ROCK 'N' ROLL ASSOCIATION INC.**



RULE BOOK A YEAR 2026

FOR JUNIOR AND SENIOR NATIONAL DANCING CHAMPIONSHIPS

	<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
1.	GENERAL	1
2.	DRESS CODE	5
3.	ASSESSMENTS	6
4.	ENTRIES/ENTRY FORMS	7
5.	COMPETITION PROCESS	10
6.	JUDGING SYSTEM	12
7.	CONDUCT AND OBLIGATIONS	14
8.	JUDGES	15
9.	CHALLENGE CUPS AND TROPHIES	18
10.	DEFINITIONS	19
11.	JUDGING DEFINITIONS	21
12.	REFERENCES	22

SECTION 1 – GENERAL

General

- 1.1 Membership to this Association is open to bona fide New Zealand based amateur Rock 'n' Roll Clubs only.
- 1.2 A club must have been affiliated to the Association within the financial year to qualify for the National Championships. Refer rule 10.1.
- 1.3 Alteration of Rule Book A must be implemented by a remit at an Annual General Meeting or by a motion at a Special General Meeting.

- (a) The date for receipt of Remits is 60 days prior to the meeting. Remits must be in writing addressed to the Secretary of the Association. The final date for acceptance is to be advised by the Association newsletter sent to each club. Remits taken from the floor will be at the discretion of the meeting.
- (b) Motions resulting from discussions at a Special General Meeting may be voted on at that meeting for immediate inclusion in Rule Book A.

1.4 Fees, Levies and AGM

- (a) Clubs wishing to affiliate to the Association must pay an initial application fee of \$25, an annual membership fee and annual member levies.
- (b) The membership fee is \$300 per member club per year, payable by 1st August. Of this fee \$75 is to be allocated as registration of one delegate for the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) The Member levy of \$5 per club member aged 18 years and over and \$3 per club member aged 5 – 17 years, is calculated one month prior to each club's balance date and payable to the Association within 30 days of that date.
- (d) The Entry Fee for a National Championship is determined by the Executive Committee each year. Entry Fees are not refundable after the closing date for entries except at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- (e) The host club of a National Championship is required to charge a levy of \$11 for each competition day ticket sold, payable to the Association and forward such monies owing to the Association, no later than one month after the championship. However, spectator tickets are exempt.

Note: All monies due to the Association shall incur a ten percent penalty (10%) if not paid by the due date.

1.5 AGM and Travel Equalisation Scheme

- (a) Each Club currently financial and affiliated to the Association can register up to 2 delegates to attend the Association AGM. The fee to register a second AGM delegate is \$75.
- (b) A Club must pay and participate in the Travel Equalisation Scheme (TES) if they wish to attend the AGM. The payment is to be paid by the 1st April in the year of the AGM.
- (c) The TES cost per delegate is \$225.00
- (d) Observers may attend the AGM if their club has delegate/s registered. The AGM Fee of \$75 is payable to register an observer. Observers are not part of the TES scheme.

- (e) Clubs can send receipts for the air fares/travel expenses in relation to the Association AGM and make payment for the balance to equal the TES contribution (or request a refund if the costs exceed the contribution). There will be no refund for Clubs who cancel within 30 days of the AGM except at the discretion of the Executive committee.
- (f) Reimbursements shall be no more than the Air New Zealand or equivalent airfare excluding commission/insurance fees, or mileage at the current cents per km rate as listed in Book B, whichever is the lesser. Any surplus will be divided equally among attending delegates and returned to their clubs.
- (g) All travel claims must be in the hands of the Association Secretary no later than seven days prior to the AGM. Any claims submitted after the seven days will not be reimbursed.

1.6 **National Championships**

- (a) The Association may organise a Senior Nationals Championship at Labour weekend and a Junior Nationals Championship at Easter weekend or a Combined National Championship at Labour weekend annually, at the discretion of the Executive.

Refer to Book B, Section 3.

- (b) Only members of clubs currently financially and affiliated to the Association can compete in the competitions.
- (c) The National Championships are voluntarily hosted by member clubs. The selection of the host club is made at the Association AGM.
- (d) If eight weeks before the start of a National Championship there are conditions in New Zealand that the Executive Committee and host club consider would negatively impact that Championship proceeding on its planned date, the Championship will be cancelled.
- (e) The Host Club must liaise with the Executive Committee on all aspects of hosting the National Competition including the Nationals checklist. See Book B.

1.7 The National Championships are held over 3 consecutive days, Friday/Saturday/Sunday. Refer rule 5.1.

1.8 The dividing point between the age limits for the Junior Championship and the Senior Championship is 18 years of age.

The age limits are:

Junior Championship – 5 years and under 18 years as at the Monday immediately following the competition except for Section 6 where the age limit is 3 years and under 18 years as at the Monday immediately following the competition.

Senior Championship – 18 years and over as at the Monday immediately following the competition.

(a) **Junior Championship Sections**

1	Junior	5 years to 10 years
2	Intermediate	11 years to 13 years
3	Seniors	14 years to 17 years
4	-----	
5	Top Club	5 years to 17 years
6	Novelty	3 years to 17 years
7	Triples Junior	5 years to 13 years

8	Triples Intermediate	5 years to 17 years
9	Cheerleaders	5 years to 17 years
10	Junior Restricted	5 years to 12 years
11	Restricted	5 years to 17 years
13	Same Sex	5 years to 17 years
14	Novice	5 years to 17 years
16	Junior Same Sex	5 years to 12 years

(b) **Senior Championship Sections**

1	Open	18 years and over
2	Platinum	30 years and over
3	Golden	40 years and over
4	Masters	50 years and over
5	Top Club	18 years and over
6	Novelty	18 years and over
7	Open Triples	18 years and over
8	Senior Triples	40 years and over
9	-----	
10	Open Restricted	18 years and over
11	Senior Restricted	40 years and over
12	Diamond	60 years and over
13	Open Same Sex	18 years and over
14	Novice	18 years and over
15	Senior Team	40 years and over
16	Senior Same Sex	40 years and over
17	Diamond Restricted	60 years and over
18	Diamond Triples	60 years and over

(c) Dancing in a Higher Section – Junior Championship only.

One partner of a couple in the Junior or Intermediate sections is entitled to dance up a section if, and only if, by adding two years to that person's age the competitor then fulfils the age requirements for the other partner's higher section. Likewise one or two members of a Junior Triples team can dance up a section if the third member is of Intermediate Triples age.

Note that:

- (i) The reverse cannot happen, i.e. a competitor cannot dance down a section.
- (ii) A Senior section entrant for the Junior Championship cannot dance up into the Senior Championship by adding two years to that entrant's age.
- (iii) A dancer who is 17 years of age whose birthday falls between the Monday immediately following a Junior Championship and the Monday immediately following the next Senior Championship will be able to dance at Senior Nationals prior to their 18th birthday. A birth certificate must be provided. Once having danced at a Senior Nationals, a competitor cannot again dance at a Junior Nationals.

1.9 A person can only represent one Association club per National Championship.

1.10 Club/s hosting National Championships are required by the Association to make a DVD of all competition categories and presentations, including all the dancing in all the heats, quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals of the event to be available for purchase at a reasonable cost to associated clubs.

- 1.11 All reasonable accommodation/travel expenses pertaining to National Championships expended by official judges and scrutineers on behalf of the Association will be reimbursed by the Association.
- 1.12 Breach of any of these rules and/or instructions may render an entry invalid and/or subject to whatever ruling that the Executive Committee deem necessary in order to protect the integrity and status of the National Championship.
- 1.13 The Executive Committee reserves to itself the right of determining the status of all competitors and Judges, and of applying the rules appearing herein and the decision of the Committee shall be final.
- 1.14 The Executive Committee will officiate at all National Competitions with a minimum of three people per day excluding the Immediate Past President. No officiating Executive who enters any dance section of the competition shall serve in an officiating capacity on the day of their participation. The Association Head Judge will not participate in the competition as a competitor, coach or supporter.

If the Association Head Judge is unavailable for the competition then a National Association Judge will be appointed by the Executive Committee to officiate as Head Judge for a National Championship.

SECTION 2 - DRESS CODE

- 2.1 (a) The dress code for competitors shall be traditional rock'n'roll clothing. This dress code does not apply to Sections 6 and 9 (Novelty and Cheerleaders).
- (b) Females will dress in ladies' attire, males in men's attire.
- 2.2 When standing naturally, the lady's dress and petticoat must cover the knee completely, that is the crease at the back of the knee as well, inclusive of petticoats, which by definition shall be tiered, layered or frilled to enhance the fullness of the dress and must be worn whilst competing in the National Championships.
- The exception is Sections 10, 11 & 17 (Restricted) where ladies have the option of wearing calf length straight skirts.
- 2.3 Competitors must also wear their competition clothing when being presented with a placement/ medal/trophy in all categories.
- 2.4 (a) The dress code shall be monitored in a marshalling area by the Floor Manager(s) and will then be viewed by the Association Head Judge and judging panel prior to the Best Dressed competition.
- (b) Competitors must be dressed as they intend to appear on the floor for the dance competition, apart from jackets, boleros, shawls, capes, ties, neck scarves, collar tips and jewellery which are optional and may be removed before dancing. Any other items deliberately removed or replaced between marshalling and competing, or while competing, will, on that replacement or removal being identified, result in disqualification unless it had been previously advised by the competitor's Team Manager to, and agreed with, by the Floor Manager(s).
- (c) Where there is one article of clothing perceived to be two, then it will be as if it were the non-removable item e.g. a waistcoat attached to a jacket could not be removed.
- 2.5 (a) The following items are not to be worn:
- | | |
|---|--|
| Denim jeans | Mini length skirts or dresses |
| Tee-shirts Flared trousers | Multi-coloured running shoes |
| Pedal pushers | Aerobic tights or skirts or aerobic-style clothing |
| Bike pants High-heeled footwear | Harem pants |
| Track pants | Men's shorts |
| Wrist bands | |
| High-cut bikini pants or knickers or wide legged boxer shorts | |
- (b) Shoes with heels should have heels no higher than 20mm measured at the instep and for female's shoes, the heel to be no higher than 25mm measured at the back of the shoe. The heel prints must have a minimum measurement of 40mm x 40mm. This restriction also applies to the Best Dressed Female parade and Best Dressed Junior Female (5-12 years) parade.
- (c) A medical certificate is required for any dancer needing a wrist bandage and for medication or any other substance (excluding inhalers) required by competitors between the two songs."
- 2.6 Failure to comply with the National dress code before the commencement of the first heat in the section being competed in will result in disqualification.

- 2.7 Failure to comply with Rule 2.5 (b) before the first Call Back in the Best Dressed Female, Best Dressed Junior Female (5-12 years), Best Dressed Junior Male (5-12 years) and Best Dressed Male parades will result in disqualification.

SECTION 3 - ASSESSMENTS

Section 3 - Assessments removed as per the 2022 AGM. Previous content now included in Book B for reference.

SECTION 4 - ENTRIES/ENTRY FORMS

4.1 Entries must be made on the form supplied by the Association and are not considered accepted until the total payment of entry fees is received.

4.2 Entry forms show:

- i) The section names and the age limits for the sections.
- ii) The names, addresses and club affiliations of all competitors.
- iii) Every competitor's date of birth.

Any competitor whose age may be questioned shall produce a birth certificate if required at the time of entry or subsequently. Any forms must be typed or printed for clarity and must be signed by all competitors or guardians to verify correctness.

Novelty entry forms will state the requirements that the act be of a standard suitable for family viewing but do not have to be signed by the competitors.

Note: entry forms will be required for the Best Dressed Female, Best Dressed Female 5 - 12 years, Best Dressed Male and Best Dressed Male 5 - 12 years competitions.

4.3 The age of an entrant is taken to be:

For both Junior and Senior Championships, their age as at the Monday immediately following the competition.

Refer to Rule 1.8 (c.) for exceptions.

4.4 The closing date for all entries (including Novelty) is:

60 days prior to the first day of the Championship to which the entries relate with the exception of Best Dressed Male, Best Dressed Female, Best Dressed Male 5-12 and Best Dressed Female 5-12 which is 7 days prior to the first day of the Championship.

4.5 Entries received will be receipted and acknowledged by the Association Secretary within one calendar month of closing date.

4.6 Any entries sent after closing date without prior arrangement with the Association Secretary shall be null and void.

4.7 By applying to the Association to compete in the National Championship, the entrant thereby accepts the rules and instructions laid down by the Association for the championship.

4.8 The receiving of any entry in good faith by the Association does not imply acceptance by the Association for regulatory or compliance with the conditions relative to such entry, which is at the risk of the entrant.

4.9 In general, the Executive Committee shall decide on any questions of eligibility or otherwise arising out of the conditions and may in any case accept or decline any entry.

4.10 Minimum number of competitors.

Should the criteria governing the minimum numbers required for sanctioning a competition in any section not be met, then the Executive Committee may continue to run the competition, postpone or cancel the competition in the section concerned.

If the number of accepted entries falls below the minimum stated, the competition may be postponed or cancelled. However, in the interest of protecting the 'Mana' of the National Championship as a whole, the Executive Committee may reopen entries to all clubs in that section.

The criteria (per section) are:

- (i) Acceptance of entries from affiliated clubs.
- (ii) The following minimum number of dancers as listed in the following tables, or at the Executive discretion. Refer to 4.10.

Senior Championship

1	Open	3 couples
2	Platinum	3 couples
3	Golden	3 couples
4	Masters	3 couples
5	Top Club	3 teams
6	Novelty	3 entries
7	Open Triples	3 teams
8	Senior Triples	3 teams
9	-----	
10	Open Restricted	3 couples
11	Senior Restricted	3 couples
12	Diamond	3 couples
13	Open Same Sex	3 couples
14	Novice	3 couples
15	Senior Teams	3 teams
16	Senior Same Sex	3 couples
17	Diamond Restricted	3 couples
18	Diamond Triples	3 teams

Junior Championship

1	Junior	3 couples
2	Intermediate	3 couples
3	Senior	3 couples
4	-----	
5	Top Club	3 teams
6	Novelty	3 entries
7	Junior Triples	3 teams
8	Intermediate Triples	3 teams
9	Cheerleaders	3 teams
10	Junior Restricted	3 couples
11	Restricted	3 couples
12	-----	
13	Same Sex	3 couples
14	Novice	3 couples
16	Junior Same Sex	3 couples

4.11 The maximum number of entries for each club in Section 5 (Top Club) is 2 teams; 6 (Novelty) is 1 entry; 9 (Cheerleaders) is 1 team; 15 (Senior Team) is 2 teams.

4.12 (a) A couple can only enter one section of Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 12 in the National Championships.

- (b) A Same Sex couple can only dance in one of sections 13 or 16 in the National Championships.
- (c) An entrant or competitor can only dance in one of sections 7, 8 or 18 in the National Championships.
- (d) A couple or Same Sex couple can only dance in one of sections 10, 11, 17 in the national Championships.
- (e) A Novice couple in Section 14 (Novice) cannot compete in any other section except 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16 & 18 in the Nationals Championships.
- (f) A Couple or Same Sex couple who competes in one of Sections 10, 11, 17 cannot also compete in one of Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 13 & 16 in the National Championships.
- (g) A Same Sex couple who competes in Section 14 cannot also compete in Sections 13 & 16 in the National Championships.

SECTION 5 - COMPETITION PROCESS

- 5.1 (a) The timetable for the competition will be set by the Executive Committee in conjunction with the Host Club. The Senior Championships and the Junior Championships may start on a Friday evening.
- (b) Where the number of entries in sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17 & 18 exceeds 4 couples or four triples then finalists will be determined through the process of heats, quarter finals and semi - finals, depending on the number of entries. The Executive Committee will make the decision as to whether or not there are sufficient entries in a section to warrant quarter finals and may, if deemed necessary, hold three semi-finals instead of the usual two before progression to the finals.
- (c) No more than four couples will proceed to each of the quarter finals and semi-final(s) unless there is a tie refer to Rule 6.3. No more than three triple teams will proceed to each of the quarter finals, semi-final(s) and final.
- (d) Provided Rule 4.10 is adhered to, a semi-final will be danced in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17 & 18 irrespective of the number of competitors entered.
- (e) No more than 4 couples in Senior Championship section 1 and Senior and Junior Championship sections 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16 & 17 will progress to the final.

No more than 4 couples in Junior Championship section 1 and section 14, will proceed to the final unless that section has only five entries, in which case all five entries will progress to the final.

- (f) Note that when the Executive Committee selects the competitors for the heats the only criteria used is an endeavour to try to have as many different clubs represented in each heat as is possible. Other than that the competitors are selected on a random basis (numbers and names are 'drawn out of a hat') and hence it is possible that the eventual finalists may all be in the same heat together.

5.2 The highest scoring competitors from each stage progress to the next stage of the championship.

5.3 Championship places will be awarded for 4th, 3rd, 2nd, and 1st in the finals except for sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 15 and 18, which will be awarded for 3rd, 2nd and 1st. They are to be announced in the following order: 4th, 3rd, 2nd, and 1st.

5th place getters will be awarded a finalist medal, to be announced prior to championship places.

- 5.4 (a) Competitors in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 & 17 are required to dance to 1 slow and then 1 fast song/instrumental in each stage of the competition. Competitors in Sections 7, 8 and 18 (Triples) will dance to one slow medium and then one faster medium song/instrumental in each stage of the competition.
- (b) The songs/instrumentals are to be the original recording and artist (or most known version) selected by the Executive Committee from the National Playlist.
- (c) The National Playlist consists of agreed songs recorded between the years of 1951 and 1966 inclusive. The songs for the list will be a minimum of 1 minute 45 seconds and a maximum of 3 minutes in length.

Slow songs will be from 110 bpm to 136 bpm inclusive

Medium songs will be from 137 bpm to 156 bpm inclusive
Fast songs will be from 155 bpm to 185 bpm inclusive

- (d) The music for National Competitions selected for each dancing section should be of similar length and tempo within that section's heats, quarters or semi-finals.
- 5.5 (a) A Best Dressed parade will be held prior to the section of competition for all Sections excluding 6 and 9. Entry is optional. Seven official Judges will judge these parades.
- (b) Best Dressed Female, Best Dressed Junior Female (5-12 years), Best Dressed Junior Male (5-12 years) and Best Dressed Male parades will also be held. Entry is optional and open to any affiliated club member who meets the age criteria for the championship and/or section being held. Seven official Judges will judge these parades.
- 5.6 Competitors in Section 5 (Top Club) & Section 15 (Senior Team) dance to a song selected by the Executive Committee from the National Playlist. The song and artist shall be notified to clubs by the Association no less than 3 months prior to the championships.
- 5.7 Competitors in Section 6 (Novelty) dance/perform a floorshow/item fit for family viewing of their own choice or design of a duration of no longer than four (4) minutes, such time to include entry/exit from the competition floor, inclusive of property set up. While fun and humour is important, points will be awarded for the presentation and entertainment value of the item.
- 5.8 Competitors in Section 9 (Cheerleaders) shall perform cheers and chants with accompanying music (without words) if desired, no longer than 4 minutes duration, such time to include entry/exit from the competition floor. No club participation from the side-lines is allowed.'
- 5.9 Order of performance. Competitors shall make themselves acquainted with the hour set down in the programme for the judging of each section and shall be ready to take the competition floor at least ten minutes before such hour or otherwise as provided.
- (a) The competitor's names appear in the programme in the order in which they will compete. Except with permission under special circumstances, competitors not ready when called upon shall forfeit their right to compete.
- (b) Any entrant not ready to appear in the order shown on the programme shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the competition.
- 5.10 Any competitor having taken the competition floor can be disqualified if they leave the competition floor before being instructed to do so by the floor manager. This rule does not apply to Section 6 (Novelty) and Section 9 (Cheerleaders).
- 5.11 When competitors are called back into the quarter-finals, semi-finals, and finals the competitor numbers should be called at random.
- 5.12 The scrutineers sheets will not be on view at the completion of the competition. Copies of the Scrutineer sheets will be made available to download from the Association website within two weeks after the competition. The Judges' decisions are final and no correspondence shall be entered into. Copies of the judging sheets will be made available for purchase from the Association Secretary.

SECTION 6 - JUDGING SYSTEM

6.1 POINTS SYSTEM

The heats, quarter-finals and semi-finals are judged on a points system from 0-10 points. For each category of Timing, Harmony and Variety (up to maximum of 30 points per entry per song) using a minimum of 6 Judges. Each Judge marks each song (1 slower, 1 faster).

The highest scoring competitors proceed to the next round of the competitions, and if necessary a dance off will take place to resolve any tied placing.

- 6.1.1 If a judge sights an inappropriate move (Rule 11.5) points may be deducted.
- 6.1.2 (a) In any stage of the competition preceding a final in Section 10 , 11, 16 and 17 (Restricted) if a Judge sights an illegal move as per 11.5.1 then that Judge will give the couple an "X" and in addition will deduct 2 points for that song. If two or more judges sight an illegal move in a song that couple will be awarded no points for that song. If only one judge sights an illegal move in a song that judge's points will be included in the total points awarded to that couple.
- (b) Restricted Section Final: If two or more judges sight an illegal move as per 11.5.1 in the same song and therefore give an "X" for that song, the scrutineers give the placing, for that song only, of double the number of competitors in the final, therefore ensuring a last place. If only one judge sights an illegal move as per 11.5.1 and therefore gives an 'X' for that song, the scrutineers give the placing, for that song and that judge only, of the number of competitors in the final.
- 6.1.3 Restricted Section Final: Where a couple receives two or more "X"s, the scrutineering for that final will be done as though that couple had been placed last by all judges i.e the placings awarded by each judge that did not mark an "X" will be amended by the scrutineers so that the couple is placed last and other couples' placings are adjusted as required. Judges' sheets will show the original placings given and the "X"s.
- 6.1.4 (a) Where a couple or triples team is disqualified after the judges' points for any stage of the competition preceding a final have been recorded, that couple's or triples team's total will not be considered during scrutineering when determining who will progress towards the final.
- (b) Where a couple, triples team or teams is disqualified after the judges' placings for a final have been recorded, judges' placings awarded by each judge will be amended during the scrutineering process so that the disqualified dancers are excluded and the placings for other couple, triples teams or teams are adjusted as required. Judges sheets will show the original placings given."
- 6.2 **FINALS**
- (a) The finals are judged by 7 Judges.
- (b) The two songs are judged separately as in the heats, quarter-finals and semi-finals.
- (c) The three categories (Timing, Harmony and Variety) are judged together.
- (d) Points are not awarded, each Judge places the competitors from first to last place. Thus the placings are determined by the Scrutineers and if tied a dance off would result.

6.3 TIED POSITIONS

A dance-off will be held to resolve tied positions only where necessary. Competitors in tied positions are eligible to proceed to the next stage of competition up to the final, with a maximum number of 5 couples or 3 triples teams in any quarter-final or semi-final.

- 6.3.1 A dance-off will consist of one song/instrumental being medium.
Only tied competitors/teams will be called on to the competition floor. Competitors/teams will be judged as for finals.

6.4 **JUDGES**

A minimum of seven Judges are appointed by the Executive Committee to judge each National Championship.

The Association Head Judge may invite armchair Judges to participate in judging at the National Championship as per the Association training process, however their sheets must be of another colour to that used for the competition judges. The Armchair sheets will remain separate to the other judges and remain confidential to the Head Judge and the Armchair Judge concerned.

6.5 **SCRUTINEERS**

Scrutineers as appointed by the Executive Committee shall collate the results of the individual judges judging sheets and determine placings at all stages of the competition.

SECTION 7 - CONDUCT AND OBLIGATIONS

Please take note of Rules 1.9, 1.12 and 1.13

- 7.1 During the competition weekend, there will be zero tolerance of anyone considered to be verbally or physically abusing anyone attending the event. The Executive Committee reserves the right, should they deem it necessary, to enforce the removal of anyone in breach of this rule from the venue for a period at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 7.2 **JUDGES & SCRUTINEERS - OFF LIMITS TO COMPETITORS**
No competitor, his or her club, his or her parent, or other interested party shall communicate with the Judges or Scrutineers on the subject of the competitor immediately prior to or during the competition.
- 7.3 **COMPETITORS - OFF LIMITS TO JUDGES**
No Judge shall communicate with competitors on any subject immediately prior to or during the competition.
- 7.4 During the competition process the stage area and equipment is out of bounds to all except the MC, DJ(s) and Floor Manager(s) or person(s) approved by the Floor Manager(s).
- 7.5 It is illegal for any competitor to receive audible or visual coaching from the side lines whilst on the competition floor. Such conduct could result in competitors being disqualified and/or the coach/s being removed from the venue.
- 7.6 Any club or parent in charge of any competitor(s) shall be responsible for the general good conduct and decorum of such competitors and shall observe the instructions of the Floor Manager, an Executive Committee member, or other official acting under the Floor Manager's direction. Refer Rule 5.7 - Section 6 (Novelty) competitors' requirement that such entries are of a standard suitable for family viewing.
- 7.7 By entering Section 6 (Novelty), a club automatically accepts full financial liability for any cost associated with damage caused by their entry.
- 7.8 In the case of a team, or other entry involving a group of two or more competitors, where they have appointed a representative to be in charge of the group, that person shall be deemed to have accepted these rules and instructions on behalf of such group.
- 7.9 **COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**
Any complaints must be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee by a club and will be tabled at the next Executive Committee meeting.
- 7.10 **PROPERTIES**
No properties of any description will be permitted in any event except Section 6 (Novelty). Substances such as powder, liquids, or anything which may affect the surface of the competition floor to the detriment of other competitors shall not be used as properties. At Junior Nationals, any participation in or related to the Novelty section can only be done by Juniors and at Senior Nationals, any participation in or related to the Novelty section can only be done by Seniors.
- 7.10.1 Section 9 (Cheerleaders) are permitted to use only pom-poms as properties.
- 7.11 The Floor Manager(s) shall ensure that the music or recording for all events is present prior to the commencement of the competition, but it shall be the responsibility of the competitors to ensure that if their own recording is used for Sections 6 (Novelty) and 9 (Cheerleaders), it is set up correctly ready to commence.

SECTION 8 - JUDGES

Any National Association, Association, or Trainee Judge must be a current financial member of an Affiliated Club and must act in a professional manner and have a responsibility to the Association. Their conduct should always be beyond reproach when representing the Association.

- 8.1 Any National Association, Association, or Trainee Judge must maintain the judging standard required, such standards to be determined by the Executive Committee.
- 8.2 All National Association, Association or Trainee Judges must be supplied with the current New Zealand Amateur Rock'n'Roll Association Inc. Rule Book and must comply with the rules and any amendments relating to them.
- 8.3 Any Judge having accepted the invitation to judge at the forthcoming National Championships, must declare to the Association Head Judge any conflict of interest including coaching a couple in that National Championship. Where it is not possible for the Association Head Judge to use said Judge in an armchair capacity for that section, they must cease coaching immediately or withdraw from judging. Judges must also advise the Association Head Judge of any close personal or immediate family relations that may be competing in that Championship.
- 8.3 (a) The Association Head Judge will provide a copy of the scrutineers' sheets to all officiating judges within two weeks of the competition concluding.
- 8.4 A Judge, having accepted an invitation to judge at a forthcoming National Competition, must then attend a workshop before that National Competition with the exception of special circumstances agreed to by the Association Head Judge.
- 8.5 Any written complaints or non-compliance of the rules defined in Section 8 will be investigated by the Executive Committee. If the nature of the complaints is likely to lead to the dismissal of a Judge, a panel will be convened as soon as practicable to consider such allegations. The panel will consist of five National Association Judges pre-selected by their peers ie. fellow National Association Judges. If the panel is convened in regard to a matter concerning one of the pre-selected judges, that judge plus one other (randomly selected by the Executive Committee) will not take part in the panel's deliberations.
- 8.6 Following an investigation with the person or persons concerned the panel will make their recommendations to the Executive Committee within seven days. The Executive Committee will notify those concerned, in writing, of the outcome within a further seven days.

JUDGES QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- 8.7 **Before being accepted onto the Trainee Judges List, an applicant must:**
- Have attained the age of 18 years;
 - Complete and return to the Association Head Judge an introductory questionnaire attesting to their rock 'n' roll experience and commitment, along with a nomination in writing from their club;
 - Have their application considered and accepted by the Executive Committee.
- 8.7.1 Addition to the official register of Trainee Judges, will be at the discretion of the Executive

Committee.

8.8 The criteria to remain as a Trainee Judge is as follows:

- To take part in a minimum of one judges workshop or agreed equivalent meeting as hosted by the Association Head Judge or their nominee(s), per calendar year.

8.8.1 Any Trainee Judge failing to meet the above criteria, unless due to circumstances outside their control and agreed to by the Association Head Judge (who will consult with the Executive Committee), will be removed from Trainee status.

8.8.2 Trainee Judges will be given at least 30 days written notice of a pending failure to meet the criteria to remain as a Trainee Judge, and offered remedial options.

8.9 The criteria to qualify as an Association Judge is as follows and must be completed:

- Armchair judge a minimum of four competitions, all using the Association rules and judging guidelines;
- Officially judge a minimum of two competitions, all using the Association rules and judging guidelines;
- To attend a minimum of one judging workshop per calendar year;
- Upon completion of the above, the trainee judge consults with their mentor and the Association Head Judge to determine the next step in their journey. One of the considerations would be that they (trainee, mentor and Association Head Judge) feel confident that they are ready to sit the exam;
- Sit and pass an examination set by the Association Head Judge.

8.9.1 Addition to the official register of Association Judges will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

8.10 The criteria to remain as an Association Judge is as follows:

- To take part in a minimum of one judges workshop or agreed equivalent meeting as hosted by the Association Head Judge or their nominee(s), per calendar year;
- Armchair or judge at least one club competition or equivalent activity as agreed with the Association Head judge, per calendar year.

8.10.1 Any Association Judge failing to meet the above criteria, unless due to circumstances outside their control and/or agreed to by the Association Head Judge (who will consult with the Executive Committee), will be removed from the official register of Association judges.

8.10.2 The criteria for and reinstatement to the official register of Association judges is at the discretion of the Association Head Judge (who will consult with the Executive Committee).

8.10.3 Association Judges will be given at least 30 days written notice of a pending failure to meet the criteria to remain as a Association Judge, and offered remedial options.

8.11 The criteria to qualify as a National Association Judge is as follows:

- To have qualified as an Association Judge;

- Armchair judge at least one Junior and one Senior National Championship held on different weekends.

8.11.1 Addition to the official register of National Association, Judges will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

8.12 **The criteria to remain as a National Association Judge is as follows:**

- To take part in a minimum of one judges workshop or agreed equivalent meeting as hosted by the Association Head Judge or their nominee(s), per calendar year.
- Be available to judge at least one National Championship every two years.
- Armchair or judge at least one club competition or equivalent activity as agreed with the Association Head Judge, per calendar year.

8.12.1 Any National Association Judge failing to meet the above criteria, unless due to circumstances outside their control, and agreed to by the Association Head Judge (who will consult with the Executive Committee), will be removed to Association Judge status.

8.12.2 The criteria for and reinstatement to the official register of National Association Judges is at the discretion of the Association Head Judge (who will consult with the Executive Committee).

8.12.3 National Association Judges will be given at least 30 days written notice of a pending failure to meet the criteria to remain as an National Association Judge, and offered remedial options.

8.12.4 A judge removed to Association Judge status as per 8.12.1 will have until the end of the next calendar year in which to meet the criteria to remain as an Association Judge.

8.13 The Association will hold a one day combined judges' workshop every two years and regional workshops will be held on the alternative year.

All National Association, Association & Trainee judges are invited to attend this workshop. All judges attending will be reimbursed for their travel expenses.

To be reimbursed receipts are to be submitted to the Association Treasurer no later than 1 month prior to the workshop date. Reimbursements shall be no more than the Air New Zealand smart saver or equivalent airfare including reasonable insurance fees excluding commission, or mileage at the current cents per km rate as listed in Book B, whichever is the lesser. If a judge cannot attend a workshop any reimbursement must be refunded to the Association within 10 days unless otherwise agreed by the Association Head Judge.

\$2 from the annual membership levy per senior member, \$1 per junior member and \$1 from the National ticket levy per Saturday and Sunday ticket will go towards funding this reimbursement.

8.14 A register of judges' compliance will be held and maintained by the Association Secretary.

The Association Head Judge is responsible for ensuring the Association Secretary has been notified of the judges compliance-related activity.

8.15 Each judge is responsible for ensuring that their contact details as held by the Association and listed on the Association website are current and correct.

SECTION 9 - CHALLENGE CUPS AND TROPHIES

- 9.1 All cups and trophies donated for competitions or as special prizes become the property of the Association on acceptance by the Association, and stay as specified and must be donated from affiliated clubs only and not individuals. To ensure that the trophies are of an acceptable quality and likeness to the existing trophies, the Executive Committee shall purchase the said trophies and charge the donating clubs accordingly.
- 9.2 The Association maintains a register of cups and trophies handed out.
- (a) The cups and trophies, being the property of the Association are held by the winner(s) for the remainder of each competition year only, and must be returned to the Association not later than 1 month prior to the next championship in a clean and polished state.
 - (b) Engraving of these trophies is at the cost of the recipients/clubs.
 - (c) Recipients' clubs will be charged \$50.00 per trophy for each trophy returned later than one month prior to the next championship.
 - (d) Clubs will be informed of the person to whom the trophies are to be returned.
- 9.3 Cups and trophies will be awarded on the day of the championship and will be the responsibility of the recipients' clubs for return or replacement.
- 9.4 All cups and trophies will be decided on a placing basis.
- 9.5 In recognition of having won an event for 3 consecutive years a miniature non-returnable trophy is to be given to each member of a couple or triples team, or to the club in Sections 5 (Top Club), 6 (Novelty), 9 (Cheerleaders), 15 (Senior Teams).
- 9.6 Two types of trophies are supplied to place-getters in the championships, returnable and non-returnable.
- (a) Non-returnable: Each place-getter in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18 and only one of each place-getting team in Sections 6 and 9 receive an engraved place medal and ribbon. The best dressed place-getters also receive an engraved place medal and ribbon
 - (b) Returnable: Each section has one trophy or cup for the winners and one for the best dressed parade winners. In addition there is a trophy for Best Dressed Male, Best Dressed Female, Best Dressed Junior Female, Best Dressed Junior Male and Most Supportive Club.

SECTION 10 - DEFINITIONS

- 10.1 Financial Year: The Association financial year is 1st January to 31st December inclusive.
- 10.2 The Executive Council - refer to the Constitution.
- 10.3 The Executive Committee - refer to the Constitution.
- 10.4 Club/Society: A Rock'n'Roll club.
- 10.5 Amateur. The definition of amateur as it relates to this Association means that the dancers do not receive money or cash prizes for competing in our competitions and our Executive Officers and Judges are all voluntary positions.
- 10.6 (a) A couple is defined as 1 male and 1 female dancer.
- (b) A Same Sex couple is defined as 2 male or 2 female dancers.
- (c) A Novice couple is defined as two competitors both of whom have never competed at a previous National competition, excluding Sections 6 & 9, (Novelty and Cheerleaders). Refer Rule 4.12 (e).
- 10.7 Competitor means a person, being an accepted entrant for the championship.
- 10.8 An entry is defined as one couple, Same Sex couple, Novice couple or team, as appropriate to the championship section entered.
- 10.9 A Top Club Team is defined as six competitors from the same club dancing a routine.
- 10.10 A Senior Team is defined as six competitors all of whom are 40 years and over and from the same club dancing a routine.
- 10.11 A Triple team is defined as three dancers.
- 10.12 A Cheerleaders team will consist of a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 12 competitors.
- 10.13 A Judge is a person who according to their level of experience and knowledge of the judging systems and rules in place for judging all rock and roll competitions will either be a:
- Level One - Trainee Judge - A person training to be a judge who is a member of a club affiliated to the Association who fulfils the requirements of Rule 8.7 and has been nominated by their club and accepted by the Executive Committee to commence training.
- Level Two - Association Judge - An Association Judge is a Trainee Judge who has qualified by completing Rule 8.9 and therefore capable of judging all competitions and assessments, except the National Championships.
- Level Three - National Association Judge – A National Association Judge is an Association Judge who has further completed the criteria and Rule 8.11 and therefore capable of judging all competitions, assessments and the National Championships.
- 10.14 A Scrutineer of National dance competitions shall be a person who has completed and passed the prescribed course of instruction and subsequent examinations prescribed by the New Zealand Amateur Rock 'n' Roll Association or the New Zealand Society of Scrutineers and/or the Southern Scrutineers Association.

- 10.14.1 At least one of the Scrutineers of the National competitions will have to be a qualified current member of either the New Zealand Society of Scrutineers and/or the Southern Scrutineers Society.
- 10.15 Scrutineers Sheets - are the tabulations from collating the information received from the judges sheets, and are used to determine which competitors progress to the next stage, and the placings in the final.
- 10.16 Floor Manager(s) are appointed by or from within the Executive Committee to supervise the running of the competition programme.
- 10.17 Runners shall be appointed by the Executive Committee in conjunction with the Host Club to collect judges sheets etc. and deliver them to the Floor Manager or Association Head Judge.
- 10.18 Competition floor is defined as the area confined within the judges' podiums or as otherwise clearly marked.
- 10.19 Calendar year is from 1st January to 31st December.
- 10.20 A mentor is defined as a National Association Judge who undertakes to assist a Trainee Judge through all steps of their judging pathway.
- 10.21 A Combined National Championship is defined as a Junior National Championship and a Senior National Championship that are run in conjunction, hosted by the same host club, on the same days and at the same location.

SECTION 11 - JUDGING DEFINITIONS

Also refer to the Judges Guidelines in Book B

- 11.1 The competitors' dancing ability is judged in the following categories:
- (a) Timing
 - (b) Harmony
 - (c) Variety
- 11.2 Timing is defined as partners dancing in time with the music and one another.
- 11.3 Harmony is defined as partners complementing one another in a dance routine to the music.
- 11.4 Variety is defined as a dance routine with a spread of different moves.
- 11.5 An inappropriate move in Rock'n'roll is any move that
- (a) In sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 & 18 (excluding sections 5 & 15) is done more than two arms lengths apart, such move(s) breaking the continuity of the dance.
 - (b) In sections 5 (Top Club) and 15 (Senior Teams) where one person is more than two arm lengths from every other person on the team excluding entry and exit.
 - (c) In sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 & 18 is one where physical contact is lost between partners whilst one is above the head of the other(s) when standing in an upright position.
- 11.5.1 In Section 10, 11 and 17 only (Restricted), an illegal move is one where one person in the couple takes the weight of the other person while that person is not in contact with the floor.

****Example****

When either one of the partnership would be unable to execute the move/jump alone.

- 11.6 Interference with other dancers on the competition floor. Points will be deducted if a couple or triple teams are seen to cause interference to another couple/team, while on the dance floor.

Please also refer to the following:

- The Constitution
- Book B - Administration
- The Minutes of Annual General Meetings.
- Your Club committee and/or club delegates who have attended Annual General Meetings of the Association.
- The Association Secretary:
Email secretary@rocknroll.org.nz
Website www.rocknroll.org.nz