



Canadian DanceSport Federation
Federation Canadienne en Danse Sportive

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Member of National Dance Council of Canada

Member of World Dance Council

AMATEUR INSTRUCTOR EXAMINATION

WHY WOULD AN AMATEUR DANCER TAKE THIS EXAMINATION?

- By passing the Amateur Instructor Examination with the Canadian Dancesport Federation (CDF), amateur competitors will be improving their own dance skills by virtue of having more knowledge on which to base their technique.
- Amateur Instructors with a good understanding of the basic foundation of dance and, a working knowledge of the various Technique Books, will be well equipped to instruct students.
- Working towards, and passing, an Amateur Instructor Examination will give an amateur a good start to understanding, and passing, Professional examinations in the future if they wish to become a Professional Teacher and/or an Adjudicator.
- This will be a benefit to the amateur dancer's own career and to Dancesport in Canada.

ELIGIBILITY:

A dancer who meets the following requirements is eligible to apply for the Amateur Instructor Examination:

- The Amateur must be an **OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP LEVEL** registered dancer in good standing with the National Dance Council of Canada (NDCC).
- The Amateur must be at least 16 years of age as of the day of the examination.
- The Amateur Instructor must pass an examination based on the CDF Student Teacher Syllabus. If the Trainee is instructing in both Ballroom and Latin-American, an examination must be passed on both styles.
- The Ballroom and Latin-American examinations may be taken separately.
- The Amateur Instructor must work under the guidance of a Professional Mentor during training and after passing the Amateur Instructor Examination.

PREPARATION AND EXAMINATION TRAINING:

- The examination is based on the CDF Student Teacher Syllabus. The dances and fundamentals shall be covered in a simple manner.
- The candidate must demonstrate an overall knowledge, as man and lady, of the figures listed but will not be required to give **verbally** the exact feet positions, alignment and footwork of each step.
- The candidate should have a general understanding of Music, Posture and Balance.
- A general **practical** knowledge of Technique, Action, Rhythm and Timing is required.
- The Amateur Instructor should have a basic teaching skill so he/she will be able to handle any requests by students.
- The candidate should be able to demonstrate to the examiner the methods they would use to conduct a class.

SYLLABUS:

Ballroom: ISTD Technique Book – Four Dances – STUDENT TEACHER STEP LIST
Plus: Viennese Waltz – Natural and Reverse Turns, Forward Change Step.
Harry Smith-Hampshire Technique Book

Latin-American: ISTD Technique Books – Five Dances – STUDENT TEACHER STEP LIST

DRESS CODE FOR EXAMINATION:

MEN:

Plain white or black shirt with long sleeves, with black tie or black bow tie and suitable black trousers.

LADIES:

Afternoon dress, or skirt and blouse, or leotard with skirt or wrap-around skirt. The skirt should be no longer than a few inches below the knee. Dress pants are acceptable.

TIME ALLOTTED FOR EXAMINATION:

Up to: one hour & fifteen minutes (1h.15min)

FORMAT OF EXAMINATION:

PART 1: DEMONSTRATION:

- Demonstration to music, of each of the test dances, with a partner.
- Candidates are not required to dance the opposite gender for the Exam.

PART 2: TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

- The candidate should possess a general understanding of Technique, Music, Posture and Balance.
- The candidate should be able to accurately demonstrate any of the listed figures, chosen by the Examiner, as man or lady, with the appropriate technique, alignment, action and timing. However, the candidate will **not** have to **verbally** give the exact Feet Positions, Alignment and Footwork on each step.
- The candidate should show knowledge of simple teaching skills.
- The candidate should demonstrate the ability to competently instruct a class.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The gaining of a CDF instructing accreditation, by an Amateur competitor, is not an opening to conduct a business by operating one's own studio and/or organizing a competition.

CONDUCT FOR INSTRUCTORS:

- Do not criticize other teachers or students.
- Do not make inappropriate remarks or single people out for criticism.
- Be careful that your behaviour will not be considered, in any way, harassment, whether sexual or otherwise.
- Dress neatly. Do not be sloppy in dress or personal hygiene.
- Be prepared, know the music and steps to be taught.
- Do not monopolize the floor or music when others are teaching at the same time.
- When demonstrating steps, do not intimidate students by showing off.
- Do not shout at students or use negative criticism.