



National Governing Body of DanceSport, Member Organization of the US Olympic Committee,
and the World DanceSport Federation

Dear Professional, DanceSport Athletes

USA Dance has issued the new rulebook for 2018. There are two new rules that I want to draw to your attentions before Nationals begins on April 6.

USA Dance is fortunate to have a wonderful diversity of officials who are originally from a large variety of countries and cultures. This is good for dancing and good for USA Dance. However, such diversity can create a situation that is of concern to competitors. When an official conducts a conversation in a language other than English in and around a competition, the discussion may be perceived to be inappropriate (e.g., regarding the competition or particular competitors) regardless of its content.

English is the official language of the WDSF therefore USA Dance has voted to require that English be its business language and as such the only language spoken by competition officials in the open areas around the competition. The exact rule is below:

No competition official shall:

6.2.2.6 Conduct any conversation with any person in a language other than English when in the competition/DanceSport venue. This includes the ballroom, practice area, changing/rest rooms, officials and volunteer's room, eating area, workshop/congress rooms as well as all areas associated with the competition.

In today's world smart phones and other individual electronics command a growing amount of everyone's attention. We are interested in keeping the primary focus of all "on duty" officials on the competition. Therefore going forward USA Dance will not allow the use of such personal devices during an Official's working session. Officials should not bring such devices into the ballroom, and if they need to they should be turned into the Chair of the Adjudicators. Clearly, this excludes the use of electronic devices used for the operation of a competition such as scrutineering devices. The exact rule is listed below.

6.2.2.7 No official may bring mobile communication or portable digital information devices into the competition area during their working sessions or if they do they must immediately turn them over into the Chairman of Adjudicators upon their arrival.

These rules will be enforced at all USA Dance competitions commencing with the 2018 National Championships.

We appreciate your cooperation as we implement these new rules.

Melissa Dexter
VP for Professional Dance
USA Dance, Inc.