

CHICAGO MIDWEST SALSA OPEN COMPETITION

RULES & REGULATIONS

- Competition is open to couples only (1 female/1 male).
- One member of the couple must be a U.S. born citizen.
- Minimum age for participation is 18.
- All competitors shall accept the judge's decision as it is final and cannot be appealed. All negative expressions towards judges, organizers, the public, sponsors, or any person or entity associated with the Chicago Midwest Salsa Open is strictly prohibited.
- Once registered, participants authorize the Organizers the use of all images to be used for promotional purposes.
- Couples shall have no direct communication with the judges during the competition.
- Couples may dance on any timing of 1, 2, 3 or 4. However, the entire routine must be on the same timing.
- If you are changing your timing, judges must be advised in advance. If you do not, it will be considered an error.
- Couples shall not speak to each other, sing the lyrics, or address the public or judges during their performance.
- You will be evaluated in the following technical areas:
 - Stage presence
 - Visual presentation
 - Choreography
 - Technique
 - Couple interaction
 - Rhythm
 - Creativity
- Attire shall be "show" dancewear. Attire shall have no emblems or sponsorship logos. No casual or everyday clothing is allowed.

- Attire shall be appropriate for the performance. Change of clothing during the performance is not allowed.
- Character costumes are not allowed.
- Props, accessories or decorations are not allowed.
- Men shall be fully clothed.
- Women shall wear undergarments that are the same color as the attire. Women shall wear nylons.
- Women shall wear dance shoes with heels (no jazz shoes or sneakers).
- Men shall wear dance shoes (no jazz shoes or sneakers)
- Women shall wear appropriate make-up and hairdo. Excessive jewelry is not allowed. Character make-up or body painting is not allowed for either party.
- Routine must be a minimum of 1.40 minutes and a maximum of 2 minutes.
- Music shall be all salsa with no special effects or added sounds. Music shall contain no other genre.
- Music shall not be mixed, however, may be edited to comply with duration allowed.
- Music must be in CD format and provided to the Organizers in advance. CD shall contain the routine music only and recorded at the appropriate pitch. Adjustments will not be made on-site.
- The Chicago Midwest Salsa Open winner shall be awarded the title of Chicago-Midwest Salsa Open Champion and an all expense paid trip (airline tickets, hotel accommodations & registration) to San Juan, Puerto Rico to compete as our representative in the Puerto Rico World Salsa Open in 2009.
- All documentation procedures required for travel to Puerto Rico is the responsibility of participants.