



Beginners' Eligibility Rules Explained

THE RULES

Clause 4.15 of the IVDA Constitution defines a “beginner” as:

A present student who has neither received professional tuition (individually or in groups) in Latin American and/or Modern Ballroom, nor competed in any university or open circuit competitions in dancesport, prior to the IVDC of the previous academic year. Professional tuition is defined as teaching that has been paid for and provided by a professional. A professional is defined as a person who makes their living from ballroom or latin american dancing or teaching ballroom or latin american dancing, and/or is a fellow of the UKA, IDTA or ISTD.

NB. In practice anyone holding any professional qualification (associate, licentiate or fellowship) in either ballroom or Latin American from any of the UK professional bodies (UKA, IDTA, ISTD, BATD, NATD or ABD) would be regarded as a professional.

THE RULES EXPLAINED

- This means that if one of your dancers attended ANY private lesson or group class that was:
 - taught by a PROFESSIONAL instructor
 - in EITHER Ballroom (Standard) OR Latin American dance
 - AND took place before 24th February 2018

then they do NOT count as beginners in either discipline this year and are not eligible to dance in any of the beginners events at IVDC 2019.

- They also do NOT count as a “beginner” if, regardless of any tuition they have or have not received, they have competed in ANY Ballroom or Latin American competition before 24th February 2018, either on the university circuit or outside of it.
- Please note that beginners events are open to present students only.

A dancer WILL still count as a “beginner” if they:

- were only taught by friends/non-professionals before 24th February 2018 (please note the definition of “professional” given above)
- only started attending professionally taught classes on or after 24th February 2018

- had only received professional tuition in another style of dance before 24th February 2018 (eg. ballet, hip hop, tap, freestyle, salsa, Rock 'n' Roll, line dance)
- competed before 24th February 2018 but only in an “in house” “Strictly-style” competition as the “inexperienced” half of a partnership (and, as part of this event, received no professional tuition)

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask – just send an e-mail to president@universitydancesport.com and I will get back to you as soon as possible.