



Subject: USA Dance 2016 Chicago Dancesport Challenge Info Packet

Dear Dance Professional,

Please find attached an information/registration packet for our upcoming Chicago Dancesport Challenge to be held from Oct 28-Oct 30, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago O'Hare Hotel. Take a moment to review the packet and perhaps post some or all of it at your studio. As you may know, this event is a competition for all amateur couples and formations, youth to senior age levels, and is a National Qualifying Event (NQE) for the 2017 National DanceSport Championships. We are again offering Teacher-Student events, in which you can dance with your amateur students who compete only with other students, ladies against ladies, gentlemen against gentlemen, while you the teacher are not judged. These events were a big hit in their inaugural presentation last year, and urge you to consider entering with your students. Note that you must hold an active athlete or pro membership with USA Dance Inc. Kindly share the registration packet with your amateur couples and formation team members. Registration can also be done online from our website www.usadancechicago.org. The competitors are at all levels, from newcomer to open, and the competition is very friendly and a very good venue for your students to "show their stuff" along with other couples or students like them.

When registering for the competition your students should post either your studio name, or if you are an independent instructor, your name. This information is tracked for our Top Studio and Top Teacher award contest, featuring a cash award of \$500 and \$250 respectively; a nice incentive for you.

If you have a formation team, the entry fee is only \$150.00 if registered by Oct 16 to you or your studio. You can decide the fee for your team members yourself. All team members must be USA Dance members-this can be a social or competitive membership. If they are not, a social membership at \$35 will do the trick and carry with it a full year of benefits of a USA Dance membership. Please note there is a special registration form in the attached packet for you to fill out and mail back with your formation team entry. We've had some great teams competing in the past, and should have more this year. Note that Team members who will also compete as a couple, however, must register separately for those events in addition to the formation team, and must be USA Dance members in the Athlete category.

We hope to see you and your students at the 2016 Chicago Dancesport Challenge. If you or your students have any questions, please feel free to contact me by phone or email.

Thank you and Best Regards,

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2016 Chicago DanceSport Challenge

A National Qualifying Event

Presented by the Chicagoland Chapter #2001

October 28 - October 30, 2016

TEACHER-STUDENT EVENTS

A Teacher-Student event consists of a DanceSport Athlete and a partner. The partner may consist of a male or female teacher, regardless of the sex of the DanceSport Athlete. The Teacher must be a registered Professional Athlete or a DanceSport Athlete. This will add lots of fun to the competition, so dancers are encouraged to bring their instructors. Our competition is less expensive than typical Pro-Am events, plus we have more fun.

RULES FOR TEACHER-STUDENT EVENTS

The following definitions and rules apply for Teacher Student couples in the 2016 USA Dance Chicago DanceSport Challenge:

Student: The Student must be a USA Dance Athlete member in good standing and may be of any age and either sex. The Student is the only partner judged.

Teacher: The Teacher may be of any age and either sex, regardless of the age and sex of the Student. The Teacher is not judged. The Teacher must be either a USA Dance Athlete or Professional Athlete member in good standing.

A Teacher may partner with multiple Students in multiple age divisions, levels and disciplines, but not the same event with more than one student, per the rules of entry and registration.

Eligible Events: The event eligibility rules apply only to the age, sex, and proficiency level of the Student. The Student will be judged against other Students in the same age, sex, and level categories that are also dancing with Teacher partners. Otherwise, all the eligibility rules of the Chicago DanceSport Championship apply to entries by T/S couples.

A T/S couple may not compete in other events as a non-T/S couple. However, the Student may enter other events with other amateur partners that are not dancing as a Teacher, and the standard rules will apply to those entries. If the Teacher Partner is an amateur DanceSport Adult Athlete, then they have all the options available to them as any other amateur DanceSport Adult Athlete, with their regular partner.



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SAME-SEX EVENTS

USA Dance now offers Same-Sex Events which addresses the aspirations of this dancing population who seeks to dance with a member of their same gender in competition. A Same-Sex event involves a male/male partnership or female/female partnership of DanceSport Athletes.

RULES FOR SAME-SEX EVENTS

2.2.28 Same-Sex Couple is comprised of either a male/male partnership or female/female partnership of DanceSport Athletes.

3.4.2 USA Dance will allow same-sex couple events at all USA Dance competitions.

3.4.2.1 Competition organizers will have the option of including these events

3.4.2.2 Male/male events will be run separately from female/female events, except if there are fewer than 3 couples in those events, in which case the events may be combined.

3.4.2.3 Same sex events need not be restricted by age categories or proficiency levels.

3.4.2.4 Athletes competing in same sex events, must follow Dress Regulations per rule 3.11.

(Rulebook references may be reviewed on the USA Dance website: usadance.org)



2016 Chicago DanceSport Challenge

A National Qualifying Event

Presented by the Chicagoland Chapter of USA Dance
October 28 - October 30 2016



Top Studio/Top Teacher Award

Our USA Dance Chicagoland Chapter #2001 again offers a \$500 TOP STUDIO AWARD and \$250 TOP TEACHER AWARD! Please encourage all your amateur students to participate as either a competitor or a spectator for the Twelfth Chicago DanceSport Challenge USA Dance National Qualifying Event from October 28-October 30, 2016. We want to offer all studio owners and dance professionals an opportunity to earn the \$500 Top Studio Award and \$250 Top Teacher Awards!

Earn Points based on the following:

Each Student Competitor Registered by October 18	20 points
Each Formation Team Registered by October 18	20 points
Each Spectator Ticket purchased by October 18	5 points
Each Spectator Front Row Table (6 seats) purchased by Oct. 18	50 points
Each Workshop Ticket purchased by October 18	5 points
Each Full-page Ad in our program purchased by October 1	30 points
Purchase of Perimeter Floor Sign Board by October 1	50 points

When your students register or purchase spectator tickets by mailing in their registration or spectator ticket forms or on line at www.usadancechicago.org under either your studio name or their instructor's name, these points will be added to your studio account or an instructor's account. The highest number of points accumulated for studio and instructor will be the winners; there will be one winner in both categories..

Our all-inclusive competition entry fee due by October 18 includes all your student's dance entries, all weekend general ballroom admissions, and one competition program too! Register your students by October 14 for the best pricing available! Final registration is October 18.

The awards will be presented from 7 to 11 p.m. on Saturday evening, October 29; and the winners must be present to receive their award. Please look over the enclosed registration packet and contact Owen Jacobsen at 847-303-0384 or chicagochallenge@live.com with any questions. We would be thrilled to welcome you and your students to the 2016 Chicago DanceSport Challenge!