

2021 ARIZONA 2-STEP STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

The Arizona 2-Step State Championship Competition will have two divisions in 2021: Amateur and Open. Please read the qualifications to determine the division or divisions in which you are eligible to compete. You may be eligible to enter both divisions. Any gender can be a leader and/or follower in either division.

Amateur Division: The couple has a leader and a follower. Neither partner in the couple has taught for money in any dance style. The couple has one or fewer trophies between them from previous Arizona State Arizona 2-Step contests. This allows a previous one time winner to enter with someone who has not won previously.

The contest is Arizona 2-Step. This is not Half-Time or Swing. No drops or lifts are allowed in the amateur division. If the couple interferes with another couple on the floor they may be penalized. Each leader must wear a cowboy hat and western boots with western attire to the qualifiers and finals. Each follower must wear western boots and western attire to the qualifiers and finals.

Qualifiers will be held around the state for the Amateur division, leading up to the finals at the Arizona Dance Classic on August 6th, 2021. First and second place winners of each qualifier will be announced, with the first place couple each receiving a General three-day pass to the Arizona Dance Classic. The second place couple will take the place of the first place couple in the finals in the event the first place couple is unable to attend the finals (in which case the first place couple forfeits the passes and they are given to the second place couple). The winners are not eligible to enter any other qualifiers as they have already won a spot in the finals.

The qualifiers will be judged by a minimum of three judges not entering the contest. They will select and announce a first and second place winner. The qualifier can have all dancers on the floor at the same time, or be split into smaller heats according to the floor size. The finals held at the Arizona Dance Classic will have a minimum of five judges.

Prize money and trophies will be awarded at the finals.

Open Division: Any leader and follower can enter as a couple. This includes instructors, previous winners, and anyone else wishing to enter.

The contest is Arizona 2-Step. This is not Half-Time or Swing. The Open division may do lifts no higher than waist level of either partner while at standing height. The open division can use drops but not drags. If the couple interferes with another couple on the floor they may be penalized. Each leader must wear a cowboy hat and western boots with western attire to the contest. Each follower must wear western boots and western attire to the contest.

The Open division will not have qualifiers. Contestants shall pre-register for the Open Division State Competition online or on a paper registration form, and must purchase at least a Friday evening pass for the event, and pay the competition entry fee of \$25 per couple. There will be a minimum of five judges for the Open division. Prize money will be awarded.