Eligibility

All events are **Amateur-Amateur Events** and are open to all amateur dancers.

There are no age group distinctions. This means that youth, collegiate, and adult amateur dancers all compete in the same events and are allowed to compete with each other.

Mixed Proficiency Events for amateur dancers will be available meaning that a more advanced amateur can compete with a less experienced amateur. Only the less experienced dancer will be judged.

Entry Fees and Registration

General competitor entry fee:	**$5/ person with pre-registration**
	$10/ person with day of competition registration
RSDS member entry fee:	**none**
Rice University student entry fee:	**none**

There is no fee for spectators.

Pre-registration will be available online and will end on November 10th at 9:00 p.m. We encourage you to pre-register so we have an idea of competitor attendance. Day of competition registration will also be available. Entry fees will be collected the day of competition. Entry fee covers participation in all events. Registration and entry fees must be completed before competitors compete. Cash and checks will be accepted. Make checks payable to the Rice Social Dance Society. All payments are final and nonrefundable.

Prizes

Ribbons will be offered in all events. Special events such as multi-dance events will receive special prizes. Prizes are donated by the Houston community businesses and dance organizations.

Competition Format

Participants in each event will dance simultaneously to music selected by the DJ. Unless there is only one pair of competitors in an event, there will be no events requiring solo exhibitions.

Event Categories:
- American/International Standard
- American/International Latin
- Social Dances
- Fun Dances

Dance Event Levels:
- Newcomer
- Bronze / Beginner
- Silver / Intermediate
- Gold / Advanced

See registration site for more information on specific dance events in each category.

Proficiency Levels

Newcomer Dancers are those who started dancing after January 1st 2008. To be eligible for Newcomer this must be the dancer's first competition.

Competitors may dance in two consecutive proficiency levels for the same event.
Acceptable combinations of levels are:

- Newcomer and Bronze
- Bronze and Silver
- Silver and Gold

Dancing outside of these combinations requires a Mixed Proficiency entry.

Competitors who have accumulated proficiency points on the USABDA, Collegiate, or NDCA circuits are requested to abide by those categories.

By registering for the competition all competitors certify that they are eligible to compete in their chosen events

General Rules

Costumes: No costumes will be allowed at the Newcomer level. Costumes are allowed for other levels. See Dress Code section for more information.

Lifts: No lifts will be allowed at any level. Competitors must keep one foot on the ground at all times.

Dips and Drops: Dips will be permitted. No drops are allowed at any level.

Props: No props are allowed, except for hats in the Country Western and Lindy Hop events.

Syllabus Steps

Any steps from a nationally recognized syllabus will be acceptable for syllabus events. Competitors can always dance syllabus steps from lower levels but are not allowed to dance higher level steps in lower categories. For example Silver steps are not allowed in the Bronze level. Newcomer and Bronze levels must dance the Bronze syllabus.

Dancing higher level steps than the category allows can result in a warning or disqualification from the event/competition.

Dress Code

No costumes are permitted in the Newcomer Level. Costumes are not required for any level. Jeans are not considered proper attire (except for Country Western events) but will not be a reason for disqualification.

Suggested Attire for Competitors without Costumes:

- **International Standard Events**

  Males: Dark slacks and white button up collared shirt, optional tie and vest.
  Females: Leotards and wrap skirts, cocktail dresses, long full skirts. Rhinestone jewelry is optional.

- **International Latin Events:**

  Males: Dark slacks, black or white collared shirt, black T shirt with no logos or black turtleneck.
  Females: Similar to Standard dress code. Shorter skirts or dressed are acceptable.

Liability

All competitors compete at their own risk. Rice University and the Rice Social Dance Society cannot accept liability for any injuries sustained by persons attending this competition. Rice University and the Rice Social Dance Society are also not responsible for any theft of articles left in the competition venue.

Tentative Schedule of Events

All events are located in the Grand Hall of the Rice Memorial Center.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

Welcome Dance
Time: *to be announced*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH

- **Registration Opens:** 9:30 AM
- **Warm Up and Registration:** 9:30 AM – 10:30 PM
- **Session One:** 10:30 PM – 12:30 PM
    - International Standard and American Smooth Events
- **Break and Open Dancing:** 12:30 PM to 1:15 PM
- **Performances:** 1:15 PM to 1:45 PM
- **Session Two:** 1:45 PM – 5:30 PM
    - International Latin and American Rhythm Events
    - Social Events
    - Fun Dances
- **Awards:** 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM

This schedule is tentative and subject to change. All times are approximate. Competitors should be ready to dance 30 minutes before their event. Events may run earlier or later then the tentative schedule. Events will not be delayed if they run earlier. Competitors must register before they compete. A more detailed schedule of heats will be posted the day of the event.

Campus Map and Parking

The Rice Memorial Center can be found on the campus map at:

http://www.rice.edu/maps/

Paid parking is available in the Central Campus Garage and West Lot 1 (see campus map). Do not park on the Inner Loop road.

Accommodation

RSDS will not provide accommodations for competitors. Collegiate competitors seeking dorm room accommodations should contact the competition coordinator, Cameron Knight:

cmk4+rsds @ rice.edu

Dorm room accommodations are not guaranteed.

Competition Questions or Concerns

Contact the Competition Coordinator:

Cameron Knight, *cmk4 @ rice.edu*

This document was last updated on August 31, 2011.
Please report any errors to (*rsds@rice.edu).*