

NATD

National Association of Teachers of Dancing

NATD's MEDALLIST OF THE YEAR COMPETITION RULES

Version 1.5.8 (04/09/2023)

Using the following Books

Ballroom

National Association of Teachers of Dancing
(Blue Folder 2nd Edition - 2020)

Latin American

National Association of Teachers of Dancing
(Red Folder 1st Edition – 2022)



EFFECTIVE FROM 1st August 2023

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NATD

National Association of Teachers of Dancing

MEDALLIST OF THE YEAR GRAND FINALS

FOREWORD

The NATD are very proud of their Medallist of the Year Grand Finals, since its inception in 2015 it has become our premier event. It has grown to a two-day event and is enjoyed by medallists of every age and genre. This competition is for students who continue to take their dancing medals and awards with this great association.

The NATD thank all competitors together with their teachers who have taken great care in training their pupils to a very high standard so that they can qualify and take part. The committee are keen to stress that this is not a Pro-Am event and that only the person with the number card on their back is the one that is being judged.

The NATD had a very robust syllabus for all teachers and their pupils to follow as they prepare for this event. All dancers must dance within the competition rules and within the criteria that is laid down in the syllabus. Due to feedback from entering teachers the committee are always receptive to any changes that are suggested. The rules have been amended again this year, so please make sure that you are working with the most up to date version. The amendments that have been made as a direct result of your feedback and show a willingness by the committee to strive for continuous improvement.

All routines need to be choreographed within syllabus and within grade, and at all times must comply with the correct precedes and follows for each chosen figure at the grade at which they are being danced. The maximum allowed to be danced in the Latin American dances without hold continues to be 5 bars. It is also permissible to commence the dance with a no hold section as per Appendix 1 (Latin American) in the current BDC Rule Book.

On behalf of the President, we thank you for your continued support of this event and look forward to many more years of great dancing.



Kevin Page
Chief Executive Officer

1) ENTRY CONDITIONS:

- a. All competitors **MUST** be NATD Medallists and have taken a full respective Ballroom and Latin medal examination during the 12 months prior to the Medallist of the Year Grand Finals.
- i. Qualifying Exam 12 month period = 1st June 2023 to 31st May 2024. Qualifying Exams taken in June apply **ONLY** to MOY the following year.
 - ii. One Dance examinations are “NOT” considered to be a full medal.
 - iii. Annual Performance Awards are “NOT” considered to be a full medal unless a Silver medal or higher has already been achieved.
 - iv. All Competitors will be limited to dancing in; **ONE** solo event for Ballroom, **ONE** solo event for Latin and all relevant couples events.
 - v. Solo Competitors must choose whether they dance as either; a Leader or a Follower, but **NOT** both. All relevant medals/examinations must have been taken in this role. This rule does not apply to the Special Assistance categories.
 - vi. Solo Competitors are limited to dancing in either the Special Assistance categories or in the Medal graded categories but **NOT** both. A Reasonable Adjustment Form is required for competitors wishing to enter the Special Assistance categories and must be completed when taking their NATD examination.
 - vii. All Solo Competitors must qualify at an NATD area qualifying event in order to dance in the Solo sections at the NATD Medallist of the Year Grand Finals.
 - viii. Couples Competitors must dance in the correct age group and medal grade for all couples events. For further information please see entry criteria in these rules; Sections 5, 8, 9, 10 & 11.
- b. Competitors may dance in non-medallist competitions at Beginner, Novice, Intermediate, Pre-Championship or same-sex levels, either solo or as a couple, without it affecting their Medallist status providing they:
- i. Have not made the top 12 or Semi-Final in a Juvenile, Junior, Youth or Amateur Championship Competition in the last 12 months and are not registered as Championship competitors with the BDC, DPA or any governing body of dance.
- Please note that “Best of British, Champions of Tomorrow, Stars of the Future and Social/Invitational Competitions” are not Championship competitions. Details of Championships can be found in the most up to date version of the “British Dance Council (BDC) Rule Book”.
- c. Anyone who has lost their amateur status **“WILL NOT”** be permitted to enter/compete in any NATD Medallist of the Year Events. Please see the most up to date version of the “British Dance Council (BDC) Rule Book”. Please use the following link:
- [Microsoft Word - Revised BDC Rulebook jan 18 to dec2020 AMENDED-4th October 2019 current.doc \(britishdancecouncil.info\)](#)
- d. Competitors must dance in the competition that represents the highest grade they have achieved with the NATD, or one grade lower from any other association in their age section. In the event of a Juvenile having progressed to Junior, or a Junior having progressed to Under 22, the competitor must enter any appropriate Ex- Juvenile or Ex-Junior event should this be available.
- i. If further NATD examinations are taken after qualifying but before the Grand Final, the competitor **MUST** continue to dance in the Grade they originally qualified in up to and including the Grand Final.

e. A Juvenile becomes a Junior on his/her twelfth birthday. A Junior becomes an Adult on his/her sixteenth birthday.

- i. If after qualifying (In Ballroom or Latin) but before further qualifiers/Grand Final, the competitor has a birthday which takes them into an older age group, they **MUST** dance in the original age group they qualified in up to and including the Grand Final – **For both Ballroom & Latin.**

Example: Qualified April in Juvenile Ballroom but turned 12 by Latin Qualifier, they will need to compete as a Juvenile for the Latin qualifiers and for all future qualifiers including the Grand Finals.

f. Children may dance in the Rainbow Sections for as many years as they wish until they reach their 8th Birthday. There will be two sections:

- i. Rainbow Under 6 Years
- ii. Rainbow Under 8 Years
- iii. If after qualifying as a Rainbow the child has an 8th birthday, they **MUST** continue to dance in that section up to and including the Grand Final.

g. Competitors may dance in any Medal Grade up to and including Pre-Bronze for a maximum of two consecutive years.

- i. PSDT Under 10 years, after 2 consecutive years to move up a grade to PRE-BRONZE.
- ii. PSDT 10 & 11, after 2 consecutive years to move up a grade to PRE-BRONZE.
- iii. Pre-Bronze Under 10 years, after 2 consecutive years to move up a grade to BRONZE.
- iv. Pre-Bronze 10 & 11, after 2 consecutive years to move up a grade to BRONZE.
- v. Winners at the Medallist of the Year Grand Finals of the PSDT Under 10 Years or 10 & 11 section will be required to move into the next grade "PRE-BRONZE" before the next years' qualifiers. Not relevant if less than 6 finalists [RULE 2a].
- vi. Winners at the Medallist of the Year Grand Finals of the Pre-Bronze Under 10 Years or 10 & 11 section will be required to move into the next grade "BRONZE" before the next years' qualifiers. Not relevant if less than 6 finalists [RULE 2a].

h. Changing Age Groups:

Juvenile to Junior: 12 – 15 Years

- i. A Juvenile competitor who has taken medals up to but **NOT** including Bronze may start from Junior Pre-Bronze providing they have not exceeded their maximum two consecutive years in that grade.
- ii. A Juvenile competitor who has taken an NATD Exam as a Juvenile (Under 12 Years) will **NOT** be eligible to enter the PSDT section when progressing to Junior.
- iii. A Juvenile competitor who has taken Bronze or Silver medals may move to Bronze when progressing to Junior but **NOT** lower.
- iv. A Juvenile competitor who has taken Gold medals or higher may move to Silver when progressing to Junior but **NOT** lower.

Junior to Under 22: 16 – 21 Years

- i. A Junior competitor who has taken medals up to but **NOT** including Bronze may start from 16–21 years Pre-Bronze providing they have not exceeded their maximum two consecutive years in that grade.
- ii. A Junior competitor who has taken Bronze or Silver medals may move to Bronze when progressing to 16–21 years but **NOT** lower.
- iii. A Junior competitor who has taken Gold medals or higher may move to Silver when progressing to 16–21 years but **NOT** lower.

Under 22 to Under 35: 22 – 34 Years

- i. A 16–21 years competitor who has taken medals up to but **NOT** including Bronze may start from 22–34 years Pre-Bronze providing they have not exceeded their maximum two consecutive years in that grade.
- ii. A 16–21 years competitor who has taken Bronze or Silver medals may move to Bronze when progressing to 22–34 years but **NOT** lower.
- iii. A 16–21 years competitor who has taken Gold medals or higher may move to Silver when progressing to 22–34 years but **NOT** lower.

Under 35 to Under 50: 35 – 49 Years

- i. A 22–34 years competitor who has taken medals up to but **NOT** including Bronze may start from 35–49 years Pre-Bronze providing they have not exceeded their maximum two consecutive years in that grade.
- ii. A 22–34 years competitor who has taken Bronze or Silver medals may move to Bronze when progressing to 35–49 years but **NOT** lower.
- iii. A 22–34 years competitor who has taken Gold medals or higher may move to Silver when progressing to 35–49 years but **NOT** lower.

Under 50 to Under 65: 50 – 64 Years

- i. A 35–49 years competitor who has taken medals up to but **NOT** including Bronze may start from 50–64 years Pre-Bronze providing they have not exceeded their maximum two consecutive years in that grade.
- ii. A 35–49 years competitor who has taken Bronze or Silver medals may move to Bronze when progressing to 50–64 years but **NOT** lower.
- iii. A 35–49 years competitor who has taken Gold medals or higher may move to Silver when progressing to 50–64 years but **NOT** lower.

Under 65 to Over 65: 65 Years & Above

- i. A 50–64 years competitor who has taken medals up to but **NOT** including Gold may start from Over 65 years up to and including Bronze.
- ii. A 50–64 years competitor who has taken Gold medals or higher may move to Silver when progressing to Over 65 years but **NOT** lower.
- iii. At the Medallist of the Year Qualifiers competitors can choose to qualify in their relevant Grade for the 50–64 years section or dance in the Over 65's section.

i. Changing Schools:

- i. If after qualifying a pupil changes school, they will be required to take exams with the new school and re-qualify under that schools' name.
- ii. There may be some exceptions, but these will require the agreement of both principles of the schools involved.

j. Carers.

- i. Carers for competitors who require disability assistance may be able to gain free access to the Medallist of the Year Finals in Blackpool, providing they follow the Winter Gardens "Access Register & Disability Policy". Carers will be required to be members of "Nimbus Disability" and must hold "The Access Card" that is provided with Nimbus membership. For more details please visit: <https://www.wintergardensblackpool.co.uk/access-requirements-register/>
- ii. Carers access to Area qualifying events may differ and is at the discretion of the individual Area committee. Areas will attempt work with the competition venues and where possible, will likely follow the accessible policy of the venue.

2) PREVIOUS WINNERS:

- a) All previous winners (1st place only) of the Medallist of the Year Grand Final Event – PSDT, Pre-Bronze, Bronze, Silver, and Gold levels are not permitted to enter the same event again and will be required to move to the next Grade after the Grand Finals of that year and before the Qualifying events for the following year.
- b) If the Grand Final has less than 6 competitors, then the above ruling does not apply.

3) MEDALLIST COMPETITION DRESS:

- a) Juvenile: All Juvenile competitions must comply with the most up to date version of the "British Dance Council (BDC) Rule Book". Please use the following link:

[Microsoft Word - Revised BDC Rulebook jan 18 to dec2020 AMENDED-4th October 2019 current.doc \(britishdancecouncil.info\)](https://www.britishdancecouncil.info/Microsoft%20Word%20-%20Revised%20BDC%20Rulebook%20jan%2018%20to%20dec2020%20AMENDED-4th%20October%202019%20current.doc)
- b) Junior and Adult age groups have no restrictions apart from Tail Suits which are not permitted.

4) SYLLABUS RESTRICTIONS: SOLOS

- a) **PSDT, Pre-Bronze & Bronze** – Restricted to those figures up to and including Bronze (Associate) Syllabus
 - i) Only using Precedes & Follows up to Bronze Level
- b) **Silver** – Restricted to those figures up to and including the Silver (Licentiate) Syllabus
 - i) Only using Precedes & Follows up to Silver Level
- c) **Gold** – Restricted to those figures up to and including the Gold (Fellowship) Syllabus
- d) **Above Gold** – Juveniles restricted to those figures up to an including Gold (Fellowship) Juniors & Adults, Unrestricted.
- e) **Special Assistance** – Juveniles restricted to those figures up to an including Gold (Fellowship) Juniors & Adults, Unrestricted.

5) SYLLABUS RESTRICTIONS: COUPLES

- a) **Rainbow Events** – Restricted to those figures up to and including Bronze (Associate)
- b) **All Pre-Bronze & Bronze** – Restricted to those figures up to and including Bronze (Associate)
- c) **Silver & Gold** – Restricted to those figures up to and including Gold (Fellowship)
- d) **Juvenile Above Gold** – Restricted to those figures up to and including Gold (Fellowship)
- e) **Junior & Adult Above Gold** – Above Gold will be Unrestricted.

6) STYLING – ARMOGRAPHY: SOLOS & COUPLES

The NATD has a very robust syllabus for all teachers and their pupils to follow as they prepare for this event. The Committee are keen that all dancers dance within the competition rules and also within the criteria that is laid down in the syllabus. To allow for freedom of expression and movement the NATD Medallist of the Year Committee are for the first time relaxing the rules so that competitors can dance more freely with greater style and innovative armography. This does not mean that they can dance out of syllabus for their grade, and at all times must comply with the correct precedes and follows for each chosen figure at the grade at which they are dancing.

As part of the relaxation, the maximum allowed to be danced in the Latin American dances without hold is 5 bars, it will also be permissible to commence dance with a no hold section, as per Appendix 1 (Latin) in the current BDC

7) PARTNERING SOLO EVENTS:

- a) Competitors can be partnered by an Amateur or a Professional partner.
- b) Partnering with more than one person in an event is at the discretion of the organiser.
- c) Only **ONE CHANGE** will be permitted per heat.

8) PARTNERING COUPLES EVENTS:

- a) Split Partnerships will only be allowed with prior consent of the organiser's where at least one dancer would otherwise be unable to enter any of the competitions.
- b) Under **NO** circumstances will a dancer be allowed to dance in different sections of the competition with different partners (excluding option a).
- c) Couples age and grade will be as the individuals were when they qualified as Solos, up to and including the relevant years Grand Final. Applicable to all age groups – Rainbows, Juveniles, Juniors & Adults.

9) JUVENILE COUPLES:

- a) Both **MUST** be Juvenile.
- b) Both must hold current NATD Medals.
- c) They dance in the age group of the **ELDEST**.
- d) They dance in the **HIGHEST GRADE** of the **COUPLE**.
- e) A Juvenile can dance with a Junior to accommodate a partnership. This will not affect their status as a Juvenile, in their own competition.

10) JUNIOR COUPLES:

- a) Both **MUST** be Under 16.
- b) Both must hold current NATD Medals.
- c) They dance in the age group of the **ELDEST**.
- d) They dance in the **HIGHEST GRADE** of the **COUPLE**.
- e) A Junior can dance with an Adult to accommodate a partnership. This will not affect their status as a Junior, in their own competition.

11) ADULT – COUPLES:

- a) Both must hold current NATD Medals.
- b) They must dance in the age group of the **YOUNGEST**.
- c) They dance in the **HIGHEST GRADE** of the **COUPLE**.
- d) Over 65 Years competitors may dance in the 50 – 64 Years section **OR** the Over 65 Years Section but **NOT** both.

12) Trophies, Awards & Results:

- a) An Award will be presented to all finalists of each of the Medallist Events.
- b) The Scrutineer's calculations and Adjudicator's marks/placings will not be published in the public domain.
- c) All decisions are at the discretion of the organiser (NATD) and are final including the marks and placings of the Adjudicators.