



Dear Best of the Best Organizers and Competitors:

Please view the following qualifications and rules for the Best of the Best Dancesport Challenge which apply to all participating Best of the Best competitions held throughout the year. As you know, the winners at each participating Best of the Best competition are eligible to attend the Finale events held at the Ohio Star Ball in November.

If there are any questions on anything, please contact us at ohstarball@aol.com or call 614-848-7827.

Sincerely,

**Sam Sodano
Creator of the Best of the Best Dancesport Challenge**

BEST OF THE BEST QUALIFICATIONS

The Qualifying Event must consist of the following competition requirements:

- Contain A, B, & C Age Categories.
- Complete a dance-off between 2 or 3 of the age groups—**no automatic winners** without a dance-off.
- Receive a letter and an Application Form for the qualifying student.
- The chairman or official will give the winner of the dance-off a letter and the Application Form
- The Application Form must be *correctly* completed and must be mailed before the Ohio Star Ball deadline to the following address:
Ohio Star Ball, P. O. Box 14442, Columbus, OH 43214
- No verbal entries will be accepted.

The Classifications include the following 5 categories:

1. Closed Syllabus Bronze, Silver, and Gold categories:

Routines must not exceed 1 minute and 30 seconds, no music tags* (includes set up and exit). Routines must have 2 participants. Closed Bronze and Silver steps must be limited to the closed syllabus level being danced, however you may include 5 steps above your current level. Gold category may include any 5 advanced/ open steps. Two lifts are allowed, but not overhead and must not exceed 15 seconds. See rules below regarding props and costumes. (* Note: If the routine exceeds the 1 minute and 30 second time limit, the couple will be disqualified by being dropped one placement.)

- Props and dresses - No props shall be permitted during entrance, performance, and exit. "Props" shall include such items of furniture and items that are not a part of your costume. Fans, capes

and hats are permissible if not discarded. Choice of dress for the man and lady must be chosen to suit and complement the theme of the solo performance in either Ballroom or Latin style. Taking off clothes and discarding them during the performance is not permissible.

2. "NEW" Gentlemen Only Closed Syllabus Bronze, Silver, and Gold categories:

Routines must not exceed 1 minute and 30 seconds, no music tags* (includes set up and exit). Routines must have 2 participants. Closed Bronze and Silver steps must be limited to the closed syllabus level being danced, however you may include 5 steps above your current level. Gold category may include any 5 advanced/ open steps. Two lifts are allowed, but not overhead and must not exceed 15 seconds. See rules below regarding props and costumes. (* Note: If the routine exceeds the 1 minute and 30 second time limit, the couple will be disqualified by being dropped one placement.)

- Props and dresses - No props shall be permitted during entrance, performance, and exit. "Props" shall include such items of furniture and items that are not a part of your costume. Fans, capes and hats are permissible if not discarded. Choice of dress for the man and lady must be chosen to suit and complement the theme of the solo performance in either Ballroom or Latin style. Taking off clothes and discarding them during the performance is not permissible.

3. Showdance Categories (all levels):

Showdance consists of 2 people in the routine. Routines must not exceed 3 minutes and 30 seconds, no music tags outside of this time (includes set up and exit). Showdance does not fall into the closed level categories and number of lifts are limited to 3. There are no restrictions to props and costumes in this category. (* Note: If the Showdance routine exceeds the 3 minute and 30 seconds time limit, the couple will be disqualified by being dropped one placement.)

4. Showcase Categories (all levels):

Showcase consists of 2 or more people in the routine. Routines must not exceed 3 minutes and 30 seconds, no music tags outside of this time (includes set up and exit). Showcase does not fall into the closed level categories and number of lifts are limited to 3. There are no restrictions to props and costumes in this category. (* Note: If the Showcase routine exceeds the 3 minute and 30 seconds time limit, the couple will be disqualified by being dropped one placement.)

5. Theater Arts Categories (all levels):

Routines must not exceed 3 minutes and 30 seconds, no music tags outside of this time (includes set up and exit). Theater Arts does not fall into the closed level categories, consists of 2 people in the routine, and number of lifts are not limited. There are no restrictions to Props and Costumes in this category. (* Note: If the Theater Arts routine exceeds the 3 minute and 30 seconds time limit, the couple will be disqualified by being dropped one placement.)

OHIO STAR BALL FINALE RULES:

- You can qualify at many events and in all styles, but you are limited to only one routine in the Finale. An exception is you can enter both a Closed category and a Theater Arts category in the Finale.
- Finale entrants must be an active competitor at the Ohio Star Ball with a **minimum of 10 single dance entries**.
- If you are competing in the Best of the Best Finale at the Ohio Star Ball Championships, please send in your music right now to osbsolos@gmail.com. Be sure to list the level, style, student

name, and teacher name. This is the BEST way to have your music correct when competing at the Best of the Best Finale. Do it today!

- The winners of the closed Bronze, closed Silver, Gold categories will be invited to perform an encore dance on Friday evening.
- The top winner of the overall Gentlemen Only, the top overall winner of Showdance/Showcase categories, and the top overall winner of the Theater Arts categories will be invited to perform an encore dance on Friday evening.
- Prize money will be given in vouchers to be used *only* at *Best of the Best* Events.
- Award amounts: \$600, \$500, \$400, \$300, \$200, and \$100

Please Remember, you must be an active competitor at the Ohio Star Ball.