BREAKING DANCESPORT RULEBOOK

Governing USA Dance, Inc
Breaking Competitions, Athletes and Officials

2022
BREAKING FOR GOLD USA

DANCESPORT RULEBOOK

Governing USA Dance Competitions, Officials and Athletes

2022

USA Dance, Inc: Breaking DanceSport Rulebook
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Correspondence:
USA DANCE
1750 Delta Waters Rd
Ste 102 PMB 314
Medford, OR 97504
(800) 760-0582
central-office@usadance.org
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1 FOREWORD

1.1 SCOPE & PURPOSE:

1.1.1 Breaking for Gold USA is the Breaking DanceSport division of USA Dance, Inc – the Recognized Sport Organization for DanceSport by the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee and the National Member Body in the United States of America for the World DanceSport Federation.

1.1.2 As such, USA Dance is authorized and obligated to regulate all Breaking DanceSport Athletes, Officials and Breaking DanceSport Competition within the United States.

1.1.3 The Breaking for Gold USA Rules govern all registered Breaking DanceSport Athletes, Officials and Breaking DanceSport Competitive Events in the United States.

1.2 PRECEDENCE:

1.2.1 In the event of conflicts between these Rules and Regulations and the USA Dance Corporate By-laws, the USA Dance Corporate By-laws will take precedence.

2 DEFINITIONS

2.1 GENERAL:

2.1.1 The following definitions for terms and organization names are used throughout this document. In cases for which the stated definition of any term deviates from the reader's perception of the normal usage of that term, the definition given here will take precedence.

2.2 TERMS:

2.2.1 Breaking or Competitive Breaking or Breaking DanceSport describes the style of dance commonly referred to as Breaking, Bboying/Bgirling or Breakdancing in both the United States and/or internationally.

2.2.2 Breaking Athlete or Athlete describes a male or female breaking competitor who is registered with a member organization of the WDSF as a competitor and who meets the eligibility criteria for Athletes as described in the 4 RULES FOR COMPETITORS.

2.2.3 Bboy describes a competitive male Breaking Athlete.

2.2.4 Bgirl describes a competitive female Breaking Athlete.

2.2.5 Crew describes a competitive team of 2 or more Breaking Athletes.

2.2.6 Competition describes the totality of all battles to occur at any organized Breaking event. It is an organized gathering of Breaking DanceSport athletes and officials for the purpose of holding competitive events.
2.2.7 **Battle** describes the competitive faceoff between two Breaking Athletes or between two competitive teams of Breaking Athletes during a competition. Battles are formatted with one or multiple rounds executed by each Breaking Athlete in response to the another.

2.2.8 **Set** describes the totality of one full demonstration executed by one bboy, bgirl, or crew during a battle or preliminary round.

2.2.9 **Round** describes the completion of two consecutive sets, with each individual set executed by opposing competitors during a battle. Battles may be formatted with multiple rounds executed by each bboy or bgirl in response to one another.

2.2.10 **Officials** describe:

   2.2.10.1 Adjudicators, Invigilators, Chair of Adjudicators, and Scrutineers eligible to serve at USA Dance Sanctioned competitions possessing a “Breaking Adjudicator Official” membership in USA Dance.

   2.2.10.2 Any Music Directors (DJ), Registrars, and Master of Ceremonies (emcee) eligible to serve at USA Dance Sanctioned competitions having a “Breaking non-Adjudicator Official” membership of USA Dance.

2.2.11 **Adjudicators** describe members of USA Dance classified based on the type and level of credentials achieved.

   2.2.11.1 Credentials are obtained through certification from a recognized teaching organization, USA Dance, WDSF, or a recognized Member Body of the WDSF.

   2.2.11.2 Credentials of adjudicators are recognized by the following criteria:

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Recognized Adjudicator Certification Table

2.2.11.3 To prevent conflicts of interest, no Breaking Athletes may pursue Adjudicator credentials unless they proclaim retirement from active competitive breaking endeavors.

2.2.11.4 Breaking Athletes are not permitted to judge, scrutineer, or invigilate any Breaking for Gold USA Challenge Events, Open Championship Events, Regional Championships, or the Championships Events including the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.

2.2.11.5 After submitting a letter of retirement (as a Breaking Athlete) to the Breaking DanceSport Vice President, he/she may be approved by the Breaking DanceSport Council to judge, scrutineer, invigilate competitions.

2.2.12 **Challenge Event** is a competition that is generally local in nature and is sanctioned by Breaking for Gold USA/USA Dance.

2.2.13 **Open Championship Event** is a competition sanctioned by Breaking for Gold USA/USA Dance and is not a Regional Championship.

2.2.14 **Regional Championship Event** describes competitions sanctioned by Breaking for Gold USA/USA Dance that also allows Breaking Athletes to qualify for the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.

2.2.15 **National Championship Event** describes a competition sanctioned by Breaking for Gold USA/USA Dance that is held either annually or by some larger increment of time to determine National Champions.

2.2.16 **Protected Competition** is an international competition open only to individuals or teams representing their respective nations, for which the USA representatives are selected at the annual Breaking for Gold National Championships event, at which Breaking Athletes qualify to represent the USA in international protected competitions.

2.2.17 **Open event category** is open to competitive entry by any individual who is registered as a Breaking Athlete with USA Dance or a member organization of the WDSF in accordance with these Rules.

2.2.18 **Closed event category** is defined as a competition which limits competitor entrants to members of a specified group (e.g.: USA Dance National Breaking DanceSport Championships).

### 2.3 ORGANIZATIONS:

- **IOC** the International Olympic Committee.
2.3.2 **WDSF** is the World DanceSport Federation, the IOC recognized International Sports Federation for DanceSport

2.3.3 **USA Dance** is the USOPC Recognized Sports Organization for DanceSport, including the Breaking discipline, in the United States and a National Member Body of the WDSF.

2.3.4 **Breaking for Gold USA** or **BFGUSA** or **Breaking DanceSport Council** or **BDSC** is the division of USA Dance responsible for administrative functions associated with regulating Breaking matters in the United States.

2.3.5 **USOPC** is the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

2.3.6 **USADA** is the United States Anti-Doping Agency - The recognized organization that administers dope testing for USA Dance.
3 TECHNICAL RULES & COMPETITIVE EVENTS

3.1 COORDINATION & UNIFORMITY:

3.1.1 Breaking for Gold USA recognizes that it is highly desirable to have uniform Technical Rules of competitive events governing the sport of Breaking both nationwide and worldwide.

3.1.2 The Technical Rules of Competition stated herein will be made compatible with or identical to the WDSF rules to the greatest extent possible through mutual coordination and agreements.

3.1.3 The rules contained herein are mandatory for Breaking for Gold USA sanctioned events. It is recommended that this Breaking DanceSport Rulebook be adopted by other competitive event organizers to establish uniformity.

3.2 COMPETITIVE BREAKING EVENTS:

3.2.1 Breaking competitions may be organized by either individual (1-v-1) or crew (2-v-2, 3-v-3, etc.) competitive battle formats.

3.2.2 All competitions consist of battles between Breaking Athletes or crews. Each battle is formatted with a fixed number of exchanges following the same sequence:

3.2.2.1 One Breaking Athlete performs a set,
3.2.2.2 and then the opposing Breaking Athlete responds with a set.
3.2.2.3 Those two sets comprise a competitive round between the Breaking Athletes.
3.2.2.4 At the conclusion of all necessary competitive rounds, a winner is determined based on specified judged criteria.

3.2.3 1-v-1 Competitions:

3.2.3.1 1-v-1 competitions are defined as competitive events at which Breaking Athletes compete head-to-head. Competitors’ rounds are judged in comparison with one another based on the specified judging criteria.

3.2.3.1.1 Breaking Athletes can also be judged and ranked on an individual basis in a preliminary round qualifying for the competitive bracket where head-to-head engagements would commence.

3.2.4 Crew Competitions:

3.2.4.1 Crew competitions are defined as competitive events in which two or more Competitors comprise a team and compete head-to-head against other such teams. Competitor sets are judged in comparison with their opponents in a given round based on the specified judging criteria.

3.2.4.1.1 Crews can also be judged and ranked on a crew showcase/demonstration in a preliminary round qualifying for the competitive bracket where crew vs crew engagements would commence.

3.2.4.2 Routines are choreographed team demonstrations executed during a battle. Routines are permitted in crew competitions.
3.3 COMPETITORS AND CREWS:

3.3.1 A Breaking Athlete’s name, competitive alias, and membership information are required at the time of competitive event registration.

3.3.1.1 If a crew competition, all crew members need to supply their name, competitive aliases, crew name, and all applicable membership information at the time of competitive event registration.

3.4 JUDGING SYSTEM:

3.4.1 Unless otherwise specified in this rulebook, all Breaking for Gold USA sanctioned events will utilize either the Threefold or Trivium judging systems unless otherwise specified by the Breaking DanceSport Council.

3.4.2 A comprehensive overview of the Threefold and Trivium judging systems can be found in section APPENDIX 9 – TRIVIUM AND THREEFOLD JUDGING SYSTEM CRITERIA.

3.5 COMPETITION FORMAT:

3.5.1 Sanctioned events will qualify Breaking Athletes or crews via a “show and prove” set for placement in the competitive bracket. Judges will rank all demonstrations and determine those that qualify for the competitive bracket based on their evaluated criteria.

3.5.2 Competitive brackets will be structured starting with either 32 or 16 bracket placements.

3.5.3 In the competitive bracket, Breaking Athletes or crews will face off in battles with the winners advancing further in the competition.

3.5.4 The bracket will progress at a pace ensuring all Breaking Athletes or crews have had a minimum of 10 minutes rest from the completion of their last battle.

3.6 MUSIC LENGTH AND TEMPO:

3.6.1 The type, length, and tempo of music played during each battle will be closely monitored by the Music Director (DJ) ensuring fairness to all competitors.

3.6.2 The maximum length of any Breaking Athlete’s round is 90 seconds and will be applied across all age categories.

3.6.3 The tempo of any selection of music will vary between 90 and 125 MPM (measures per minute).

3.7 DRESS REGULATIONS:

3.7.1 Apparel must always cover the intimate parts of the Athlete’s body (i.e., buttocks, crotch, hips, underwear line area and breast area).

3.7.2 The use of religious symbols as decoration is not allowed. This rule does not apply to personal jewelry.

3.7.3 Advertising by up to four (4) sponsors is allowed on a Breaking Athlete’s competition attire.
3.7.4 The Chair of Adjudicators has the authority to require any Athlete to remove items of decoration jewelry, personal jewelry or decoration applied to a piece of apparel, if such item(s) are deemed dangerous, offensive, or in violation of the Dress Regulations.

3.7.5 If a Breaking Athlete or crew seeking to compete violates the uniform rule, the Athlete or crew will be given two minutes to change into attire that meets Breaking for Gold USA’s uniform rules compliance, after which time the Athlete or crew is disqualified from competing at the competition.

3.7.6 Good Taste Rule:
   3.7.6.1 Any use of material, construction, decoration or other contrivance including acceptable attire taste, that gives the appearance of non-compliance with these dress regulations, even though there is no breach of the literal wording of these regulations, will be considered a breach of these regulations if so determined by either the Event Organizer, the Chair of Adjudicators, Chair of Breaking DanceSport Officials Committee, or the Chair of the Breaking DanceSport Rules Committee. Approval of any deviation from these dress regulations must be obtained in advance from the Chair of the Breaking DanceSport Rules Committee or Chair of Official Committee.

3.7.7 Sanctions:
   3.7.7.1 If a Breaking Athlete is not dressed in accordance with the dress regulations and receives a warning from the Chair of Adjudicators or Chair of the Breaking DanceSport Rules Committee, the Athlete must correct the dress code violation or be subject to disqualification by the Competition manager.
   3.7.7.2 Repeated offenses regarding the Dress Regulations and/or repeated offenses against the spirit of the Dress Regulations at any Breaking for Gold USA or WDSF competition may be interpreted as unsportsmanlike conduct and result in disciplinary action to be carried out by the Breaking for Gold USA DanceSport Council.
RULES FOR COMPETITORS

4.1 GENERAL:

4.1.1 The following Rules and Regulations govern all Breaking Athletes in Breaking DanceSport.

4.2 REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:

4.2.1 To enter a Breaking for Gold USA sanctioned competition, all individuals must be current Athlete members of a member organization of the WDSF. If the individual's respective country does not have an organization holding membership in the WDSF, the individual(s) desiring to participate in a BFGUSA/USA Dance sanctioned competition will require the prior written permission of the Breaking DanceSport Council.

4.2.2 US citizens and other residents of the United States or one of its possessions that are under the authority of the USOPC, who are not currently registered with another member organization of the WDSF as an Athlete and who wish to enter a BFGUSA/USA Dance sanctioned competition, must be a current USA Dance Breaking Athlete member.

4.2.3 All Athletes are subject to Anti-Doping controls as prescribed by IOC, WDSF, USOPC, and USA Dance.

4.3 BREAKING ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

4.3.1 A member Athlete will meet at a minimum, all of the following Eligibility Criteria: (The Breaking DanceSport Council [BDSC] may consider additional factors on a case-by-case basis. Individuals may appeal such BDSC rulings as stated in the COMPETITOR’S RIGHTS (section 4.10) of these rules.)

4.3.2 The Breaking Athlete must have not had his or her Athlete status revoked or reinstated by the Breaking DanceSport Council or any member organization of the WDSF, more than once.

4.3.3 The Breaking Athlete must not have judged any Breaking for Gold USA events in the prior twelve (12) month period.

4.3.4 If the Athlete engaged in activities detailed in section 4.3.3 within the past twelve (12) months, then:

4.3.4.1 The Athlete must submit a completed application in a form prescribed by the Breaking DanceSport Council and must provide information relating to the entirety of his or her professional activities including competitions judged.

4.3.4.2 By submission of the application, the Athlete authorizes the Breaking DanceSport Council to conduct a verification investigation of applicant’s related activities.

4.3.4.3 The Breaking DanceSport Council will review the application, along with any other pertinent information it wishes to obtain and make a ruling on the eligibility of the applicant to be registered as a Breaking Athlete.
4.3.4.4 Material omissions by the applicant are grounds for denial of registration.

4.3.5 Any Breaking Athlete will be eligible to compete in the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships provided they are USA Dance members and have otherwise qualified to compete.

4.3.5.1 All Breaking Athletes must satisfy the following qualifying criteria:
  4.3.5.1.1 Have competed in a minimum of one Breaking for Gold USA Regional Championship since the end of the last Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.
  4.3.5.1.2 Have competed in the same battle format and age category at the aforementioned Regional Championship, which the Breaking Athlete intends to enter at the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.
  4.3.5.1.3 Have placed as semifinalist or better in the aforementioned battle format at the Regional Championship Event or earned qualifying Ranking Points in the previous competitive event cycle or competed in two or more Breaking for Gold USA Regional Championship since the end of the last Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.

4.3.6 A medical waiver of rule 4.3.5 and all sub-sections may be considered under certain circumstances. A request for medical waiver must be made by email to the Breaking DanceSport Vice President at (DanceSportBreaking-VP@usadance.org), according to the following procedure:
  4.3.6.1 The Breaking Athlete asking for medical waiver must be registered at a Regional Championship and be forced to withdraw due to injury or illness.
  4.3.6.2 If there is another Regional Championship competition the Breaking Athlete(s) could potentially enter, he/she will be asked to do so, provided such Regional Championship is at least 2 weeks later than the Regional Championship from which the Athlete withdraws.
  4.3.6.3 If there is no other Regional Championship competition more than 2 weeks later than the one from which they must withdraw, the Athlete may submit to the VP of DanceSport Breaking Division (DanceSportBreaking-VP@usadance.org) proof of medical necessity for their withdrawal. The Athlete must provide complete medical documentation on a doctor’s or hospital’s letterhead, including proof of office/hospital visit, ICD-9 codes, and treatment plans. Any additional medical documentation may be included at the Athlete’s discretion.
  4.3.6.4 If there is another Regional Championship within the appropriate time frame, however if attending would prove to be a financial hardship for the Athlete because of distance and travel expenses, the Athlete may still apply for a medical waiver. The Breaking Athlete must provide a statement of financial duress, including estimates of the travel expenses which would be incurred by attending the alternative Regional Championship competition.
  4.3.6.5 All submitted documents will be checked for veracity and accuracy by the VP DanceSport Breaking Division. The Breaking DanceSport Council
will decide regarding the medical waiver and communicate it to the Breaking Athlete within 48 hours of receiving both the request and complete documentation. Lack of complete documentation will result in a rejection of the request.

4.3.6.6 After receiving the USA Dance Breaking DanceSport Council decision, if the Breaking Athlete requests it, a full vote by the USA Dance Board of Directors may be taken. Such a vote will take up to 72 hours from the request of the Athlete to be complete. The Board of Director’s decision is final.

4.3.6.7 The Breaking DanceSport Council is responsible for determining an individual Athlete’s status and will revoke or suspend an Athlete’s registration if sufficient cause is found to do so.

4.3.7 Any Breaking Athlete is eligible to represent the United States in WDSF World Breaking Championships provided that all potential competitors hold valid USA passports.

4.3.7.1 All Breaking Athletes must comply with any additional eligibility requirements of the WDSF.

4.3.7.2 No Breaking Athlete can have represented another country or competed in another country’s National Championship in WDSF World Ranking or Open Competitions within the last eight (8) months unless a letter of release is received from that country’s WDSF member organization to allow the Breaking Athlete to compete for USA.

4.3.7.3 No Breaking Athlete can have represented another country in a WDSF Championship or Cup within the past twelve (12) months.

4.3.7.4 Any Breaking Athlete is eligible to represent the United States in the World Games, provided the Athlete holds a valid USA passport and have otherwise qualified to compete.

4.4 DOPING

4.4.1 All Athletes, Officials, Adjudicators, and Other Participants

4.4.1.1 Must comply with the provisions of the current WDSF anti-doping code: The Code. It is the personal responsibility of all participants subject to the provisions of The Code to ensure that s/he does not use or allow the use of any prohibited substance and/or prohibited method.

4.4.1.2 Are subject to Doping Controls (urine analyses, blood tests and other authorized techniques for detecting prohibited substances or methods).

4.4.1.3 Must, before they participate in a USA Dance sanctioned event, agree to comply with The Code by completing and signing the Form of Consent, which is part of The Code. The organizer of the competition must refuse entrance of any athlete or adjudicator that has not completed and signed the Form of Consent.

4.4.2 Athletes are subject to in-competition and out-of-competition Anti-Doping controls as prescribed by The Code.

4.4.2.1 Athletes may not refuse to submit to a doping test administered by the IOC, WDSF, USOPC, or USA Dance, Inc.
4.4.3 At every USA Dance sanctioned event, a copy of The Code must be available for consultation.

4.4.4 Use of substances on the World Anti-Doping Agency’s (WADA) Prohibited List for medical reasons requires an approved Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) or a Declaration of Use. To gain approval, an Athlete must submit the appropriate application form along with substantial medical justification for the use of the prohibited substance at least 30 days in advance of the event.

4.4.4.1 To determine if a TUE is needed, or when to apply for a TUE and how to submit a TUE, go to the National Anti-Doping Agency’s (NADA) web site at (www.USADA.org/For Athletes).

4.4.4.2 Copies of TUEs received must be provided to the USA Dance Anti-doping Program Chair.

4.4.4.3 The following athletes must obtain a TUE from the WDSF by going to (www.Worlddancesport.org/athletes/rules) to obtain the procedure and forms:

4.4.4.3.1 Athletes in the WDSF International Registered Testing Pool (IRTP).

4.4.4.3.2 Athletes participating in an International Event and/or included in the top 250 of the WDSF Ranking List for which a TUE granted pursuant to the WDSF Rules is required.

4.4.4.3.3 Completed forms are to be submitted to the Chair of the WDSF Anti-Doping Commission (WorldDanceSport.org/contact&more/contactDirectory/commissions).

4.4.4.3.4 Athletes that do not belong to the aforementioned category must obtain a TUE from their National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO).

4.4.5 Refusal to comply with the administration of doping controls will result in the immediate suspension of the Breaking Athlete. If the refusal to comply occurs at a competition, the Breaking Athlete will be disqualified from all events, lose claim to all awards and titles, and must promptly return all awards to the organizer, USA Dance, Inc. Central Office, 19 Mantua Rd, Mount Royal, NJ 08061.

4.4.6 Tested Breaking Athletes will be sent the confidential test results.

4.4.6.1 In the case of a negative result, the Anti-Doping Chairperson will promptly pass on the results via first class US Mail.

4.4.6.2 In the case of Adverse Analytical finding or Atypical Findings, the Anti-Doping Chairperson will inform the Breaking Athlete via Registered mail.

4.4.6.3 Breaking Athletes must accept the registered letter notifying them of the results of doping tests.

4.4.6.4 All letters will be sent to the address furnished to the Anti-Doping Committee, on the Form of Consent, at the time registration. A failure of the Breaking Athlete to accept delivery of this notice will result in disciplinary action.

4.4.7 For a doping violation, the Breaking Athlete(s):

4.4.7.1 Will be disqualified from all events at the competition where the test was administered.
4.4.7.2 Lose claim to all awards and titles and must promptly return all awards to USA Dance, Inc. Central Office, 19 Mantua Rd, Mount Royal, NJ 08061.

4.4.8 An Athlete is ineligible to continue to be registered as, or to compete as an Athlete if found by the Breaking DanceSport Council to have violated any provision of the Anti-Doping Code.

4.4.9 An anti-doping violation, in connection with an in-competition test automatically leads to the disqualification of the individual’s and/or crew result obtained in that competition with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of any medals, points, and prizes, irrespective of any other sanction that may be applied, subject to the provisions of this article. In the event of an Athlete from a crew being disqualified, this disqualification extends to the entire crew.

4.4.10 The period of ineligibility imposed for a violation will be:
4.4.10.1 For a first violation: two (2) calendar years’ ineligibility from the date of the violation.
4.4.10.2 For a second violation: lifetime ineligibility.

4.4.11 Where an Athlete can establish that the use of such a specified substance was not intended to enhance sport performance, s/he may apply to the Breaking DanceSport Council to have the period of ineligibility replaced with the following:
4.4.11.1 For a first violation: at a minimum, a warning and a reprimand and no period of ineligibility from future competitions to a maximum of one (1) year’s ineligibility.
4.4.11.2 For a second violation: two (2) years’ ineligibility.
4.4.11.3 For a third violation: lifetime ineligibility.

4.4.12 If an Athlete establishes in such a case that he or she bears no significant fault or negligence, then the period of ineligibility may be reduced, but the reduced period of ineligibility may not be less than one-half of the minimum periods of ineligibility otherwise applicable. If the otherwise applicable period of ineligibility is a lifetime, the reduced period under this section may be no less than eight (8) years.

4.5 PERMITTED ACTIVITIES:

4.5.1 All Athletes may participate in dance related activities, which are not prohibited or otherwise restricted by the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook.

4.6 COMPETITIVE CLASSIFICATION:

4.6.1 Competitive Events are classified by age and gender.
4.6.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Classification Table for Bboy and Bgirl Competitive Categories</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Male Breaking Athletes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth 5 - 12 All Athletes must reach their 5th birthday within the relevant calendar year. An Athlete can reach their 13th birthday and still compete in this age group if he was 12 years old when the qualifying competition occurred.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen 13 - 17 Athlete must reach their 13th birthday within the relevant calendar year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult 18 + Athlete must reach their 18th birthday within the relevant calendar year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Female Breaking Athletes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth 5 - 12 All Athletes must reach their 5th birthday in the relevant calendar year. An Athlete can reach her 13th birthday and still compete in this age group if she was 12 years old when the qualifying competition occurred.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen 13 - 17 Athlete must reach their 13th birthday within the relevant calendar year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult 18 + Athlete must reach their 18th birthday within the relevant calendar year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.6.3 Any Breaking Athlete can compete in their determined age category or up to one age classification higher.

4.7 BREAKING FOR GOLD USA RANKING POINTS:

4.7.1 Accrual of Ranking Points:

4.7.1.1 Ranking Points will accrue leading up to the conclusion of Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.

4.7.1.2 Points will accrue from the day after the National Championships through the following National Championships. Ranking points expire after every National Championship.

4.7.1.3 The results for Breaking Athletes who compete at Championship Events, Regional Championships, or other sanctioned Events but are not members of USA Dance will be removed before the calculation of results.

4.7.1.4 Any Breaking Athlete’s “year-end” total will be the accumulation from all qualifying competitions participated in addition to the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.

4.7.2 Breaking Athletes who win at Regional Championships will automatically qualify for competition bracket placement in either the Top 32 or Top 16, pending bracket structure, at Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.
4.7.3 All Breaking Athletes who win Regional Championships will be seeded upon completion of the Breaking for Gold USA tour leading into National Championships based on the following criteria:

4.7.3.1 First, the number of Regional Championship Events won.

4.7.3.2 Second, overall medal count earned across all Regional Championship events.

4.7.3.3 Third, overall Ranking Points earned prior to the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.

4.7.3.3.1 In the event of a tie in Ranking Points among Regional Championship Event winners, a tiebreaker will be executed based on the total number of sanctioned events a Breaking Athlete participated in, with the Athlete possessing the greater event participation count earning the higher seed.

4.7.4 Breaking Athletes who do not win any Regional Championships, but accrue Ranking Points through competing at sanctioned competitions, are eligible to qualify for a guaranteed competition bracket placement in either the Top 32 or Top 16 at the Breaking for Gold USA National Championship.

4.7.4.1 The number of bracket placements will be determined by the Breaking DanceSport Council per competitive category, reserving such placements for up to the six highest-Ranking Point positions once all Regional Championship Event winners have been excluded from the Ranking Point leaderboard.

4.7.4.2 The exact amount of competition bracket placements available to Ranking Point earners who do not win a Regional Championship will be announced no later than two months prior to the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Challenge Event:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 16:</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Top 8:</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semifinalists:</td>
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<td>Runner-up:</td>
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<td>Winner:</td>
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<td><strong>Open Championship Event:</strong></td>
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<td>Top 16:</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Top 8:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semifinalists:</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Runner-up:</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winner:</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regional Championship Event:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- Challenge Event:
- Top 16: 4
- Top 8: 6
- Semifinalists: 8
- Runner-up: 10
- Winner: 12

- Open Championship Event:
- Top 16: 5
- Top 8: 10
- Semifinalists: 15
- Runner-up: 20
- Winner: 25

- Regional Championship Event:
4.7.6 Selection process for the United States Representatives to the WDSF World Breaking Championships and National Breaking Team:

4.7.6.1 The National Breaking Team shall consist of up to the top 4 Bboys and Bgirls in each age group for the period from the end of the National Championship to the start of the next National Championship.

4.7.6.1.1 All National Breaking Team members must be United States citizens and hold valid passport.

4.7.6.2 For a given event, if only one Breaking Athlete is eligible to attend the WDSF World Breaking Championships, that determination will be based on placements at the National Championships.

4.7.6.3 At the National Championships, the winning Athlete will qualify for the WDSF World Breaking Championships.

4.7.6.4 The winning Athlete at the National Championships will also qualify for Team USA.

4.7.6.5 For whatever reason, if the winning Breaking Athlete at the National Championships is unable to participate in or attend the WDSF World Breaking Championship, the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships runner-up shall take eligible placement.

4.7.6.6 At the National Championships, the runner-up Athlete will qualify for the WDSF World Breaking Championships if two athletes are eligible to participate from each member country.

4.7.6.7 The runner-up Breaking Athlete at the National Championships will also qualify for Team USA.

4.7.6.8 All subsequent Team USA placements will qualify based on Breaking For Gold USA Ranking Point competitor totals after the completion of the National Championships.

4.7.6.9 The subsequent Team USA placements will qualify for the WDSF World Breaking Championships should both the winner and runner-up at the National Championships be unable to attend.

4.7.6.10 Such Team USA qualifying parameters apply to any IOC, IWGA, and WDSF affiliated events in a given calendar year.

4.7.7 Selection process for the World Breaking Team:
4.7.7.1 The World Breaking Team shall consist of the current National Breaking Team and any Breaking athlete who previously represented the United States at adult level competitions including the IOC Olympic Summer Games, the IOC Pan-American Games, the IWGA World Games, the WDSF World Championships, the WDSF World Urban Games, and the WDSF Breaking for Gold World Series.

4.7.7.2 All World Breaking Team members must be members of USA Dance in good standing.

4.7.7.3 All World Breaking Team members must be United States citizens and hold valid passport.

4.7.7.4 All World Breaking Team members must have competed in a National Championship within the last 2 competition cycles.

4.7.8 All world team selections, scholarships, and travel stipends are further outlined in section **APPENDIX 11 – WORLD TEAM SELECTIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**.

4.8 CODE OF CONDUCT:

4.8.1 Every participant and official in Breaking DanceSport is responsible for contributing to the integrity of the sport and to help foster a fair and level playing field for Breaking Athletes.

4.8.2 It is the responsibility of all Breaking Athletes and Officials of USA Dance to be thoroughly familiar with the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook, the USA Dance SafeSport Policy, the USA Dance Code of Conduct, the USA Dance Code of Ethics and to comply with them in full, and to exemplify the highest standards of fairness, ethical behavior, and genuine good sportsmanship in their relations with others.

4.8.3 Any Athlete, whose acts, statements, or conduct are considered detrimental to the welfare of USA Dance is subject to the loss of the privilege of his or her USA Dance "Competitor" membership as determined by USA Dance in accordance with the USA Dance Bylaws, this USA Dance Rulebook, and other governing policies. They may appeal this decision to the USA Dance Executive Committee.

4.8.4 Where instances of extreme rulebook violations occur during a competition, the Chair of Adjudicators may determine an appropriate course of action, which could include disqualification of a Breaking Athlete from a competition or removal from the event.

4.9 COMPETITOR’S RESPONSIBILITIES:

4.9.1 Athletes are required to present proof of “Athlete” membership and a photo ID to the registrar, at every BFGUSA/USA Dance sanctioned competition, in which they wish to compete.

4.9.2 Organizers will not accept a paper application for USA Dance membership.

4.9.3 While on the premises of a competition, Athletes must conduct themselves in a civil and sportsmanlike manner. Athletes must not harass or challenge a judge about the markings of that judge before, during, or after the event.
4.9.4 Breaking Athletes are responsible for being in attendance and ready to compete thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled time for the battle format entered and for checking in with the registrar, organizer, or any applicable official.

4.9.5 Breaking Athletes are responsible for adherence to the dress code requirements specified by the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook.

4.9.6 Breaking Athletes are responsible for dancing only in those events and age classification categories for which they are eligible. If an Athlete competes in age or gender categories they are not eligible, this constitutes grounds for disqualification from the event and disciplinary action by the Breaking DanceSport Council.

4.9.7 Any Breaking Athlete who removes, defaces or destroys any equipment of competition officials will be subject to disciplinary action by the Chair of Adjudicators at the event and the Breaking DanceSport Council following the event.

4.9.8 When attending competitions, which are not organized by USA Dance, Breaking Athletes are required to:

4.9.8.1 Maintain his or her Athlete eligibility by following all rules contained in the RULES FOR COMPETITORS section of the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook at all times.

4.9.8.2 Follow any and all rules specified by the competition organizer, unless doing so would cause him or her to jeopardize their Athlete eligibility by being in violation of any rule contained in the RULES FOR COMPETITORS section of the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook.

4.9.8.3 In the event of such a conflict, Athletes must refrain from participating in activities or entering in events as might be permitted under the competition organizer’s rules, but which are not permitted in the RULES FOR COMPETITORS section of the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook.

4.9.9 Breaking Athletes will maintain a record of their participation and placement in all Ranking Point eligible competitions in which they compete. This is for the purpose of logging Ranking Points in the event of an administrative error by a competition organizer or USA Dance official.

4.9.9.1 Any objection to Ranking Point records maintained by BFGUSA must be submitted to the Breaking DanceSport Council for review.

4.9.9.2 A Breaking Athlete can submit their personal record which should include the following:

4.9.9.2.1 Name of Breaking Athlete

4.9.9.2.2 USA Dance Athlete membership information

4.9.9.2.3 Name of competition where error occurred

4.9.9.2.4 Breaking Athlete’s claim of error

4.9.9.2.5 Suggested resolution of the Breaking Athlete’s claim

4.9.9.3 Failure to supply any of the aforementioned criteria may result in dismissal of objection/claim.

4.10 COMPETITOR’S RIGHTS:

4.10.1 Breaking Athletes are protected from arbitrary discrimination and are entitled to fair hearings as required by the USOPC.

4.10.2 At competitions, no individual, official, or organization will:
4.10.2.1 Discriminate against any Athlete with a valid USA Dance "Athlete" registration on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin. Except those closed competitions with specified age limits, membership or residency requirements are permitted, as are invitational events.

4.10.2.2 Deny or threaten to deny any eligible Athlete with a valid USA Dance "Athlete" registration the opportunity to participate in competitive events for which he or she is eligible if he or she has adhered to all requirements of the above section Competitor Responsibilities.

4.10.3 Athletes are entitled to fair notice and opportunity for a hearing before the Breaking DanceSport Council prior to being declared ineligible to compete as an Athlete as provided for in these rules. Rulings made by the Breaking DanceSport Council can be appealed to the USA Dance Executive Committee.

4.10.4 Unresolved disputes between any Athlete and the USA Dance Executive Committee involving the Athlete’s opportunity to participate in competition will be submitted to binding arbitration conducted in accordance with the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. Expenses will be shared equally among the parties.

4.11 RULE VIOLATIONS:

4.11.1 Types of Violations: the basic types of violations that can be committed by an Athlete, Official, Trainer, Manager, or Organizer are:

4.11.1.1 Competition Violations.
4.11.1.2 Prohibited Activity Violations.
4.11.1.3 Misrepresentation of Eligibility.
4.11.1.4 Conduct and Ethical Violations.
4.11.1.5 Official Violations.
4.11.1.6 Organizer Violations.
4.11.1.7 Anti-Doping Violations.

4.11.2 Competition violations include but are not limited to:

4.11.2.1 Dancing in an age or gender category for which the Athlete is not eligible.
4.11.2.2 Behaving in an unsportsmanlike or uncivil manner during a competition.
4.11.2.3 Competing or claiming USA Dance Athlete status while his or her USA Dance membership is not current.
4.11.2.4 Adjudicator officials participating in competitions that pose a conflict of interest to their duties as either USA Dance or WDSF certified adjudicators.

4.11.3 Reporting Violations:

4.11.3.1 For a formal investigation into a rule violation to take place, a written and signed statement plus any evidence must be submitted to the Breaking DanceSport Council.
4.11.3.2 The complainant may request that his or her name be kept confidential only in the case where the evidence does not depend upon
the complainant as a witness (Example: Physical evidence of a violation.).

4.11.3.3 The Breaking DanceSport Council will inform the complainant as to whether there is merit in the evidence sufficient to start an investigation.

4.11.3.4 Upon conclusion of the investigation and the Breaking DanceSport Council ruling, the complainant will receive notification of the final ruling.

4.11.4 Warning Letters:

4.11.4.1 If the Breaking DanceSport Council concludes the actions described in a complaint require a warning, a Warning Letter will be sent to the alleged violator(s). The identity of the complainant will be held strictly confidential since Warning Letters are not disciplinary proceedings. If the Breaking DanceSport Council concludes the actions described in a complaint do not constitute a violation of the Rules, complainant will be notified explaining the reasoning for this decision.

4.11.4.2 A Warning Letter will contain the text of the relevant Rule(s), and a full explanation of their interpretation in the context of the alleged violations. It will not contain the identity or any information about the complainant.

4.11.4.3 The publication of Warning Letters is desirable as a means of continuously educating competitors in the correct interpretation of the Rules. The Breaking DanceSport Council will publish a summary of each Warning Letter that have been issued on the USA Dance website. No identifying information about either the complainant may be published.

4.11.5 Due Process for Rules Violations:

4.11.5.1 An evaluation of the evidence on its own merit will be made to determine whether it is sufficient to cause an investigation to commence.

4.11.5.2 If the evidence be considered prima facie, the accused will be notified of the violation and penalty with the following consequences:

4.11.5.3 The penalty will commence thirty (30) days from the date of notification, however, if the violation is a breach of Athlete Status or a positive doping test result the Athlete will be immediately suspended from competing in any USA Dance competitions.

4.11.5.4 Any appeal of the determination will be made in writing to the Breaking DanceSport Council (USA Dance, Inc. Central Office, 19 Mantua Rd, Mount Royal, NJ 08061) within thirty days following the notification.

4.11.5.5 If the appeal is determined to have merit, the penalty may be temporarily suspended pending the outcome of an investigation.

4.11.5.6 If it is determined to commence an investigation, the Breaking DanceSport Council will carry out the following actions:

4.11.5.6.1 An investigative review committee made up of members of the Breaking DanceSport Council and/or USA Dance officers will be convened to investigate the facts in the case within 14 days of receiving all relevant materials.

4.11.5.6.2 The accused will be notified of the alleged violation. A copy of the complaint and the nature of the evidence will be
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provided to the accused upon which the athlete will have thirty (30) days to respond.

4.11.5.6.3 Within 60 days of the commencement, the committee will forward a report on their findings to the Breaking DanceSport Council.

4.11.5.6.4 Within 30 days of the receipt of the committee’s report, the Breaking DanceSport Council will issue its ruling and penalty as appropriate. Copies of the ruling will be sent to the accused, the complainant, committee members and included in the DanceSport Council report to the Executive Committee.

4.11.6 Penalties for Violations:

4.11.6.1 USA Dance members who are ruled by the Breaking DanceSport Council to have committed a violation, which would breach their “Athlete” status, will be immediately suspended from competing in any USA Dance competitions. Such members will, if they wish to regain their Athlete status, be subject to the requirements and procedures outlined in the Athlete Eligibility Criteria (section 4.3).

4.11.6.2 For other violations of the USA Dance DanceSport Rules, excluding those relating to a breach of Athlete status, the Breaking DanceSport Council will:

4.11.6.2.1 Impose appropriate penalties at its discretion.

4.11.6.2.2 Suspend an Athlete member’s status:

4.11.6.2.2.1 For up to six (6) months for a first infraction;

4.11.6.2.2.2 For up to nine (9) months for a second infraction occurring within two (2) years after a first infraction;

4.11.6.2.2.3 For up to twelve (12) months for a third infraction occurring within five (5) years after a first infraction; or

4.11.6.2.2.4 For up to eighteen (18) months for more than three (3) infractions which occur within any five (5) year period.

4.11.6.3 An individual will automatically regain Athlete status at the end of his or her suspension, provided that he or she has not engaged in any prohibited activities during the suspension period.

4.11.6.4 If the Breaking DanceSport Council rules to suspend or terminate an individual’s registration as an Athlete, the Breaking DanceSport Council must:

4.11.6.4.1 Notify the individual in writing.

4.11.6.4.2 Notify the USA Dance Executive Committee in writing.

4.11.6.4.3 Notify the USA Dance official responsible for maintaining USA Dance membership registrations in writing.

4.11.6.4.4 The individual’s membership status will then be changed to a USA Dance non-competitor classification.

4.11.6.5 The Breaking DanceSport Council may, at its discretion, impose additional penalties, including but not limited to loss of USA Dance membership.
4.11.7 Appeals:

4.11.7.1 Individuals may appeal the rulings of a Chair of Adjudicators, or Organizer to the Breaking DanceSport Council by submission of a formal written appeal to either the VP of Breaking DanceSport or Chair of the Rules Committee.

4.11.7.2 Individuals may appeal the rulings of the Breaking DanceSport Council to the USA Dance Executive Committee by submission of a formal written appeal to the National Secretary.

4.11.7.3 During the appeal process, any ruling made will stand, unless and until overturned or suspended by a higher ruling body.
5 RULES FOR ORGANIZERS

5.1 COMPETITION MILEAGE AND DATE REQUIREMENTS:

5.1.1 No Regional Championship, Open Championship, or Challenge Competition may be granted USA Dance Approval unless they comply with the following:
   5.1.1.1 Regional Championship Events must be at least three (3) weeks or greater than four hundred (400) miles apart.
   5.1.1.2 Open Championship Events must be at least two (2) weeks or three hundred (300) miles apart from another Open Championship Event or an Regional Championship Event.
   5.1.1.3 Challenge Events must be at least one (1) week or two hundred (200) miles apart from another Challenge Event, Open Championship Event, or Regional Championship Event.
   5.1.1.3.1 Exceptions to the above rules can be granted by the Breaking DanceSport Council after an Organizer has filed an official request to either the Chair of Organizers or the VP of Breaking DanceSport.

5.1.2 The distance calculations for mileage requirements will be determined by the shortest distance in driving miles via automobile between dance event venues (comparing both directions) using http://maps.google.com.

5.1.3 An existing organizer can request a special waiver to move their date or location in the event their traditional facility is not available on the traditional dates or other unforeseen circumstances arise.

5.2 SANCTIONS:

5.2.1 Individuals organizing a BFGUSA/USA Dance sanctioned event must be a member of USA Dance. Where a sanctioned event is organized by a corporation, or similar entity, the individual(s) responsible for organizing the event on behalf of the organizing entity must be identified on the sanction request form and must be USA Dance members.

5.2.2 The Breaking DanceSport Council has the authority and sanctioning authority over all sanctioned events except the National Championship and Protected Events, for which the Board of Directors has sanctioning authority.

5.2.3 Organizers wanting to hold any competition must submit a request in writing on the Sanctioning Request Form provided by the Breaking DanceSport Council with the lead time indicated. The request must include:
   5.2.3.1 The proposed name and title of the competition or event.
   5.2.3.2 The proposed location and date(s).
   5.2.3.3 A list of the age categories and battle formats tentatively scheduled, and the number of officials planned.
   5.2.3.4 The expected attendance and scope of advertising.
   5.2.3.5 Upon request, adequate proof of financial and organization capacity to conduct the competition or event.
   5.2.3.6 Upon request, an audited or notarized financial report of similar events, if any, previously conducted by the organizer.
5.2.4 Standards for Breaking for Gold USA event sanctioning are outlined in \textit{APPENDIX 7 – STANDARD SANCTIONING CRITERIA} of the rulebook.

5.2.5 Challenge Events:

5.2.5.1 All Challenge competitions must be registered with USA Dance by contacting the Breaking DanceSport Council (breakingdsc@usadance.org) in writing, not less than sixty (60) days in advance of the competition date. The organizer will submit a Sanction Request Form with appropriate information and requesting their competition be listed on the Breaking for Gold USA calendar and social media.

5.2.5.1.1 Reasonable efforts must be made to minimize date and location conflicts with other competitions in the area.

5.2.5.1.2 USA Dance and Breaking for Gold USA must be made part of the competition’s title or shown as the sponsor of the event and shown as such in all advertising and promotional material.

5.2.5.1.3 Organizer shall hire no less than three (3) USA Dance certified adjudicators. The adjudicators must be selected from the BFGUSA/USA Dance list of approved adjudicators and invigilators (available from breakingdsc@usadance.org).

5.2.5.1.4 All athletes taking part in the competition must be current breaking athlete members of USA Dance.

5.2.5.1.5 The Breaking DanceSport Council, at the written request of the organizer, use of an alternative judging system that is not Threefold or Trivium.

5.2.6 Open Championship Events:

5.2.6.1 The Breaking DanceSport Council has sanctioning authority over all Open Championship Events.

5.2.6.2 The BDSC determines sanctioning of Open Championship Events on the applications received, requested dates, organizers’ experience, and distance between events.

5.2.6.3 Open Championship Events are open to all Breaking Athletes.

5.2.6.4 The following criteria must be met for all Open Championship Events:

5.2.6.4.1 Reasonable efforts must be made to minimize date and location conflicts with other competitions in the area.

5.2.6.4.2 All provisions of the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook must be observed.

5.2.6.4.3 All Open Championship events are open to all Breaking Athletes.

5.2.6.4.4 Event must include 1 vs 1 for Bboys and Bgirls in all age groups.

5.2.6.4.5 USA Dance and Breaking for Gold USA must be made part of the competition’s title or shown as the sponsor of the event and shown as such in all advertising and promotional material.
5.2.6.4.6 The adjudicator panel must be selected from the BFGUSA/USA Dance list of approved adjudicators (available from breakingdsc@usadance.org).

5.2.6.4.7 USA Dance must be notified of the competition date not less than ninety (90) days in advance. Sanction Request Form available at the USA Dance website or from the Breaking DanceSport Council (breakingdsc@usadance.org).

5.2.7 Regional Championship Events:
5.2.7.1 The Breaking DanceSport Council has sanctioning authority over Regional Championship Events.
5.2.7.2 The BDSC determines sanctioning of Regional Championship Events based on the applications received, requested dates, organizers’ experience, and distance between events.
5.2.7.3 All Regional Championship Events are open to all Breaking Athletes.
5.2.7.4 The following criteria must be met for all Regional Championship Events:
5.2.7.4.1 Reasonable efforts must be made to minimize date and location conflicts with other competitions in the area.
5.2.7.4.2 All provisions of the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook must be observed.
5.2.7.4.3 Breaking for Gold USA and USA Dance logos must be made part of the competition’s title, with the subtitle noting it as a Regional Championship Event and shown as such in all advertising and promotional material.
5.2.7.4.4 It is recommended that not more than 50% of the adjudicator panel be from any one geographical district/region and have gender parity with no less than 40% of the panel being from one gender.
5.2.7.4.5 The adjudicator panel must be selected from the USA Dance list of certified adjudicators (available from breakingdsc@usadance.org).
5.2.7.4.6 USA Dance must be notified of the requested competition date not less than one hundred and fifty (150) days in advance, to be considered for sanctioning. The request for sanctioning must be made in writing on the Sanctioning Request Form available on the USA Dance website or from the Breaking DanceSport Council (breakingdsc@usadance.org).
5.2.7.4.7 The Breaking DanceSport Council will appoint a Chair of Adjudicators to attend Regional Championship Events, as deemed necessary. The Organizer will pay the cost of the transportation, lodging, and meals for the Chair of Adjudicators comparable to those provided for the adjudicators.
5.2.7.4.8 All Regional Championship Events are required to use USA Dance approved software for registration and reporting of results as deemed appropriate.
5.2.7.4.9 Must hold all events, in all age groups, that the Breaking DanceSport Council has determined will be held at the National Championship.

5.2.7.4.10 All Breaking Athlete registration files, event information, entry forms and categories must remain available for review by the Breaking DanceSport Council, prior to, during and for a period of 180 days after the competition.

5.2.7.4.11 Organizers may petition the Breaking DanceSport Council for an exception to any of the requirements in this section at breakingdsc@usadance.org. Organizers must provide justification for requesting an exception to any part of section 5.2 of the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook.

5.2.7.4.12 Organizer will provide a report on the competition (provided by Breaking for Gold USA/USA Dance) to the Vice President of the Breaking DanceSport Council and the Chair of Organizers within 15 days of the competition.

5.2.7.4.13 Organizer wishing to share concerns regarding the ethics or behavior of Adjudicators will provide those on the appropriate form (supplied by Breaking for Gold USA/USA Dance) and send those to only the Vice President of the Breaking DanceSport Council and the Senior Vice President of USA Dance within 15 days of the competition.

5.2.8 National and International Sanctions:

5.2.8.1 The USA Dance Board of Directors has sanctioning and organizational jurisdiction over all Breaking DanceSport National Championships and over all "Protected Competitions."

5.2.8.2 A "Protected Competition is:

5.2.8.2.1 Any international Dance Competition or competitive event where the terms of such competitions require that entrants therein be teams or individuals representing the respective nations and where the U.S. representatives to the event are selected in accordance with a defined selection or qualifying procedure open to all Athletes and publicly announced in accordance with IOC, IWGA, WDSF, or USOPC regulations.

5.2.8.3 Any domestic Dance Competition or competitive event organized, conducted, or sanctioned by the USA Dance Board of Directors in its selection procedure and publicly announced in advance as a competition or event directly qualifying the successful Breaking Athletes therein to represent the U.S. in an international protected competition.

5.2.8.4 The adjudicator panel will be selected from the USA Dance list of approved adjudicators and Chair of Adjudicators by the Board of Directors, in consultation with the Breaking DanceSport Council. The adjudicator panel must be comprised of at least 40% Trivium certified adjudicators.

5.2.9 Sanctioning Fees and Conditions:

5.2.9.1 Organizers requesting a Breaking for Gold USA/USA Dance sanction for competition will pay a sanctioning fee as periodically established by the Board of Directors with the request for the sanction.
5.2.9.2 SCHEDULE OF SANCTIONING FEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPETITION TYPE</th>
<th>USA Dance Chapter</th>
<th>Non-USA Dance Chapter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Challenge Event</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Championship</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Championship</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Championship</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected Event</td>
<td>International Fee + 5%</td>
<td>International Fee + 10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Schedule of Sanctioning Fees Table

5.2.9.3 The organizer of a sanctioned international competition must reimburse USA Dance for any and all sanctioning fees required to be paid to WDSF and/or USOPC for its (or their) sanctions, any out-of-pocket expenses incurred by USA Dance relating to obtaining the international sanction, and a percentage as outline in section 5.2.9.2.

5.2.9.4 Organizers of sanctioned competitions must also provide:

- 5.2.9.4.1 Free admission to Breaking DanceSport Council and USA Dance Board of Directors.
- 5.2.9.4.2 Place to prominently display a USA Dance Banner at the competition.
- 5.2.9.4.3 Place to prominently display all Breaking for Gold USA sponsor banners at the competition.
- 5.2.9.4.4 A full-page ad in the program for Breaking for Gold USA and USA Dance.
- 5.2.9.4.5 A web link to the USA Dance website.
- 5.2.9.4.6 A booth or vendor space for the local chapter to distribute USA Dance literature.
- 5.2.9.4.7 Reference Standard for Event Sanctioning Criteria outlined in **APPENDIX 7 – STANDARD SANCTIONING CRITERIA** of the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook.

5.2.10 Blanket Sanctions:

- 5.2.10.1 Recognizing that the USOPC constitution declares that each sport's National Governing Body is responsible for sanctioning competitions and that other bodies in addition to USA Dance organize competitions in the USA, the USA Dance Board of Directors, in an effort to encourage and support such competitions, may grant blanket
sanctions for any number of Non-Championship Competitions held by other qualified bodies.

5.2.10.2 Blanket Sanctions grant approvals to hold any number of Non-Championship Competitions and/or events, provided that:

5.2.10.2.1 The Breaking for Gold USA Rules are observed for all portions of such competitions and/or events, which involve Breaking Athletes.

5.2.10.2.2 Other conditions, which may be specified by the USA Dance Board of Directors, are met.

5.2.10.3 The USA Dance Board of Directors will grant blanket sanctions only to qualified competition organizers or qualified organizations.

5.2.11 Suspension and Probation of Sanctioning Authority

5.2.11.1 The Breaking DanceSport Council or Executive Committee may suspend the authority of an organizer to conduct Breaking DanceSport competitions or place the organizer on probation if the organizer is found to be in violation of published rules, policies, and/or procedures.

5.2.11.2 The Breaking DanceSport Council or Executive Committee will notify the organizer of the precise violations and the terms of the probation or suspension by mail or email.

5.2.11.3 If the organizer's sanctioning authority is suspended, the organizer is not permitted to organize Breaking DanceSport competitive events until the suspension is officially lifted.

5.2.11.4 If the organizer's sanctioning authority is placed on probation, the organizer may provisionally continue to organize Breaking DanceSport competitive events, subject to the terms of the probation.

5.2.11.5 Decisions of the Breaking DanceSport Council can be appealed to the USA Dance Executive Committee.

5.2.11.6 The decision of the Executive Committee is final.

5.2.12 Breaking DanceSport Competition Parameters Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPETITION CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>APPROVING ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>NUMBER OF DAYS NOTICE REQUIRED</th>
<th>CERTIFIED JUDGES REQUIRED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Challenge Event</td>
<td>BDSC</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Championship Event</td>
<td>BDSC</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Championship Event</td>
<td>BDSC</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Championship Event</td>
<td>Board of Directors</td>
<td>BoD Discretion</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected Event</td>
<td>BoD &amp; International Org</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Breaking DanceSport Competition Parameters Table
5.3 EVENT REQUIREMENTS FOR SANCTIONED COMPETITIONS:

5.3.1 All age groups.
   5.3.1.1 Each competitive format must be offered in a minimum of three age classifications, or their combinations as follows: Adult (18 +), Youth (5 - 12), and Teen (13 - 17).
   5.3.1.1.1 Reference section 4.6.2 Age Classification Table for competitive categories.

5.3.2 Standard sanctioning, venue, and overall event parameters for all Breaking for Gold USA affiliate competitions must abide by the criteria set forth in both APPENDIX 7 - STANDARD SANCTIONING CRITERIA and APPENDIX 8 - VENUE AND EVENT REQUIREMENTS.

5.4 RESPONSIBILITIES:

5.4.1 The competition organizer and the officials of a Breaking DanceSport competition sanctioned by USA Dance must:
   5.4.1.1 Abide by the rules contained in the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook for all portions of the competition involving categories or events.
   5.4.1.2 Ensure the TECHNICAL RULES OF COMPETITION provided in the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook are followed for all portions of the competition involving Breaking Athlete categories or events.
   5.4.1.3 Ensure that qualified officials conduct the competition.
   5.4.1.4 Take appropriate measures to protect the eligibility of Breaking Athletes to compete in athletic competitions.
   5.4.1.5 Provide proper medical supervision for the Athletes.
   5.4.1.6 Protect the personal welfare of the participants and spectators by taking proper safety precautions.
   5.4.1.7 Abide by USA Dance’s competition insurance requirements.
   5.4.1.8 Provide adequate financial and organization capacity to conduct the competition or event.
   5.4.1.9 Ensure that due regard has been given to any rules or requirements set forth by the WDSF which are applicable to the competition.
   5.4.1.10 Prominently display the Breaking for Gold USA and USA Dance logos in all promotional materials, programs, registration materials, advertising, medals, trophies, and in the facilities during the competition.

5.4.2 Any scholarship awarded must have a measurable financial value and must be independent of any future action by the recipients. A cash amount; a free air fare; a free lesson, not involving travel or other expenditures by the recipient(s) to redeem; and a free costume are examples that satisfy these criteria. Discounts on future purchases; buy-one get-one offers; and any other inducement for the recipient to first perform a financial transaction prior to receiving the scholarship value do not meet these criteria.

5.4.3 Partial scholarships for Dance Camps and other workshops may be provided so long as the financial value of the discount is a minimum of $100 or 25% of the total registration cost (whichever is greater).
Points that arise, which are not covered by the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook, will be referred to the Breaking DanceSport Council for clarification and/or resolution.

5.5 PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

5.5.1 Organizers holding a sanctioned competition or event must include the following on all entry cards/blanks, materials, advertising, and programs:

“No responsibility for loss or theft of articles left in venue space, hotel rooms, or other event facilities can be accepted by USA Dance. Nor can USA Dance be held liable for injury sustained by persons attending the event; it being hereby stated that persons attending the event do so at their own risk. All persons attending this event, whether as spectators, Athletes, officials, or guests of the organizer, will be bound by the rules of USA Dance for those portions of the event sanctioned by USA Dance. All Athletes may be subject to drug testing by the WDSF or USA Dance.”

5.5.2 An organizer of a sanctioned competition will publish (as part of advance materials and as part of the event program) a complete list of competitive categories, age designations for each competitive category, dress code requirements, and any special rules or departures from USA Dance’s prescribed Rules pertaining to the categories or events.

5.5.3 Said special rules or departures from Breaking for Gold USA Rules will require the advance written approval of the Breaking DanceSport Council.

5.5.4 Copies of all promotional information relating to the event will be sent to the Breaking DanceSport Council as soon as they become available. If there are any required changes in the promotional materials in order to conform to Breaking for Gold USA Rules or USA Dance sanction, the organizer agrees to publish said changes in a timely manner at their own expense.

5.5.5 The organizer will state in promotional literature whether or not the competition is sanctioned and, if so, make clear the Ranking Points Breaking Athletes will be eligible to earn at the competition.

5.5.6 Where an organizer offers prize money and/or scholarships at their event full details of any and all restrictions pertaining to those prizes and/or scholarships must be spelled out in the primary information packets. Any potential reduction or non-payment in advertised awards due to participation levels not being met must also be clearly stipulated in the primary advertising.

5.6 COMPETITION OFFICIALS:

5.6.1 A complete list of approved Breaking for Gold USA Adjudicators and their respective credentials and certification is maintained by the Breaking DanceSport Council in conjunction with the USA Dance Membership Director. Copies of this list are available to competition organizers by emailing breakingdsc@usadance.org.

5.6.2 An organizer of a sanctioned event, which is not a Regional Championship, National Championship, Protected competition, or international event must
furnish to the Breaking DanceSport Council and will make available to inquiring parties the list of qualified adjudicators at least ninety (90) days prior to the event. Said list shall be published to the competition website at least thirty (30) days prior to the event.

5.6.3 For Regional Championship, National Championships, protected competitions, and international events, an organizer will submit a proposed list of adjudicators for the events to the Breaking DanceSport Council for approval at least one hundred and fifty days (150) days prior to the event. Upon approval, said list shall be published to the competition website at least thirty (30) days prior to the event.

5.6.4 No Individual, Official, Competition Organizer, or Organization will:

5.6.4.1 Discriminate against any USA Dance Breaking Athlete on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin (except that closed competitions with specified age limits, membership or residency requirements are permitted, as are invitational events) (USOPC IV.4.B.6)

5.6.4.2 Deny or threaten to deny any eligible USA Dance Breaking Athlete with a valid USA Dance membership, the opportunity to participate in competitive events for which the Athlete is eligible and has adhered to all requirements of the Competitors Responsibilities in section 4.7 of the RULES FOR COMPETITORS.

5.6.5 The adjudicating panel for each competition will consist of an odd number of qualified adjudicators and have a minimum gender parity.

5.6.6 The minimum number of adjudicators and their minimum required qualifications are based on the type of competition:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPETITION TYPE</th>
<th>MINIMUM ORGANIZATION CERTIFICATION REQUIRED</th>
<th>MINIMUM ADJUDICATOR GRADE</th>
<th>MINIMUM NUMBER OF CERTIFIED JUDGES REQUIRED (Gender)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Challenge Event</td>
<td>USA Dance Threefold</td>
<td>C, C+</td>
<td>3 (2/1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Championship Event</td>
<td>USA Dance Threefold</td>
<td>C, C+</td>
<td>3 (2/1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Championship Event</td>
<td>USA Dance Threefold</td>
<td>B, B+</td>
<td>3 (2/1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Championship Event</td>
<td>USA Dance Threefold</td>
<td>B, B+</td>
<td>5 (3/2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.6.7 Each sanctioned competition must also have the following officials with the specific credentials listed and names forwarded to the Breaking DanceSport Council at least sixty (60) days prior to the competition: Chair of Adjudicators, Scrutineer, Invigilator(s), Music Director (DJ) and Emcee (MC).

5.6.7.1 Chair of Adjudicators: recognized and/or certified as such by BFGUSA/USA Dance or the WDSF or any of their member federations, must also be computer competent and experienced. The Chair of Adjudicators must not participate on any Adjudicating panel, for any event, while serving as the Chair of Adjudicators.

5.6.7.2 Scrutineer: recognized by BFGUSA/USA Dance or the WDSF or any of their member federations, in addition to being computer competent and experienced.

5.6.7.3 Invigilator: recognized by BFGUSA/USA Dance to invigilate all competitions.

5.7 COMPETITOR REGULATIONS:

5.7.1 Organizers of sanctioned events will require Breaking Athletes to provide their:

5.7.1.1 Name.
5.7.1.2 Date of Birth.
5.7.1.3 USA Dance membership number (or their registration number and the name of their member organization of the WDSF).
5.7.1.4 Photo ID.
5.7.1.5 Battle formats entered.

5.7.2 The organizer will make every effort to ensure that no Athlete violates age, gender, or competitive classification. Organizers who knowingly allow such violations may lose future competition sanctions. The Breaking DanceSport Council reserves the right to amend the results of any category where Athletes are later found to have committed such violations. This may be appealed to the USA Dance Executive Committee.

5.7.3 Organizers must obtain the prior written approval of a parent or legal guardian for any Athlete participating under 18 years of age.

5.7.4 Organizers must publish in advertising material that all Athlete s must comply with the Dress Regulations (section 3.7).

5.7.5 Questions concerning competition results must be directed to the competition organizer within 60 days after the completion of the competition.

5.8 ADDITIONAL RULES:

5.8.1 A copy of the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook will be available for public inspection at the competition.

5.8.2 The organizer will post a timetable of scheduled events prior to the commencement of the event. The timetable will be adhered to with delays kept to a minimum. Breaking Athletes must be notified, by public announcements, of delays in excess of thirty (30) minutes.

5.8.3 Any change to a previously published schedule must not exceed 30 minutes earlier or later, unless all registered Breaking Athletes are notified in advance.
5.8.4 If the organizer wishes to run a competition earlier than 30 minutes prior to the posted time, they will do so only with not less than fifteen (15) minutes advance notice to each and every Breaking Athlete in the bracket, plus a public announcement of the change. Public announcement only of the change will NOT be considered adequate notice to the Athletes.

5.8.5 The organizer must provide adequate and separate changing facilities for male and female Athletes.

5.8.6 The organizer is required to adhere to the categories, battle formats, etc. specified in the promotional materials unless registered competitors affected by the change are notified in advance.

5.8.7 Organizers may not promote, feature or in any way bring attention to an individual Athlete that is competing in their competition. Organizers may use a listing and/or photos of their prior champions or finalists to promote their competition.

5.8.8 Standard venue requirements for BFGUSA/USA Dance competitions can be found in this rulebook APPENDIX 8 – VENUE AND EVENT REQUIREMENTS.

5.9 WARM UP REQUIREMENTS:

5.9.1 The organizer of all BFGUSA/USA Dance competitions will comply with at least one of the following Championship Event warm-up requirements.

5.9.2 For all Championship level events, Breaking Athletes will be given warm-up time on the actual competition floor of not less than fifteen (15) minutes. The warm-up period will be granted immediately prior to the commencement of the Championship event.

5.9.3 The requirement for the warm-up period on the competition dance floor may be waived by the Chair of Adjudicators, if the organizer has provided a separate practice dance floor, which is not less than 70% of the square footage in size of the actual competition floor and of the same type of floor surface as the actual competition floor. If the competition dance floor is a permanent, non-portable floor, the practice floor can be a portable dance floor.

5.10 ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS:

5.11.1 At Sanctioned events, only the Chair of Adjudicators, the competition scrutineer, and the organizer have access to the judging marks until after the competition is completed and the results have been announced. Thereafter, the materials or copies thereof will be made available for public inspection, if applicable.

5.11.2 The announcement of placement and awarding of prizes will be done as soon after the end of the final battle as possible.

5.11.3 All documents of sanctioned competitions will be maintained by the organizer for a period of ninety (90) days from the end of the competition.
6 RULES FOR COMPETITION OFFICIALS

6.1 GENERAL:

6.1.1 The following is a description of the responsibilities for each official at any sanctioned event: The governance of these officials is the responsibility of the organizations of which they are members.

6.2 ALL OFFICIALS:

6.2.1 An active Breaking Athlete may serve as a scrutineer, director of music (DJ) or emcee (MC) only at a competition where they are not competing.

6.2.2 No Competition Officials will:

6.2.2.1 Discriminate against any Athlete with a valid USA Dance "Athlete" registration on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin. Except those closed competitions with specified age limits, membership or residency requirements are permitted, as are invitational events.

6.2.2.2 Deny or threaten to deny any eligible Athlete with a valid USA Dance "Athlete" registration the opportunity to participate in competitive events for which he or she is eligible if he or she has adhered to all requirements of the COMPETITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES section of the RULES FOR COMPETITOR'S.

6.2.2.3 Give coaching to any competitor during the entire period of time commencing at 12:00am on the day of the first competition and concluding with the end of the last competition exclusive of lectures, seminars, or workshops scheduled by the organizer and open to all competitors.

6.2.2.4 Create any appearance of impropriety by engaging in conversations with competitors or their coaches until after the completion of the competition.

6.2.2.5 Discuss the performance of a competitor with any individual except the Chair of Adjudicators until after the completion of the competition.

6.2.2.6 No official may use personal mobile communication or portable digital information devices during their working sessions.

6.3 CODE OF ETHICS:

6.3.1 Officials, Managers, Coaches, and Trainers must abide by all Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, and SafeSport Policies defined by the IOC, WDSF, USPOC, and USA Dance set forth in APPENDIX 13 - USA DANCE ADJUDICATORS' CODE OF ETHICS AND STANDARD OF ETHICS.

6.4 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS:

6.4.1 USA Dance members who are ruled by the Breaking DanceSport Council to have committed a violation, which would breach their Official status, must be
immediately suspended from officiating in any events. Such members will, if they wish to regain their Official status, be subject to eligibility requirements and procedures.

6.4.2 Refusal to comply with the administration of doping controls will result in the immediate suspension of the Official. If the refusal to comply occurs at a competition the Official will be suspended from all events, lose claim to all remuneration and expenses, and must compensate the organizer for any costs incurred on their behalf.

6.4.3 For other violations of Breaking for Gold USA Rules excluding those relating to a breach of Official status, the Breaking DanceSport Council will:

6.4.3.1 Impose appropriate penalties at its discretion.

6.4.3.2 Suspend an Official member’s status:
   6.4.3.2.1 For up to six (6) months for a first infraction;
   6.4.3.2.2 For up to nine (9) months for a second infraction occurring within two (2) years after a first infraction;
   6.4.3.2.3 For up to twelve (12) months for a third infraction occurring within five (5) years after a first infraction; or
   6.4.3.2.4 For up to eighteen (18) months for more than three (3) infractions which occur within any five (5) year period.

6.4.4 An individual will automatically regain Official status at the end of his or her suspension provided that he or she has not engaged in any prohibited activities during the suspension period.

6.4.5 If the Breaking DanceSport Council rules to suspend or terminate an individual's registration as an Official, the Breaking DanceSport Council must:
   6.4.5.1 Notify the individual in writing.
   6.4.5.2 Notify the USA Dance Executive Committee in writing.
   6.4.5.3 Notify the USA Dance Membership Director responsible for maintaining USA Dance membership registrations in writing.

6.4.6 The Breaking DanceSport Council may, at its discretion, impose additional penalties.

6.5 CHAIR OF ADJUDICATORS:

6.5.1 The Chair of Adjudicators will be responsible for overseeing the adjudicating panel without, in any way, influencing their judgements.

6.5.2 The Chair of Adjudicator will also be responsible to uphold the environmental safety of the competitive stage area ensuring well-being of all Breaking Athletes.

6.5.3 The Chair of Adjudicators will ensure the maximum number of Breaking Athletes permitted per competitive bracket in Championship Events will not exceed thirty-two (32) participants.

6.5.4 The Chair of Adjudicators will ensure that the battles in each competitive format will be effectively managed so as not to disrupt the quality of the dancing or impair the safety of the Breaking Athletes.

6.5.5 The Chair of Adjudicators will be responsible to ensure that the music and tempo are in observance of the requirements set forth in the TECHNICAL RULES OF COMPETITION.

6.5.6 The Chair of Adjudicators is responsible for the proper implementation of the scoring system to include the following:
6.5.6.1 Instructing adjudicators on the points of evaluation and the scoring system.
6.5.6.2 Correct interpretation of the submissions after each battle and verification that they have been correctly transcribed.
6.5.6.3 Referring any score submission requiring correction to the adjudicator concerned.
6.5.6.4 Warning Breaking Athletes of rule violations either immediately before or following the end of the battle.
6.5.6.5 Disqualification of a Breaking Athlete with a rule infraction:
   6.5.6.5.1 A rule infraction will result in either a warning or a disqualification.
   6.5.6.5.2 A second warning for the same type of rule infraction is an automatic disqualification.
6.5.6.6 Verify all final summary marking submissions.
6.5.7 The Chair of Adjudicators will be responsible for excusing any Adjudicator from officiating when the Chair feels that the Adjudicator's sound judgment may be impaired.
6.5.8 The Chair of Adjudicators must not participate on any Adjudicating panel, for any event, while serving as the Chair of Adjudicators.
6.5.9 The Chair of Adjudicators will have the authority to disqualify any Breaking Athlete, or crew deemed to have violated any of the rules for competitors during the competition.
6.5.10 In all matters relating to the conduct of the competition, questions on Adjudicators' decisions and/or changes in program scheduling, the Chair's decision will be final.
6.5.11 The Chair of Adjudicators will submit a report (provided by BDSC) to the Breaking DanceSport Council within 15 days of the end of a competition.
6.5.12 Any complaints dealing with Adjudicator ethics or behavior will not be in the general report but must go in a separate report (provided by the BDSC). This report must go only to the Vice President for Breaking DanceSport and the Senior Vice President of USA Dance. This report is due 15 days after the competition.

6.6 ADJUDICATORS:

6.6.1 Adjudicators will make independent evaluations and markings without consultation or discussion of Breaking Athletes' performance(s) with other judges, spectators, coaches, and other Athletes until after the final battle of the category.
6.6.2 During the adjudication process, adjudicators of the round may not move about to enhance their perspective of the Athletes and must remain seated together during the actual conduct of the competition.
6.6.3 Adjudicators must mark Athletes solely on their performance in the dance event that is being adjudicated at the time. No consideration of titles, reputation, previous performances in other events, preceding rounds, or rule infractions are admissible.
6.6.4 Adjudicators must submit a decision/score for each round or entire battle of which they are an adjudicator.
6.6.5 Adjudicators must not adjudicate events where a competing Athlete is a member of his/her immediate and extended family, including de facto relationships with any competitor in the competition, which makes it inappropriate for him/her to serve as an adjudicator. For greater clarity, the words “immediate and extended family” include anyone to whom that judge is related by blood or marriage, to the degree of first cousin or closer, or adoption order, or with whom the judge lives or cohabits.

6.7 SCRUTINEER:

6.7.1 A qualified scrutineer will be any person certified as an official by USA Dance.
6.7.2 The Scrutineer is responsible for either overseeing or personally tabulating the judges’ decisions/mark and compiling the competition results. These will then be presented to the Chair of Adjudicators for verification.

6.8 INVIGILATOR:

6.8.1 A qualified invigilator will be any person certified as an official by USA Dance.
6.8.2 The Invigilator will watch all battles of all competitions and will report any such rule violations to the Chair of Adjudicators.
6.8.3 Any competitor who is warned or penalized will be provided with a copy of this infraction form.
6.8.4 The invigilator will submit a written or electronic report using the Official USA Dance Infraction Report to the Chair of Adjudicators and the Organizer at the conclusion of the event. The Chair of Adjudicators will submit a copy of this record to the Breaking DanceSport Council.
7 APPENDIX – STANDARD SANCTIONING CRITERIA

7.1 COMPETITION STANDARDS FOR EVENT SANCTIONING CRITERIA:

7.1.1 The events that are to be sanctioned by Breaking for Gold USA shall only be breaking competitions, which include judging, subject to the judging criteria and guidelines outlined in the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook, and include a DJ or band playing breaks music or recorded breaks music.

7.1.2 Judging Criteria for Competitions:

7.1.2.1 At least three judges must be used for any judged competition to be sanctioned by Breaking for Gold USA/USA Dance, all of whom must have had a competitive breaking and judging background and have earned the necessary judging credentials as specified in the Breaking for Gold USA Rulebook.

7.1.2.2 The judging panel must have a mixture of male and female adjudicators.

7.1.2.3 The event organizer may not be a judge for any Breaking for Gold USA competition at the organizer’s own event.

7.1.2.4 In all cases, the event organizer must use best efforts to hire judges free of any and all conflicts of interest.

7.1.3 The competition flooring must be clean, safe, dry and at least five feet away from any un-padded barriers, columns or walls.

7.1.4 After the preliminary rounds or showcase at any Breaking for Gold USA sanctioned competition, the Chair of Judges and Judges must seed the then-remaining competitors for any competition bracket.

7.1.5 Competitors in Breaking for Gold USA/USA Dance sanctioned competitions must be registered member Athletes of USA Dance and/or WDSF, who are currently registered with Breaking for Gold USA as Breaking Athletes.

7.1.6 The event organizer must purchase or otherwise obtain special event insurance for the event, naming USA Dance and affiliates as additional named insured, and must indemnify USA Dance and affiliates.

7.1.7 Event organizer must agree to comply with and abide by the stipulations surrounding digital media rights as set forth in any Breaking for Gold USA Event Promoter Agreement and share digital rights to the event into perpetuity with USA Dance and affiliates.

7.1.8 For each event involving a BFGUSA/USA Dance sanctioned competition, the event’s marketing materials and social media must acknowledge such sanctioning at the event.

7.1.9 Breaking for Gold USA/USA Dance may also endorse, organize, sanction, or otherwise support events, performances, or workshops that are independent of competitions, and in such case, judges are not required and music is not restricted to breaks music.
8  APPENDIX – VENUE AND EVENT REQUIREMENTS

8.1 STANDARD VENUE AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR EVENT ORGANIZERS:

8.1.1 Challenge Events:
8.1.1.1 Entry fee cap for competitors of $20/person, regardless of the number of competitions entered; no cap applies for spectator ticket prices
8.1.1.2 Venue must be pre-approved by Breaking for Gold USA
8.1.1.3 Battle floor space no less than 15’ by 15’
8.1.1.4 Cypher space no smaller than 30’ by 50’
8.1.1.5 Competition flooring approved by Breaking for Gold USA
8.1.1.6 No less than 3 judges for all prelims and no less than 3 judges for competition bracket

8.1.2 Open Championship Events:
8.1.2.1 Entry fee cap for competitors of $30/person, regardless of the number of competitions entered; no cap applies for spectator ticket prices
8.1.2.2 Venue must be pre-approved by Breaking for Gold USA
8.1.2.3 Battle floor space no less than 20’ by 20’
8.1.2.4 Cypher space no smaller than 30’ by 60’
8.1.2.5 Competition flooring approved by Breaking for Gold USA
8.1.2.6 No less than 3 judges for all prelims and no less than 3 judges for competition bracket

8.1.3 Regional Championship Events:
8.1.3.1 Entry fee cap for competitors of $50/person, regardless of the number of competitions entered; no cap applies for spectator ticket prices
8.1.3.2 Venue must be pre-approved by Breaking for Gold USA
8.1.3.3 Battle floor space no less than 20’ by 20’
8.1.3.4 Cypher space no smaller than 30’ by 60’
8.1.3.5 Ceiling height a minimum of 15’
8.1.3.6 Stage lighting sufficient for slow-mo videography
8.1.3.7 Dedicated spaces sufficient for multiple videographers and photographers
8.1.3.8 Competition flooring approved by Breaking for Gold USA
8.1.3.9 No less than 3 judges for all prelims and no less than 3 judges for competition bracket
8.1.3.10 Live Stream with multiple cameras, wired or independent wireless, not public wireless (Live Stream source must be approved by Breaking for Gold USA)

8.1.4 National Championship Events organized by private organizers:
8.1.4.1 Entry fee cap for competitors of $50/person, regardless of the number of competitions entered; no cap applies for spectator ticket prices
8.1.4.2 Venue must be pre-approved by Breaking for Gold USA
8.1.4.3 Dedicated stadium seating or bleachers around the battle floor sufficient for a minimum of 400
8.1.4.4 Battle floor space no less than 24’ by 24’
8.1.4.5 Elevated flooring for the battle area, optional but preferred
8.1.4.6 Ceiling height a minimum of 20’
8.1.4.7 Stage lighting sufficient for slow-mo videography and sound system setup all running from a back-up generator

8.1.4.8 Dedicated spaces sufficient for multiple videographers and photographers

8.1.4.9 Live Stream with multiple cameras, wired or independent wireless, not public wireless (Live Stream source must be approved by Breaking for Gold USA)

8.1.4.10 Competition flooring approved by Breaking for Gold USA

8.1.4.11 Cypher space no smaller than 30’ by 90’

8.1.4.12 No less than 3 judges for all prelims and no less than 5 judges for competition bracket
9.1 BENEFITS OF THRE EFO LD AND TRIVIUM JUDGING SYSTEMS:

9.1.1 Fairness:
9.1.1.1 The judges need to be trusted and respected. They need to demonstrate as well as they can, that they are free from any bias, which comes in many forms. An awareness of biases enables one to reduce the possibility of misjudged incidents. It is hard to have faith in anyone you may think is incompetent or corrupt. There are a number of issues that need to be considered. Judging is a skill that needs to be developed and practiced. The ability to make knowledgeable assessments is not necessarily a natural one and must be refined and reinforced over many years.

9.1.2 Accountability:
9.1.2.1 In the case of a judge displaying bias or preference there needs to be a way of identifying and applying some sort of penalty. A system should allow decisions to be tracked and for any major deviations to be identified and questioned. The Chair of Adjudicators is assigned power to remove and replace any offending judge he suspects of contravening the code of conduct. It is an imperative that every judge should be fair and therefore also accountable for any of his or her decisions. This responsibility means that the best interest of the community should be pursued.

9.1.3 Consistency:
9.1.3.1 Until recently, judges were chosen based on name or reputation with no scrutiny or analysis in regard to their judging ability. As a result, no uniformity was present in judging. Even though producing judgments in any performance art or sport is always also a matter of subjective thought, there should still be some level or form of unity as to what is valued and to what those values should mean. Some agreed conventions need to be implemented or the value of judging will be unclear. This means that training in a consistent ‘base level’ of terms and perspective is necessary to establish an agreed upon and reproducible approach.

9.1.4 Transparency:
9.1.4.1 The system must be able to provide feedback for the participants and the audience. By means of a system we can express and evaluate the performance and thereby have the means to provide feedback. At the same time there is the opportunity to provide various levels of detail. This enables the performer and the audience to learn what values are rated and the reasons for those decisions. It also allows the judge to make meta observations, thereby facilitating the ability to self-analyze decisions. Transparency allows for the education of all involved.
9.1.5 Maturity:
9.1.5.1 As we move into the future there is a need for all the previous points to be reflected upon if we are to develop a mature system and scene. There should be attention paid to improving the entire process and providing training and support to those chosen to undertake the important duty of judging. As more statistics are collected, we can identify if there are any specific deficiencies in how judging is done and if any improvement can be made in the process. Over time perspectives change and this must also be reflected in any system.

9.2 HIERARCHY OF VALUES USED IN JUDGING SYSTEMS:

9.2.1 Body Domain:
9.2.1.1 Technique:
  9.2.1.1.1 Athleticism
  9.2.1.1.2 Body Control
  9.2.1.1.3 Dynamics
  9.2.1.1.4 Spatial Control
9.2.1.2 Variety:
  9.2.1.2.1 Vocabulary
  9.2.1.2.2 Variation

9.2.2 Mind Domain:
9.2.2.1 Creativity:
  9.2.2.1.1 Progression from Breaking’s foundation
  9.2.2.1.2 Response
  9.2.2.1.3 Improvisation
9.2.2.2 Personality:
  9.2.2.2.1 Stage Presence
  9.2.2.2.2 Character

9.2.3 Soul Domain:
9.2.3.1 Performative:
  9.2.3.1.1 Composition
  9.2.3.1.2 Impact
  9.2.3.1.3 Authenticity
9.2.3.2 Musicality:
  9.2.3.2.1 Coherence
  9.2.3.2.2 Texture
  9.2.3.2.3 Rhythm

9.2.4 Both Threefold and Trivium Judging Systems are descriptive and not prescriptive.

9.3 THREEFOLD JUDGING SYSTEM CROSS FADER CATEGORIES:

9.3.1 Cross Fader 1: Physical Quality – The Body Domain
9.3.2 Cross Fader 2: Artistic Quality – The Mind Domain
9.3.3 Cross Fader 3: Interpretive Quality – The Soul Domain
9.3.4 Threefold Cross Fader Interface:
9.4 TRIVIUM JUDGING SYSTEM CROSS FADER CATEGORIES:

9.4.1 Cross Fader 1: Technique
9.4.2 Cross Fader 2: Variety
9.4.3 Cross Fader 3: Creativity
9.4.4 Cross Fader 4: Personality
9.4.5 Cross Fader 5: Performativity
9.4.6 Cross Fader 6: Musicality
9.4.7 Trivium Cross Fader Interface:
9.5 FURTHER RESOURCES:

9.5.1 A full detail of both Trivium and Threefold judging systems can be found in the WDSF Breaking Rules and Regulations manual:
9.5.1.1 https://www.breakingforgold.com/wch2019/pages/rules
9.5.1.2 Trivium System: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLr5XWPrDcQ
10.1 RULEBOOK GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

10.1.1 The rules contained in this rulebook are based on a series of fundamental guiding principles. Every effort has been made to ensure compliance with these principles in a coherent and uniform manner. Where specific guiding principles govern a section of the rules, these principles are articulated at the beginning of the section. The following are the guiding principles upon which the Breaking for Gold USA rules are based:

10.1.1.1 USA Dance is responsible for the proper regulation and policing of the sport of Breaking DanceSport in the United States.

10.1.1.2 The rules must be compatible with the requirements of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee's Constitution, particularly with respect to the responsibilities of National Governing Bodies.

10.1.1.3 The Rules & Regulations will be of similar scope and quality as those governing other Olympic sports.

10.1.1.4 The rules will ensure fairness and a level playing field for Athletes to the most reasonable extent possible.

10.1.1.5 Uniform "Technical Rules of Competition" for all Athletes and competitions in the sport is highly desirable.

10.1.1.6 The Breaking for Gold USA Rules will provide uniform rules governing all Athletes at all competitions in the United States, regardless of the organizer (e.g.: Athletes from one part of the country will be able to go to any competition in any other part of the country and find the same competitive categories, criteria, standards, etc. as exist in their area).

10.1.1.7 The rights and responsibilities of Athletes will be articulately enumerated in order to avoid misunderstandings and conflicts.

10.1.1.8 The rules will be consistent, clear and articulate so that all individuals and organizations can have a common interpretation of the rules.

10.1.1.9 The rules governing Athlete activities and allowable scholarships, reimbursements, etc. will be uniform and without inconsistencies.

10.1.1.10 Commonly accepted fundamental principles of American society will also apply to Breaking DanceSport in the United States, i.e.:

10.1.1.10.1 Accused individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty and are entitled to due process.

10.1.1.10.2 Individual freedoms and responsibilities are protected to the extent that they do not conflict with the applicable rules.
11 APPENDIX – NATIONAL TEAM, WORLD TEAM SELECTIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

11.1 WDSF WORLD BREAKING CHAMPIONSHIPS:

11.1.1 USA Dance nominates Breaking Athletes to WDSF World Breaking Championships in accordance with the approved annual budget of the Board of Directors, the WDSF’s regulations and the following criteria:

11.1.1.1 All participants are in good standing with USA Dance as a Breaking DanceSport Athlete.
11.1.1.2 Compliance with all eligibility criteria for competing in the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.
11.1.1.3 Review of past suspensions, sportsmanlike conduct, filed grievances, compliance with all Breaking for Gold USA rules, particularly anti-doping.
11.1.1.4 Compliance with policies governing National Team.
11.1.1.5 Placement in the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.
11.1.1.6 Ranking Points considerations from the previous competition cycle.
11.1.1.7 Compliance with WDSF citizenship/eligibility restrictions.

11.1.2 USA Dance is not obligated to nominate Breaking Athletes to WDSF World Breaking Championships. Nominations to a National Team or World Team position are finalized by a nomination committee comprised of members of the Breaking DanceSport Council and the USA Dance President.

11.1.3 Any Breaking Athlete nominated to a WDSF World Breaking Championship that is unable to attend, for any reason, has an obligation to notify the Breaking DanceSport Vice President immediately upon the determination of their inability to represent the USA.

11.1.4 Any openings created on a World Team by a Breaking Athlete’s withdrawal may or may not be filled by lower ranked Athletes on the National Team, at the discretion of the Breaking DanceSport Council.

11.1.5 Participation at any Open or Closed WDSF World Breaking Championship is limited to members of the World Breaking Team

11.1.6 Breaking Athletes may receive this nomination with travel stipend support. The Athletes understand that they bear any expenses not covered by the travel stipend.

11.1.7 Any possible travel stipends will be prioritized for National Team members.

11.2 WDSF WORLD CUP CHAMPIONSHIPS:

11.2.1 USA Dance is permitted to nominate Breaking Athletes to a WDSF World Cup Championship.

11.2.2 All criteria for the World Breaking Championships selection will be observed.

11.2.3 Further, nominations are only available to Breaking Athletes placing in the top two placements in the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships or those lower ranked Breaking Athletes on the National Team who have earned the highest-Ranking Points after the completion of the Breaking for Gold USA
National Championships. Consideration will be given to Breaking Athletes in their order of placement.

11.3 THE WORLD GAMES:

11.3.1 The WDSF, in cooperation with the International World Games Association, determine which DanceSport events will be represented by which countries. When USA Dance is selected for this honor, USA Dance will be permitted to send World Team members, subject to the rules of eligibility. World Games are held every four years and travel stipend amounts for nominated athletes will be determined during the year of the World Games.

11.4 PAN AMERICAN GAMES:

11.4.1 USA Dance nominates Breaking Athletes to Pan American Games in accordance with the approved annual budget of the Board of Directors, the WDSF’s regulations and the following criteria:
11.4.1.1 All participants are in good standing with USA Dance as a Breaking DanceSport Athlete.
11.4.1.2 Compliance with all eligibility criteria for competing in the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.
11.4.1.3 Review of past suspensions, sportsmanlike conduct, filed grievances, compliance with all Breaking for Gold USA rules, particularly anti-doping.
11.4.1.4 Compliance with policies governing National Team.
11.4.1.5 Placement in the Breaking for Gold USA National Championships.
11.4.1.6 Ranking Points considerations from the previous competition cycle.
11.4.1.7 Compliance with WDSF citizenship/eligibility restrictions.

11.4.2 USA Dance is not obligated to nominate Breaking Athletes to Pan American Games. Nominations to a National Team or World Team position are finalized by a nomination committee comprised of members of the Breaking DanceSport Council and the USA Dance President.

11.4.3 Any Breaking Athlete nominated to a Pan American Games that is unable to attend, for any reason, has an obligation to notify the Breaking DanceSport Vice President immediately upon the determination of their inability to represent the USA.

11.4.4 Any openings created on a World Team by a Breaking Athlete’s withdrawal may or may not be filled by lower ranked Athletes on the National Team, at the discretion of the Breaking DanceSport Council.

11.4.5 Breaking Athletes may receive this nomination with travel stipend support. The Athletes understand that they bear any expenses not covered by the travel stipend.

11.4.6 Any possible travel stipends will be prioritized for National Team members.

11.5 WDSF CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - OLYMPIC QUALIFYING:
11.5.1 USA Dance is solely permitted to nominate Breaking Athletes to any WDSF Continental Championships.

11.5.2 All criteria for the WDSF World Breaking Championships selection will be observed.

11.5.3 Further, nominations to Breaking Athletes beyond the current National Team are determined at the sole discretion of the Breaking DanceSport Council. Such Breaking Athlete nominations may or may not be extended based on the following criteria:

11.5.3.1 Placement on World Breaking Team.

11.5.3.2 Regional Championship winners of any Breaking for Gold USA Regional Championship event within the current National Championship cycle.

11.5.3.2.1 If less than 50% of the scheduled Regional Championship Events have occurred during the current National Championship cycle, extended nominations may be granted to prior year Regional Championship Event winners.

11.5.3.3 Ranking point considerations from the current National Championship cycle. Consideration will be given to Breaking Athletes in their order of placement.

11.5.3.3.1 If no Breaking for Gold USA Ranking Point events have occurred within the current National Championship cycle, extended nominations may be granted to prior year Ranking Point earners at the discretion of the Breaking DanceSport Council.

11.5.4 USA Dance is not obligated to nominate Breaking Athletes to WDSF Continental Championships.

11.5.5 Any Breaking Athlete nominated to a WDSF Continental Championship that is unable to attend, for any reason, has an obligation to notify the Breaking DanceSport Vice President immediately upon the determination of their inability to represent the USA.

11.5.6 Any openings created by a Breaking Athlete’s withdrawal may or may not be filled by other Breakings Athletes, at the discretion of the Breaking DanceSport Council.

11.5.7 Breaking Athletes may or may not receive this nomination with travel stipend support. The Breaking Athletes understand that they bear all expenses incurred to participate.

11.5.8 Any possible travel stipends will be prioritized for National Team members.

11.6 WDSF BREAKING FOR GOLD EVENT SERIES - OLYMPIC QUALIFYING:

11.6.1 USA Dance is permitted to nominate Breaking Athletes to the WDSF Breaking for Gold Olympic Qualifying Events. USA Dance has the sole authority to nominate Breaking Athletes to all Challenge, International, and World Series event classifications.

11.6.2 All criteria for the WDSF World Breaking Championships selection will be observed.

11.6.3 Further, nominations to Breaking Athletes beyond the current National Team are determined at the sole discretion of the Breaking DanceSport Council. Such
Breaking Athlete nominations may or may not be extended based on the following criteria:

11.6.3.1 Placement on World Breaking Team.
11.6.3.2 Regional Championship winners of any Breaking for Gold USA Regional Championship event within the current National Championship cycle.
11.6.3.3 Ranking point considerations from the current National Championship cycle. Consideration will be given to Breaking Athletes in their order of placement.

11.6.4 USA Dance is not obligated to nominate Breaking Athletes to WDSF Breaking for Gold Olympic Qualifying Event Series competitions. Nominations to National Team and World Team positions are finalized by a nomination committee comprised of members of the Breaking DanceSport Council and the USA Dance President.

11.6.5 Any Breaking Athlete nominated to a WDSF Breaking for Gold Event Series competition that is unable to attend, for any reason, has an obligation to notify the Breaking DanceSport Vice President immediately upon the determination of their inability to represent the USA.

11.6.6 Any openings created by a Breaking Athlete’s withdrawal may or may not be filled by other Breaking Athletes, at the discretion of the Breaking DanceSport Council.

11.6.7 Breaking Athletes may or may not receive this nomination with travel stipend support. The Breaking Athletes understand that they bear all expenses incurred to participate.

11.6.8 Any possible travel stipends will be prioritized for National Team members.

11.7 TRAVEL STIPENDS:

11.7.1 Travel stipends awarded by USA Dance are specific to the event for which they are awarded and are not transferrable. Travel stipends are awarded based on a Breaking Athlete’s eligibility to attend the specific event for which they are nominated and their compliance with the remainder of Rule 11.7.

11.7.2 Travel stipends are only awarded to National Team representatives.

11.7.3 Basic requirements of receiving a travel stipend include items deemed to be good-sportsmanship and in keeping with the role as an ambassador of the USA, such as:

11.7.3.1 Compliance with all requests for information and entry forms in a timely manner.
11.7.3.2 Participation in all opening and closing ceremonies and meetings required by the organizer.
11.7.3.3 Compliance with the National Team Athlete Agreement.
11.7.3.4 Athletes are expected to observe any rounds of competition they are not still participating in. For example, if you are out of the event in the semifinal, you must remain in the venue and watch the final. This is a learning experience and watching the dance quality of the finalists is part of that education.
11.7.3.5 Participation in any after-party provided by the organizer. Again, as an ambassador of the USA Dance, athletes are expected to be gracious
toward the organizer and officials and show appreciation for any activity organized in celebration of the event.

11.7.3.6 Before a Breaking Athlete may receive a travel stipend, the bboy/bgirl must provide evidence they’ve given an uncompensated performance or workshop in their local community. There must be at least one performance or workshop in the local community at an academic school, Boys & Girls club, dance studio, or practice venue for each travel stipend an Athlete requests. Venues should be cleared through the BDSC and should promote USA Dance to the local community. Adequate proof of a performance or workshop may include a photo or video, or a letter signed by an on-site organizer acknowledging or thanking the Athlete for the performance or workshop.

11.7.4 World Team/Team USA athlete members may request additional travel funds for World Breaking Championships in remote areas, Asia, Eastern Europe, etc. or to assist with chaperone costs for youth/teen Athletes. The request will be directed to the Breaking DanceSport Vice President to be processed by the Breaking DanceSport Council and approved by the USA Dance Board of Directors.

11.7.5 Athlete invitations and nomination letters will outline the specific travel stipend dollar amount granted for a given event.
12 APPENDIX – USA DANCE ADJUDICATORS’ CODE OF ETHICS AND STANDARDS OF ETHICS

12.1 PREAMBLE:

12.1.1 This Code of Conduct and Standards of Ethics (“Code”) is intended to provide a framework of standards for conduct and ethics for adjudicators. It has been developed as an Operating Policy of USA Dance for all adjudicators to maintain the integrity, competence and effectiveness of judging panels as a whole.

12.1.2 The rules and standards set out in the Code are intended to assist adjudicators to establish appropriate standards of conduct in order that they have the confidence of their peers, the competitors they are judging, and USA Dance competitions utilizing their services.

12.1.3 It must be recognized that the Code cannot anticipate all possible situations in which adjudicators may be called upon to exercise their judgment. In all cases, it remains the ultimate responsibility of each individual adjudicator to consider the intent as well as the letter of the standards, which have been set, to conduct himself/herself in an ethical and professional manner, and to ensure all competitors are judged on their merits free from any bias or coercion.

12.1.4 Adherence to the standards reflected in the Code is essential to the success of USA Dance. All adjudicators must become familiar with the contents of this Operating Policy. USA Dance expects every adjudicator to take personal responsibility for complying with the Code and acting in a manner consistent with USA Dance values and principles.

12.1.5 The Code applies to all adjudicators and Chair of Adjudicators (here in after referred to collectively as “adjudicators”).

12.1.6 The Code may be amended from time to time by the USA Dance Board of Directors.

12.2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

12.2.1 A Conflict of Interest is any interest, relationship, association or activity that is incompatible with an adjudicator’s obligations to ensure that all competitors are judged on their merits, free from any bias or coercion.

12.2.2 Conflicts of Interest arise in particular when the personal interests of an adjudicator influence that adjudicator’s judgment or ability to act in the best interest of the competitors.

12.2.3 An adjudicator must adhere to the rules set out in this Code and will retire from the panel where any potential Conflict of Interest arises.

12.3 RULES FOR ADJUDICATORS:

12.3.1 An adjudicator must not judge in any event and must retire from the panel, if
s/he knows or believes that his/her physical or mental condition does not allow him/her to perform the job properly without any limitations.

12.3.2 An adjudicator must not judge any event, and must retire from the panel, where any person competing in that competition is a member of his/her immediate and extended family, including de facto relationships, or where s/he has a personal relationship to any competitor in the competition which makes it inappropriate for him/her to serve as an adjudicator. For greater clarity, the words “immediate and extended family” include anyone to whom that judge is related by blood or marriage, to the degree of first cousin or closer, or adoption order, or with whom the judge lives or cohabits.

12.3.3 An adjudicator must not accept money, awards, articles or things of substantial material value, or favors or promises of any future consideration, whether as gift or as payment for services, from any competitor or organizer, or from any other third party, who may be or may have been affected directly or indirectly by the adjudicator’s decision.

12.3.4 An adjudicator must not make any false representation in respect of his/her accreditation level or experience and in relation to his/her adjudicators’ license.

12.3.5 Once an adjudicator is engaged to officiate at a particular event s/he can only act as an adjudicator throughout the event and this Code applies to the event as a whole.

12.3.6 An adjudicator or chair of judges must not coach, teach, or give any advice to any participating athlete during a competition at which s/he is adjudicating. An adjudicator or chair of judges must not coach, teach or give any advice to any Athlete who is not his/her regular student (and has been a student during the prior three months) at any time during the two-week period prior to the start of that competition, if s/he has accepted an invitation to adjudicate at that competition.

12.3.7 An adjudicator must not threaten to mark an athlete in a particular way.

12.3.8 An adjudicator must not in any way threaten an athlete during the course of a competition s/he is judging and in which the athlete is competing.

12.3.9 An adjudicator must refrain from publicly taking any partisan position in respect to any athlete s/he may judge in any competition.

12.3.10 An adjudicator must not seek by any means to improperly influence, or to intimidate, another adjudicator.

12.3.11 An adjudicator who is not a member of the judging panel for an event, must not discuss with any adjudicator who is a member of the judging panel for that event the merits of the performance of a competitor in that event or any previous performances or results, before the completion of the event.

12.3.12 An adjudicator must not discuss the merits of a competitor’s performance with the competitor before the end of the event in which s/he is judging.

12.3.13 An adjudicator must not seek to influence the outcome of a competition other than by marking all athletes in the competition on their merits.

12.3.14 An adjudicator, when contracted to judge a USA Dance competition, has to judge strictly according to USA Dance rules and policies.

12.3.15 An adjudicator must not engage in any conduct that is intended to gain an advantage for any competitor.

12.3.16 An adjudicator must not falsely claim to officially represent USA Dance in any capacity.
12.3.17 If an adjudicator converses with fellow adjudicators, spectators, competitors or coaches during an event, s/he may not discuss the performance of any athlete s/he is judging or any of their previous performances or results, until after the end of the event.

12.3.18 An adjudicator may not use mobile telephones or portable digital-information devices of any kind on or near to the competition floor during judging. With regard to any questions arising from this policy, the Chair of Adjudicators decision will be final.

12.4 GENERAL BEHAVIOR OF ADJUDICATORS:

12.4.1 Adjudicators must comply with the following rules of conduct, so as to uphold the highest standards of behavior:

12.4.1.1 An adjudicator’s behavior both on and off the dance floor must be consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship. An adjudicator must not behave in a questionable or unseemly manner in public or at any DanceSport related function or occasion where members of the public (including competitors, spectators and the media) are present in any capacity.

12.4.1.2 An adjudicator must be consistent, objective and neutral in his/her decisions. Biased judging undermines the whole basis of competition.

12.4.1.3 Where an adjudicator is permitted by this Code to judge the athletes s/he coaches or has coached in the past, the adjudicator must not allow this relationship to influence his/her judgment.

12.4.1.4 An adjudicator must maintain and develop his/her judging skills by keeping himself/herself informed on developments in technique and style, and any changes in USA Dance rules and policies on judging.

12.4.1.5 Where judging responsibilities have been assigned to an adjudicator for a competition, regardless of the status of that competition, the adjudicator must not consume any alcoholic beverage or recreational drugs before and during any period of the competition events, until the end of all events each competition day.

12.4.1.6 An adjudicator must not otherwise act in any way that may bring the image of USA Dance or DanceSport into disrepute. It is a basic requirement that any adjudicator engaged to judge at a competition must:

12.4.1.6.1 Arrive on time at the venue in reasonable physical and mental condition.

12.4.1.6.2 Report his/her presence to the organizer and Chair of Adjudicators.

12.4.1.6.3 Ascertain the timetable of the competitions.

12.4.1.6.4 Be available to perform the duties of an adjudicator as scheduled.

12.4.1.6.5 Behave in such a way during the competition as to preserve the good reputation of DanceSport and USA Dance. During the course of a competition, the adjudicators on the judging
12.4.1.6.5.1 Judge independently and not compare notes with the other adjudicators.
12.4.1.6.5.2 If applicable, mark and sign their paper score cards in ink, including their adjudicator code letter and initial each and every alteration s/he makes to the score card.
12.4.1.6.5.3 Not make any attempt to become familiar with the names and nationalities of the participants, by using the official competition program or with any intermediate results or marks of other adjudicators of the competition before the end of the competition.
12.4.1.6.5.4 Follow all instructions given by the Chair.
12.4.1.6.5.5 Concentrate on judging only and not have any communication with the audience, fellow adjudicators or athletes and not do anything that might distract him/her, including the use of any electronic device, except for scoring the competition.

12.5 COMPLAINTS ABOUT ADJUDICATORS DURING A COMPETITION:

12.5.1 During a competition the Chair of Adjudicators nominated or confirmed by USA Dance is authorized and obliged to observe the compliance of all adjudicators with the Code, whether they be engaged in the competition or not.
12.5.2 Any complaints regarding the breach of Code during the competition must be made to the Chair of Adjudicators. Anyone may make such a complaint to the Chair of Adjudicators when an official representative of USA Dance is unable or unwilling to do so.
12.5.3 If the Chair of Adjudicators has reason to believe that there has been a breach of the Code by an adjudicator on the panel of which s/he is Chair of Adjudicators, then s/he is empowered and obliged to notify such adjudicator of the complaint against him/her, hear him/her in reply, and then take appropriate action immediately according to the terms of the Code.
12.5.4 The Chair of Adjudicators will have the power to reprimand or replace the adjudicator by an appropriate substitute for the remainder of the competition.
12.5.5 The Chair of Adjudicators will document any incident or observation of alleged or suspected misconduct by an adjudicator, and any reprimand or replacement of an adjudicator, in the competition special report concerning to adjudicator behavior filed with the Breaking DanceSport Vice President and Senior Vice President. The Breaking DanceSport Vice President and Senior Vice President will decide whether there is the need to initiate a further investigation. The Breaking DanceSport Vice President and Senior Vice President will refer each such case to the USA Dance Executive Committee, with recommendations for consideration.

12.6 OTHER COMPLAINTS ABOUT ADJUDICATORS:
12.6.1 Any other complaints about an alleged breach of the Code must be submitted by a USA Dance Official or another person in writing (by mail or email) to the Breaking DanceSport Vice President. A complaint about the Breaking DanceSport Vice President and the same process will be followed.

12.6.2 A complaint will not be considered unless the following criteria are met:

12.6.2.1 The complaint must be made in writing and signed by the complainant and mailed to the USA Dance Central Office, Attn: Breaking DanceSport Vice President or emailed to DanceSportBreaking-VP@usadance.org within ten (10) days of the date of the alleged breach together with any supporting documentation.

12.6.2.2 The complainant must specify the full name, address and contact details of the complaining person or persons and must agree in writing to give evidence of the complaint to be cross examined on that evidence. If a complaint meets these criteria, the Breaking DanceSport Vice President will forward the complaint to the USA Dance Executive Committee for further consideration. If these criteria are not met, the Breaking DanceSport Vice President will write to the complainant immediately advising that s/he has failed to meet these criteria and inviting a revised complaint that meets these criteria.

12.6.2.3 Nothing in this rule shall prevent either the Breaking DanceSport Vice President or the Senior Vice President from initiating an investigation at any time either believes there has been a breach of this Code or any rule or policy of the USA Dance and referring it to the USA Dance Executive Committee for consideration.

12.6.2.4 The USA Dance Executive Committee will consider any complaint made under this section. Decisions made by the Executive Committee may be appealed within 10 days of notification of EC findings. Suspensions or other rulings issued by the EC will become effective immediately and remain in effect unless overturned upon review by the Board of Directors.

12.7 DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AGAINST ADJUDICATORS:

12.7.1 If an adjudicator a) blatantly abuses the Code, or otherwise commits gross misconduct; b) willfully infringes any of these rules; or c) is found to have engaged in any conduct which is contrary to the interests of USA Dance; then the USA Dance Executive Committee will have the power to suspend the adjudicator from judging in USA Dance sanctioned competitions for a period of up to one year.