



NBTA England Rulebook 2018

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NBTA England Rules 2018

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RULE CHANGES FOR 2018

Terminology standardised:

'contest' / 'competitions' have been adjusted to 'Competition' throughout
'contestant' / 'athlete' / 'competitor' have been adjusted to 'Competitor' throughout

- 1.3 Competition Eligibility – membership types available
- 1.4d Boys/Mens Costume added
- 1.4e Tape on Batons
- 1.4f Salutes – Flag baton salute removed
- 1.4h Ties
- 1.4j Protection Rule Procedure
- 1.7 Definition of penalties – gymnastic definitions
- 1.8 Competition Status - Definitions moved from section 1.3 and downgrade procedure added
- 1.9 Competitor Advancement – Beginner advancement. National Champion advancement when advancing an age level.
- 1.10 Qualification for Nationals – Artistic Pairs, Trios and Formation Teams added
- 1.13 European / World Selection – Additional criteria added
- 1.14 Complaints Procedure – Timescales added
- 1.15 Development Squad – Definition added
- 1.16 Twirling Academy – Definition added
- Appendix A Freestyle & Artistic Pairs added
- Appendix B Timing of PeeWee & First Time Twirl Solo 1 Baton. Inclusion of Freestyle & Artistic Pairs
- 2 Basic Strut – Costume definition
- 3 Military Strut – Costume definition
- 8 Dance Solo – Rhythmic Twirl removed
- 9 Rhythmic Twirl – Split from Dance Solo and Extended to include Open Freestyle
- 12 Artistic Pairs added – all subsequent events renumbered.
- 20 Military Corp - Inspection Rules removed. Honour Guard definition added.
- 22 Inspection Removed
- 24 Diversity and Equality events renamed as Paratwirl Events

1 GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

NBTA encourages its members to participate in a fair and honest way, aiming for perfection and advancement. This book provides the basic rules for each event, however the NBTA Technical Manual provides more in-depth technical help regarding the setting of routines.

Rules are only amended at the end of each year (after National Championships), in readiness for the start of the forthcoming competition year.

1.1 COMPETITION YEAR

The competition year will run in conjunction with the membership year, from 1st January to 31st December.

1.2 COMPETITION AGE

A competitor's age throughout the competition year will be their actual age (in full years only) as at 1st September the previous year. Members may only compete in classes as per their age division.

See **Appendix A**

1.3 COMPETITION ELIGIBILITY

Competitors must be current members of the association and have been registered with their corps, or as an independent member, before competing at any NBTA Competition. The minimum number to register as a Corps is five, one of who can be the registered Corps Director who will be responsible for all dealings with the Association. Membership must be applied for, and accepted, prior to the closing date for entries of the upcoming competition that the new member/corps wishes to enter.

There are various levels of NBTA membership available:

Guest – this offers entry to each NBTA Regional Competition on a single term basis – there are no limits to how many regionals can be entered. All events can be entered at relevant fees. Nationals and England Team Selections cannot be entered. There is a corps and individual fee. If applying for an upgrade to enter Nationals – qualification will only be obtained once the basic or full membership is in place. No preferential pricing will be given for NBTA seminars.

Basic – this offers entry into all NBTA regional competitions and NBTA Nationals in the following events ONLY: Struts – Basic, Military, Fancy, Pom; Teams – Pom, Dance, Military Formation, Dance Formation (at relevant fees). England Team Selections cannot be entered. Annual membership fee for corps and individuals as set by NBTA each year. Reduced rates for NBTA seminars will be available.

Full – this offers entry to all regional and national competitions. All events can be entered at relevant fees, including England Team selections (if correct criteria met), one annual corps director's pass per corps, one additional pass (issued per competition, in return for a clerk). Annual membership fee for corps and individuals as set by NBTA each year. Reduced rates for NBTA seminars will be available.

Professional – following successful completion of relevant judges or coaches courses this offers entry to all regional and national competitions. If still competing, all events can be entered at relevant fees plus England Team selections (if correct criteria met), passport training, insurance cover and DBS check. Reduced rates for NBTA seminars will be available.

For information on competing levels see **1.8 COMPETITION STATUS** and **1.9 COMPETITION ADVANCEMENT**

Note on transfers - In respect of competition entries submitted prior to completion of transfer formalities, the member shall be permitted to compete under original registration. Members are restricted to one transfer within the membership year, prior to 30th June, at prevailing transfer fee. Any extenuating circumstances should be immediately reported to the Chairman. See Appendix C for transfer form.

1.4 COMPETITION PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES

a) Entries

All entries must be submitted on the official association entry forms (in alphabetical order of surname) for Guest Membership only. For Basic or Full Membership entries must be submitted [via the NBTA website](#) and must be accompanied by entry fees ([as set by the committee each year and shown on the entry form](#)) in full, to be received no later than the published closing date for acceptance of entries. Dishonoured cheques may void competition entries and any bank charges **will be** passed on to the presenter of the cheque. Payment will be required before future entries will be accepted.

NBTA membership numbers **must** be entered in the relevant box on the competition entry form.

All members of teams / corps including reserves (who should be identified with an "R") **must** be listed on entry forms. At competition teams will be checked before taking the floor.

A team member can compete in more than one age group (i.e. cannot compete against themselves). However, no time allowance will be made on the competition programme for costume change etc.

Composite corps entries should be entered on a separate competition entry form clearly marked **Composite**, including composite corps competing in selection events. The entry should be under a different name to that of any of the corps making up the composite. It must contain membership details of the individuals and indicate the corps with which they are registered.

b) Order of Appearance

Competitors will appear and perform in the order indicated on the run sheets. It is the competitors' responsibility to check the progress of the class by referring to the order of appearance numbering system on the Judges table. Upon taking the floor, each competitor must present their valid NBTA Membership Card to the Judge and retrieve after performance. Jockeying for positions is not permitted. In the event that a competitor is due to perform in more than one arena within a short space of time, it is the responsibility of the competitor's Corps Director or Independent member's representative to:

- i) Inform Competition Director / Control Desk of the multiple commitments
- ii) Ascertain the event order of appearance priority from the Competition Director

Provided that the Competition Director has been made personally aware of the multiple commitments, competitors will be allowed up to 15 minutes between performances.

After the designated last competitor has performed, and the judge has formally closed the class, it shall not be re-opened.

Any competitor who fails to take their place on the floor in accordance with allocated appearance order without prior sanction of the Competition Director shall be deemed to have voluntarily withdrawn. Competition Director's decision will be final.

c) Entry and Exit

Entry and exit to the competition floor must be quick and simple without music and made in a professional and sporting manner. Failure to comply will result in a five-point penalty taken from the presentation and showmanship score.

d) Costume

Except where specifically stated under event rules, there are no costume requirements other than competitors must wear a leotard or costume appropriate to the chosen event and not everyday clothing.

No underwear (including bra straps) should be visible. Costume and shoes should be clean.

[Two-piece costumes are NOT allowed with the exception of boys / men who can wear trousers with a separate top but which should not show bare midriff.](#) Competitors who do not conform to these rules will incur a 2-point penalty, with the exception of struts where Competitors will not be selected for inclusion in the final.

It is permissible to change costumes between events, providing the change does not delay, or interfere with, the progress of the competition. However, competitors should not change in the competition hall. Changing rooms are available at all venues used, so please ask members to use them.

e) Batons

Batons for all twirling events must have silver shafts (not coloured). [Tape must be one colour and only cover 1/3rd of the shaft.](#)

f) **Salutes** – if a salute is made it must be with the two feet touching the ground in all events.

Baton Salute - Baton is held in the right hand with the ball at the top. Back of the right hand shall touch the hollow of the left shoulder with the right elbow pointing towards the right diagonal level with the top of the shoulder - fingers to be closed around the baton in a closed grip, rather than straight. This position must be held for 2 counts. Feet and free arm positions are optional. When salute is required the competitor must salute correctly, even if a drop occurs just previous to or during the execution of the salute.

Pompon Salute - A pompon is held in the right hand, which is taken to the left shoulder with the right elbow pointing towards the right diagonal at shoulder height. Feet and free arm position are optional. This position must be held for 2 counts.

g) Music

Music should be submitted electronically via NBTA Dropbox (address provided by Competition Secretary) prior to the competition or if not, music should be single track, on CD, i-Pod or Memory stick (no live music).

Should the music stop during a performance dependent on music e.g. dance solo, competitors should stop in position and await resumption of the music, when they should restart their routine. In other cases, competitors should continue e.g. solo twirl.

h) Ties

If necessary, ties for placings will be split on penalties and then if still tied the technique score will be used to determine the winner.

i) Mishaps

A mishap shall be defined as an incident hindering the performance of a competitor e.g. equipment or costume failure or illness. In the case of a mishap, timing shall continue and competitor will be unable to re-perform. In extreme circumstances this can be over-ruled at the discretion of the Head Judge and Competition Director.

j) Protection Rule

Judges who deem the competitor(s) is/are not to the standard for the section, (this may include lacking technical proficiency for the section, lacking in the routine content for the level of competition, or not having the capacity to perform at the level for the competition or demonstrating bad sportsmanship), will complete a protection rule slip, explaining the reason for their decision. The explanation slip will be stapled to the score sheet. The Corps Director will be informed prior to the presentation of the awards; however, this information should not be disclosed to the competitor/s. The Competition Announcer will confirm at the time of the awards. 'No award to be made', or the number of awards to be given in the relevant section. It WILL NOT be announced that a protection rule has been applied. Without exception queries regarding protection rules should be submitted in writing to the Technical Board following the completion of the competition.

k) Incorrect Result

In the unfortunate event of an incorrect result being awarded or announced at any NBTA competition, the Corps Director / Independent member will be informed. Correction will be made at the following competition/presentation. This may also be advised to the membership via Newsletter, if appropriate.

1.5 RESPONSIBILITY OF COMPETITORS, CORPS DIRECTORS & SUPPORTERS

a) Honour Code

Any falsification by or on behalf of a competitor may lead to permanent suspension from NBTA sanctioned competitions

b) Conduct

At all times during a competition, competitors, corps directors, officials and spectators are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly manner with good sportsmanship and dedication to the advancement of baton twirling. This also applies to misuse on any Social Media forums e.g. Facebook, Twirlchat, Twitter, etc.

Unsporting conduct, any form of abuse (including discriminatory) or interference on behalf of, or against, a competitor may result in suspension from NBTA sanctioned competitions. See also **Rule 1.6 DISQUALIFICATION**.

c) Changing Facilities

At no time are males allowed in the female changing rooms and vice versa, with the exception of first aid requirements. Changing within the competition hall is not permitted.

d) Warming Up

Competitors are not permitted to warm up or practice with batons in the immediate competition area. Any competitor observed twirling in any area that is not designated for the purpose e.g. in the main hall, corridors, reception or areas normally set aside for spectators and the general public, by a competition official (committee member or judge) will in the first instance, receive a verbal warning, and the corps director/parent of the offender will be made aware of the situation. Any subsequent incident will result in the offender being disqualified and forfeiting any award/s gained. (See Rule **Disqualification 1.6g**)

e) Approaching Judges, Clerks and Tabulators

All matters relating to the competition should be directed from the corps director/independent member to the Competition Director.

f) Flash Cameras

The use of flash cameras in the competition hall is prohibited except at the presentation of awards.

g) Video Filming

Only video filming of own competitors will be permitted at all NBTA England competitions. NBTA reserve the right to view the film, in case of dispute and the film may be confiscated. The positioning of the camera will be at the discretion

of the Competition Director. On occasion, for the purpose of video practise judging, the Technical Board, or a delegated representative, may video some classes.

Some tablets/i-pads have a very strong light when filming, which can be very off-putting for competitors, like flash photography, so spectators may be asked to switch them off.

h) Classes Requiring Verbal Commands

When a class such as command marching is in progress the need for competitors to be able to hear verbal commands necessitates that all persons in the competition hall remain seated and silent. The competitors appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

i) Accurate Publicity

Competition results must be referred to accurately by rightful names, age divisions and class titles, when dealing with the press and other persons. A competitor, parent or corps director must be accurate when passing competition results and information. For example, if a win is not in an advanced division it should be pointed out.

j) Presentations

When taking the floor at the conclusion of a competition for presentations, all competitors are expected to be appropriately dressed in competing costume. In addition, tracksuit tops only are allowed – tee shirts and tracksuit bottoms are not allowed. To receive an award, competitors must be in competing costume and on the presentation floor. Competitors are required to stay on the presentation floor until completion of all awards, unless prior authority has been obtained from the Competition Director. Disciplinary steps will be taken in respect of anyone not complying with this rule. A courtesy salute prior to receipt of an award is obligatory.

k) Health and Safety

To safeguard the wellbeing of all competitors, written confirmation of fitness to compete from a qualified physician may be requested, for anyone that has exhibited or has a history of illness or physical breakdown that could put that competitor and others at risk. The Association will not allow anyone to compete that cannot comply with this requirement.

Supporters & competitors should be aware that baton twirling can be dangerous. They attend competitions at their own risk and abide by guidelines to keep themselves as safe as possible. Competitors should warm up their bodies and not attempt tricks that are too difficult, to avoid injury. Spectators should keep out and back from the marked arenas and be aware of what is going on around them. Young children should be supervised at all times and not left to wander around the competition venues.

1.6 DISQUALIFICATION

Competitors **may** be disqualified from NBTA sanctioned competition for any of the following reasons: -

- a) Conduct unbecoming to a lady or gentleman
- b) Interference by, or on behalf of, a competitor
- c) Jockeying for position or not co-operating with competition officials
- d) Coaching from the side-line
- e) Unsportsmanlike conduct
- f) Taking of flash photographs within the competition hall
- g) Twirling in any area that is not designated for the purpose

Competitors **will** be disqualified from NBTA sanctioned competition for any one of the following reasons: -

- a) Swearing or other abusive language
- b) Gymnastics /Acrobatics as defined in 1.7 Definition of Penalties
- c) Non-compliance with relevant twirling restrictions (see App D).

1.7 DEFINITION OF PENALTIES

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Drop | where the baton comes into contact with the ground unintentionally. |
| 2 Hand Catch | an intentional one-handed reception caught in two hands to avoid a drop |
| Break | an unintentional stop in the flow of the twirling movement or series |
| Slip | a momentary loss of control, not necessarily causing a break. This is also incurred for releasing thumb flips from the end of the baton |
| Out of Step | when the competitor/s is out of step with the music i.e. the left foot NOT hitting the floor on the heavy beat |
| Improper salute | a sloppy discourteous salute not performed as outlined in 1.4f |
| Fall | unintentional body contact with the floor |
| Floor Contact | when any part of the body, with the exception of feet, comes into contact with the floor intentionally or unintentionally, in an event where this is not allowed |
| Off pattern | when the baton is unintentionally twirled neither vertically or horizontally |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Unison | where moves are not executed at the same time in routines with two or more members, or baton height on releases not at the same height by all members. |
| Gymnastics | Cartwheels, walkovers, somersaults, body aerials and butterflies are not permitted. Mounts and body tosses are not allowed. Mount is defined as any body-toss, or form, that is two stories or more. A story (as in 10-story building) is defined as a person's height. 1/2 story is defined as a person kneeling/sitting or lunging. Stacking one person on top of another to achieve a pyramid shape or similar form is not permitted. |
| Unauthorised Releases / twirls | where baton executes more than two revolutions continuously in one hand, without a pass or dead stick movement. Baton should be passed from hand to hand, without release. Where twirls are performed in class/level where they are prohibited. |
| Handled Roll | where the baton is either grabbed or held during a series of rolls. Baton should make one or more revolutions on the body without the use of hands. |
| Illusion | where either the leg/s bent, full split is not shown or full rotation of illusion is not achieved, twisting of body/hip, loss of control of illusion, foot flexed (not pointed), hand or arm touches the floor. |

NB: Shoulder rolls/ forward rolls are allowed in int/adv level events ONLY except for struts where they are not permitted at all.

1.8 COMPETITION STATUS

Please refer to the current year's Schedule of Events for competition status levels available in each event.

First Time Twirl

Any competitor twirling in their first-ever competition year. Competitor to have never performed in any twirling event (i.e. solo, 2-baton, dance solo, duet, team, corps) with NBTA or any organisation.

Beginner

Competitors will remain at beginner level until advancement is attained.

See 1.9. **COMPETITION ADVANCEMENT**

Novice

Competitor who has attained advancement from Beginner

See 1.9. **COMPETITION ADVANCEMENT**

Intermediate

Competitor who has attained advancement from Novice.

See 1.9. **COMPETITION ADVANCEMENT**

Advanced

Competitor who has attained advancement from Intermediate.

See 1.9. **COMPETITION ADVANCEMENT**

1.8a) An individual competitor competing in Advanced/Championship twirling events may compete at a lower status in other events if eligible, but not at a status lower than Novice.

1.8b) If competing, NBTA qualified coaches and judges must have paid the current annual membership fee and compete in a status no lower than Intermediate in individual events, and Novice level in team and corps events.

1.8c) Members newly registered with NBTA who have competed in other associations must commence competing at NBTA competitions at a status appropriate to the equivalent attained in other associations. Guidance of level expectations can be obtained from the Technical Board, alternatively a clip of the competitor can be sent for assessment. Failure to comply in a level reflective of true ability will result in disqualification.

d) Competitors and reserves selected to represent England in European/World Competition must compete at a status no lower than Intermediate/Advanced level in that event at any further NBTA competitions.

e) Status levels for registered members for the current year should be checked and any mistakes notified to the Competition Secretary within 7 days of receipt. If not corrected the wrong level will remain in force for the rest of the competition year. If it is discovered that a competitor has been registered and competes in a status level lower than they should be, disciplinary action will be taken.

f) Duets – competitors entering these events in domestic competition must be from the same corps or both independent members.

g) Downgrades – competitors requesting downgrades will be assessed at the first regional competition they attend. Requests must be submitted with competition entries and copied to nbtatechnical@gmail.com. Downgrades will not be

considered for podium places until 1 full year at current level has been completed. All downgrades are at Technical Boards discretion.

h) Adults of a Novice level will compete in Senior Novice until advancement is attained upon which they will move to Adult Int/Adv.

NBTA reserves the right to change a member's status level at any time during the competition year if deemed necessary.

1.9 COMPETITION ADVANCEMENT

There will be **no** advancements during the current competition year except in exceptional circumstances.

Advancement is from Nationals results only. If a competitor / team is advancing an age level, they **DO NOT** advance a status level, with the exception of the National Champions who will advance both age & status level. The Protection Rule (see 1.4j) can be applied to advancements.

Individuals / Duets

Apart from competitors in First Time Twirl, who will all advance to Beginner, any competitor/duet attaining a place in a final at NBTA National Championships will advance a status level the following competition year, if more than 18 in the class. Please refer to table below if less than 19 in class. Any competitor/duet may voluntarily advance one status level – however this will be assessed by judge at competition before taking effect to ensure competitor has ability to compete in higher level.

| No. in Class | No to Advance |
|--------------|---|
| 1 | 0 |
| 2- 3 | 1 (1st place advancement at Judges' discretion) |
| 4 - 6 | 2 |
| 7 - 9 | 3 |
| 10 - 12 | 4 |
| 13 - 15 | 5 |
| 16 - 18 | 6 |
| 18+ | all finalists |

In the case of first round ratings there will always be more than 18 entered in the section. Therefore, all finalists will advance the following year. See **N.B.** for exceptions.

N.B. When only one competitor/duet in a class, no automatic advancement will be enforced as competitor has not beaten anyone. When two or three competitors in a class, no automatic advancement will be enforced, however advancement of the first place competitor/duet will be at the Judge's discretion.

Teams

Any team attaining a place in the Top 3 at NBTA National Championships will advance a status level the following competition year, if more than 8 in the class. Please refer to the table if less than 9 in class. Any team may voluntarily advance one status level for the following competition year.

| No. in Class | No to Advance |
|--------------|--|
| 1 | 0 |
| 2- 3 | 1 - (1st place advancement at Judges discretion) |
| 4 - 8 | 2 |

N.B. When only one team in a class, no automatic advancement as team has not beaten any other team. When two or three in a class, no automatic advancement will be enforced, however advancement of the first place team will be at the Judge's discretion.

A team / corps, competing in Intermediate / Advanced, may apply for a downgrading of competition status providing more than 50% of the members are new to the team and are of Beginner / Novice standard for their individual solo / dance events, compared with the members in their previous higher status team / corps.

Downgrading of a team / corps may also be recommended by the judging panel if the competitors' ability is not deemed to be of the standard required for the class in which they are competing.

Any competitor who has been a part of the England Team for a twirling event is not permitted to be a member of any Beginner / Novice Team.

1.10 QUALIFICATION FOR NATIONALS

a) Individuals / Duets / Artistic Pairs / Trios

The following events require qualification through regional competition: - 1-baton Solo, 2-baton Solo, Dance Solo, X-strut, Artistic Pairs, Trio & Duet.

To qualify in any of these classes, a competitor will need to gain a position in the top 50% of those that actually compete. This will also apply to classes that require to be split because of the numbers of entrants (these classes to be split at 18+ competitors). In the event of an odd number of competitors, the quota to qualify will be rounded up.

Note: A duet, artistic pair or trio will need to re-qualify if one of the original partnership has been substituted.

b) Teams

The following events require qualification through regional competition: - Twirl / Dance / Pompon / Military Formation / Dance Formation teams.

To qualify in any of these classes, team will be required to be in Top 50% of teams taking the floor at any NBTA Regional competition preceding the current year's National Championships.

Up to 25% of team members can be added or substituted between qualification and Nationals. If more than 25% - team/corps must re-qualify. If more than a 25% change has occurred after qualification and a team has not re-qualified, they will not be able to take up their place at Nationals. Any extenuating circumstances must be addressed to the Chairman at least 3 weeks prior to the National Championships to be given consideration.

However, the judges may enforce the Protection Rule and not award qualification, see rule 1.4(i)

Note: If competitor or team has already qualified, the qualification will pass to the next non-qualifier.

c) Struts

The following events require qualification through regional competition: - Basic strut (can qualify in Sunday Basic), Military strut, Fancy strut and Pompon strut (can qualify in Sunday Pompon).

To qualify in any of these classes, a competitor must compete in each class at least once preceding the Nationals (these classes to be split at 50+ competitors).

1.11 QUALIFIERS NON-ATTENDANCE AT NATIONALS

Anyone not taking the floor in qualifying event at Nationals may jeopardise entry in this event for the following year. All decisions in respect of non-attendance of qualifiers will be at the discretion of the Executive. It is not acceptable to pull out of some events and not others, without good cause.

1.12 COMPOSITE CORPS

In addition to European / World selection events already catered for in our rules, Corps can combine with Corps to form composite teams for the following events, at Regional and National competitions: - **Twirling Corps / Pompon Corps / Military Formation Corp / Command Marching.**

It will be a requirement for any composites to enter under a different name to that of any of the corps making up the team. A separate entry form will be required – clearly marked and indicating that it is for a composite team. It must contain membership details of the individuals and indicate the corps to which they are registered. A maximum of 3 corps can combine. A corps can only combine once and this combination (composite corps) will be eligible to enter all large corps events.

1.13 EUROPEAN / WORLD SELECTIONS

Current **WFNBTA World / NBTA European** rules will apply for selection competitions.

a) All competitors must be current members of the NBTA and compete at a level no lower than intermediate in the event they are wishing to enter.

With the exception of large corps, teams and duets, members must qualify for the current year's National Championships in the event they are entering for England Team Selections. If there is a valid reason for the member not being able to

compete in the event at Nationals (due to work or study commitments etc.) this may be accepted after written notification is sent to NBTA Contest Secretary.

- b)** For large corps events, up to 25% of team members can be added or substituted between selection and team declaration to Europe.
- c)** A competitor qualifying to represent England, including team reserves, must compete at a status level no lower than Intermediate for that event at any future NBTA Competition.
- d)** All selection competition entrants must have attained the current European level requirements.
- e)** Composite corps and teams will be allowed. Members can combine. An independent member constitutes one corps. Maximum of three corps can combine. A corps can only combine once and this combination (composite team/corps) will be eligible to enter all team/large corps events.
- f)** Duet entry is open to members who may combine.
- g)** Any competitor selected as an England team member or reserve, who does not take up their place/s or attend the relevant training sessions and compulsory competitions upon selection will be de-barred from entering any Selection event the following year. Any exceptional circumstances, i.e. serious illness, should be reported to the International Technical Co-Ordinator for consideration.
- h)** Teams / corps will normally be selected for England team at Nationals. Individuals & Duets will normally be shortlisted for the England Team at Nationals. Final selection will be a accumulation of the competition results. Member/s with the lowest rating from these events will take up the reserve position in the squad. The two exceptions to this rule are the National winners of Champion of Champions and Senior Advanced X-Strut (Lloyd Memorial winner) who automatically receive they place in the England Team for the following year.
- i)** Routines set to own music must not be as performed previously at any European/World Championships and should be the one going to the following year's European/World competition (music and content). Any individual or team that performs a routine that has previously been performed at European/Worlds, will not be selected.
- j)** Upon selection, a series of Twirling Academy sessions and competitions will be put into place – these events will be compulsory for anyone who has been selected. Non-attendance will result in you not being allowed to take up your place except in exceptional circumstances to be reviewed by the Technical Board. The place will be offered to the next highest competing competitor.
- k)** All those selected must hold a valid UK Passport for the time of travel.

1.14 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

All correspondence between NBTA and corps should be via the Corps Director. All complaints should be made in writing to the Secretary within 7 days of the incident. All complaints will endeavour to be dealt with within 14 days.

1.15 DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

For beginner / novice levels by invitation only. Criteria for inclusion will be advised at the AGM and will be based upon Nationals results.

1.16 TWIRLING ACADEMY

For Intermediate / Advanced levels by invitation only. Criteria for inclusion will be advised at the AGM and will be based upon Nationals results.

Appendix A

AGE DIVISIONS

Struts

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| PeeWee | 6 yrs and younger |
| Juvenile | 7 to 9 yrs |
| Preteen | 10 to 12 yrs |
| Junior | 13 to 15 yrs |
| Senior | 16yrs + |

Solo One Baton, Dance Solo

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| PeeWee | 6 yrs and younger |
| Juvenile | 7 to 9 yrs |
| Preteen | 10 to 12 yrs |
| Junior | 13 to 15 yrs |
| Senior | 16yrs – 21.99yrs |
| Adult | 22+yrs |

First Time Twirl

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| PeeWee | 6 yrs and younger |
| Juvenile | 7 to 9 yrs |
| Preteen | 10 to 12 yrs |
| Junior | 13 to 15 yrs |

Super X Strut, Two-Baton, Freestyle

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| Juvenile | 9 yrs and younger |
| Preteen | 10 to 12 yrs |
| Junior | 13 to 15 yrs |
| Senior | 16 yrs and older |

Duet, Artistic Pairs (not available for PeeWee)

| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| PeeWee | Combined ages 12yrs and younger |
| Juvenile | Combined ages 13 – 18 yrs inclusive |
| Preteen | Combined ages 19 - 24 yrs inclusive |
| Junior | Combined ages 25 - 30 yrs inclusive |
| Senior | Combined ages 31 yrs and older |

Trio, Dance & Twirl Team & Team Gold

| | |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| Juvenile | Average age up to 9.99 yrs |
| Junior | Average age 10 to 14.99 yrs |
| Senior | Average age 15yrs + |

Dance Formation & Military Formation Team

| | |
|----------|----------------------------|
| Pee Wee | Average age up to 6.99yrs |
| Juvenile | Average age 7 to 9.99 yrs |
| Junior | Average age 10 to 14.99yrs |

Pompon Team

| | |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| Pee Wee | Average age up to 6.99yrs |
| Juvenile | Average age 7 to 9.99 yrs |
| Junior | Average age 10 to 14.99 yrs |
| Senior | Average age 15yrs + |

Twirling Corps / Military Formation Corps / Command Marching / Pompon Corps

Open class – all ages

To calculate the Average age of team or corps – add together all the members' ages and divide by the number in the routine. Use the actual year rounded down.

e.g. Dance Team 1 competitor @ 15yrs old, 1 @ 10yrs, 2 @ 13yrs and 2 @ 11yrs, as at the preceding September 1st = Total of 73 years. Six members in routine = $\frac{73}{6} = 12.16 = 12 = \text{Junior}$

Appendix B

TIME LIMITS FOR NBTA (ENGLAND) DOMESTIC CONTESTS

| CLASS | ADULT/ADV | INTERMEDIATE | NOVICE | BEGINNER | PEEWEE & FIRST TIME TWIRL | TIMING BEGINS | TIMING ENDS |
|--|--|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Solo 1 Baton | 2.20 - 2.30 | 1.50 - 2.10 | 1.30 - 2.00 | 1.20 - 1.30 | 50 – 1:20 | Salute | Salute |
| Solo 2 Baton | 1.30 - 2.00 | 1.30 - 2.00 | 1.30 - 2.00 | 1.20 - 1.30 | | Salute | Salute |
| Duet | 2.20 - 2.30 | 1.50 - 2.10 | 1.30 - 2.00 | 1.20 - 1.30 | 1.00 – 1.20 | Salute | Salute |
| Trio | 1.50 - 2.30 | | 1.20 - 2.00 | | | Salute | Salute |
| Rhythmic / Freestyle | 2:00 – 2:30 | | 2:00 – 2:30 | | | 1 st note | Last note |
| Super X Strut – all divisions | 1.30 - 2.00 | | | | | 1 st move | Salute |
| Dance Solo - all divisions | Time as of the length of piece of music provided by NBTA | | | | | 1 st note | Last note |
| Artistic Pairs – Beg/Nov & Int/Adv (exc. PeeWee & FTT) | Time as of the length of piece of music provided by NBTA | | | | | 1 st note | Last note |
| Twirl Team – all divisions | 2.00 - 3.00 | | | | | Salute | Salute |
| Dance Team – all divisions | 2.00 - 3.00 | | | | | 1 st note | Last note |
| Team Gold | see Section 17 | | | | | | |
| Pompon Team – all divisions | 2.00 - 3.00 | | | | | 1 st note | Last note |
| Dance Formation Team | 1.00 – 2.00 | | | | | | |
| Military Formation Team | 1.00 – 2.00 | | | | | | |
| Military Formation Corps | 3.00 - 5.00 | | | | | Salute | Salute |
| Twirling Corps | 5.00 – 7.00 | | | | | 1 st note | Last note |
| Pompon Corps | 2.30 – 3.30 | | | | | 1 st note | Last note |
| Command Marching | 3.00 - 4.00 | | | | | Advance | Retire |

Correct as from 1st January 2018

Appendix C

NBTA TRANSFER / RELEASE FORM

Transfers: will be permitted with the signed forms and fees, to be received by NBTA membership secretary before the closing date of the penultimate qualifying competition (4th regional).

Please fill in the relevant section of this form and return it to the Membership Secretary, along with £30 transfer fee per member. Failure to notify the association by following the correct procedure, may result in disqualification.

Change of Corps: anyone transferring at the end of the competition year should get this transfer form signed by their ex-corps director to confirm no monies or equipment is owing. Completed, signed forms to be sent to Membership Secretary.

Transfer from Corps to Corps:

Name of Member transferring:.....NBTA Membership no:.....

Name of Corps transferring **from:**

Corps Director's Signature:

Name of Corps transferring **to:**

Corp Director's Signature:

Date of transfer:

Transfer from Corps to Independent:

Name of Member transferring:..... NBTA Membership No:

Name of Corps transferring **from:**

Corp Director's Signature:

Date of transfer:

Transfer from Independent to Corps:

Name of Member transferring:.....NBTA Membership No:

Name of Corps transferring **to:**

Corp Director's Signature:

Date of transfer:

RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL EVENTS (EXCLUDING 2 BATON)

| FIRST TIME TWIRL | |
|--|--|
| SPINS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than a 1 spin is permitted. • Spins can be to the left and to the right. • All varieties of releases are allowed. • Receptions of 1 spins restricted to 3 basic catches, right, left and backhand • No restriction for basic aerials and flips. • Restriction applies to both vertical and horizontal patterns in all modes of twirl. |
| LOW FLIPS & FULL HAND | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No restrictions on receptions with low flips, variety encouraged with emphasis on correct baton and body technique and follow through |
| FINGER TWIRLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No restrictions |
| ROLLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than a double element roll - i.e. Hand elbow roll |
| HORIZONTALS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No restrictions other than 1 spins |
| AERIALS (HIGH THROWS ABOVE HEAD HEIGHT) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toss, illusion is NOT permitted |
| BODYWORK | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illusions may be performed without an aerial (i.e. not under the baton) |

RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL EVENTS (EXCLUDING 2 BATON)

| PEEWEE / BEGINNER | |
|--|--|
| SPINS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No more than a 2 spin is permitted.• Spins can be to the left and to the right.• All varieties of releases are allowed.• Receptions of 2 spins restricted to the 3 basic catches, right, left and backhand• No restriction for 1 spins• Restriction applies to both vertical and horizontal patterns in all modes of twirl. |
| LOW FLIPS & FULL HAND | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions on receptions with low flips, variety encouraged with emphasis on correct baton and body technique and follow through |
| FINGER TWIRLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions |
| ROLLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multiple fujimis are not allowed |
| HORIZONTALS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions |
| AERIALS (HIGH THROWS ABOVE HEAD HEIGHT) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Toss, illusion is NOT permitted |
| BODYWORK | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Illusions may be performed without an aerial (i.e. not under the baton) |

RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL EVENTS (EXCLUDING 2 BATON)

| NOVICE | |
|--|---|
| MULTIPLE SPINS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No more than a 3 spin is permitted. ● Spins can be to the left and to the right ● All variety of releases are allowed. ● Receptions of 3 spins restricted to 3 basic catches, right, left and backhand ● No restriction for 2 spins and lower ● Restriction applies to both vertical and horizontal patterns in all modes of twirl |
| LOW FLIPS & FULL HAND | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No restrictions on receptions with low flips, variety encouraged with emphasis on correct baton & body technique and follow through |
| FINGER TWIRLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No restrictions |
| ROLLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No restrictions |
| HORIZONTALS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No restrictions |
| AERIALS (HIGH THROWS ABOVE HEAD HEIGHT) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Only single illusions are allowed with aerials. Spins before or after are not permitted ● Variety of catches allowed with illusion. |
| BODYWORK | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No restrictions |

RESTRICTIONS FOR 2 BATON

| PEEWEE / BEGINNER | |
|--|---|
| SPINS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No more than a 1 spin is permitted.• Spins can be to the left and to the right.• 1 Spin can be used more than once during a trick, as long it is involved in continuous element.• Restriction applies to both vertical and horizontal patterns in all modes of twirl |
| LOW FLIPS & FULL HAND | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions on receptions with low flips. Variety encouraged with emphasis on correct baton & body technique and follow through.• Keeping both batons moving at the same speed. |
| FINGER TWIRLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions |
| ROLLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions |
| HORIZONTALS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions |
| AERIALS (HIGH THROWS ABOVE HEAD HEIGHT) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Toss, Illusion is NOT permitted.• Continuous flowing movement of both batons, twirling at the same speed.• Variety of Releases is desired.• Receptions restricted to the 3 basic receptions - right, left and backhand - with aerial tricks |
| BODYWORK | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Illusions may be performed without an aerial (i.e. not under the baton) |

RESTRICTIONS FOR 2 BATON

| NOVICE | |
|--|---|
| MULTIPLE SPINS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No more than a 2 spin is permitted.• Spins can be to the left and to the right.• 2 Spins can be used more than once during a trick as long it is involved in continuous element.• Restriction applies to both vertical and horizontal patterns in all modes of twirl |
| LOW FLIPS & FULL HAND | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions on receptions with low flips, variety encouraged with emphasis on correct baton & body technique and follow through.• Keeping both batons moving at the same speed. |
| FINGER TWIRLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions |
| ROLLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions |
| HORIZONTALS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions |
| AERIALS (HIGH THROWS ABOVE HEAD HEIGHT) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continuous flowing movement of both batons, twirling at the same speed.• Variety of Releases and receptions as desired. |
| BODYWORK | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No restrictions |

2 BASIC STRUT

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Divisions | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Music | Standard NBTA strut music will be used |
| Area | Competitors will strut in a square to the left at all times, although finalists may also be asked to strut to the right. |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d). Leotards without skirts, frills, hankies, tails etc. must be worn. Trousers are allowed for male competitors only . Competitors not conforming to stated requirements will not be selected for inclusion in the final. |

Definition

Basic strut is just what the title implies - basic strutting without footwork, i.e. leaps, lunges, back steps etc. Upper leg at a 90-degree angle to the body. Knee angle should be at an angle of 90 degrees. Forward motion with head facing front at all times is compulsory. Baton shall be carried in right hand, over arm, cradle position (baton to be held like a pencil, near the ball with thumb and first two fingers grasping the shaft. The shaft should lie in the crotch of the hand) Arms should swing forwards to shoulder level alternately, using opposite arm to leg. Competitors must ensure that they march into and out of the corners, in a sharp manner with no fancy arm or leg movements, ensuring that they maintain the swing of the arms whilst doing so.

Competitors should present a pleasing personality and from “attention” should march in a follow-the-leader manner.

Judged on - a comparison basis, taking into account appearance, posture, gracefulness, timing and correct technique and execution. A positive approach shall be used to select finalists. Finalists are selected to re-strut, rather than eliminating non-finalists. Competitors who can demonstrate the ability to stay in step with the music - left foot on the heavy beat - will be given preference to those with timing problems.

3 MILITARY STRUT

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Music | Standard NBTA strut music will be used |
| Area | Competitors will strut in a square to the left at all times |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d). Military-style hats must be worn; skullcaps and fascinators are not considered to be military style hats and should therefore not be worn. Hats must stand up off the head by 2” and cover the crown of the head. A military skirt, military dress or skirted leotard must be worn. Skirts should be a continuous piece of material the same length the whole way around with a minimum length of mid-thigh and the maximum just below the knee. Trousers are allowed for male competitors only. Competitors who do not conform to stated requirements will not be selected for inclusion in the final. |

NOTE: Lobs have been taken out in Peewee & Beginner classes to give the competitors chance to concentrate on their precision and timing. Any competitor wishing to do lobs should enter Novice section.

Definition

Competitors should march in a sharp military manner whilst using arm beats with the baton. The upper leg should be at a 90-degree angle to the body and the knee angle should be a minimum of 90 degrees. Slight lower leg extension is desirable. The baton should be held by the ball in the crotch of the right hand, with the shaft at an upward angle to the right between off centre (vertical) down to 45 degrees. **Once strutting has commenced, the shaft should not touch the arm.** The left hand should be on the waist at all times, with a straight line from the elbow to the tip of the fingers. Both elbows should be pointed to the sides.

The arm beats should be sharp. On the left foot (heavy beat) the right hand executes a beat level with the eye / nose. On the right foot the beat is executed down by the right hip. The sequence of the right hand should therefore be hip, eye / nose / eye, hip. The right upper arm should not move.

Competitors should march into and out of the corners which should be executed without fancy footwork, but with the front then back anti-clockwise baton lobs, with the right arm straight up, elbow locked. After the lob corner, the baton should return to nose on the first left step.

From “attention” Competitors should march in a follow-the-leader manner, with forward motion at all times and no slow step.

Judged on - a comparison basis, taking into account appearance, posture, baton control, military bearing and timing. Facial expressions must be stern and military. A positive approach shall be used to select finalists. Finalists are selected to re-strut rather than eliminating non-finalists. Competitors who can demonstrate the ability to stay in step with the music (left foot on the heavy beat) will be given preference to those with timing problems.

4 FANCY STRUT

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Music | Standard NBTA music will be used. |
| Area | Competitors will perform in a square to the left at all times. |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |

Definition

Fancy strut is a strut incorporating footwork, leaps and lunges, using not more than 2 continuous revolutions (from the centre) of the baton. Loops and swings are allowed. Gymnastic moves, releases, finger work, wraps, rolls, dead stick releases and pullbacks are not permitted. Floor contact with any part of the body other than the feet is not permitted.

Judged on - technique and execution of body and baton, timing, routine construction, difficulty and variety taking into account appearance, posture, gracefulness and presentation.

A positive approach shall be used to select finalists. Finalists are selected to re-strut rather than eliminating non-finalists. Competitors who can demonstrate the ability to stay in step with the music (left foot on the heavy beat) will be given preference to those with timing problems.

Competitors who do not conform to stated requirements will not be selected for inclusion in the final.

5 POMPON STRUT

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Music | Standard NBTA music will be used. |
| Area | Competitors will perform in a square to the left at all times. |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |

Definition

Pompon fancy strut involves footwork, leaps and lunges etc. incorporating arm and pompon movements. Floor contact with any part of the body except feet is not permitted. Passes of pompons are allowed however releases are not. Gymnastic moves are not permitted.

Pompons

The size of the pompons should be in proportion to the size of the Competitors; i.e. larger Competitors should not use small pompons where the hand and wrist are not covered. Similarly, juveniles should not use grossly oversized pompons.

Judged on - technique and execution of body and pompons, timing, routine construction, difficulty and variety. Taking into account appearance, posture, gracefulness and presentation.

A positive approach shall be used to select finalists. Finalists are selected to re-strut rather than eliminating non-finalists. Competitors who can demonstrate the ability to stay in step with the music (left foot on the heavy beat) will be given preference to those with timing problems.

Competitors who do not conform to stated requirements will not be selected for inclusion in the final.

6 ONE BATON SOLO (incl First Time Twirl)

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See General Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Music | Current NBT A Europe or background music |
| Area | Performing area is approximately 5 metres square |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |

Definition

The twirling performance of one person using one baton involving variety and difficulty of content, speed, control, smoothness and gracefulness, presented in a pleasing manner with correct baton and body technique. Content of First-Time Twirl, PeeWee, Beginner and Novice solos is restricted – see Appendix D for details.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging will begin as the hand leaves the “salute” position, and will end as the baton comes to a stop in the salute position.

Judged On

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Complete Variety | 20 points |
| Difficulty | 20 points |
| Speed & Control | 20 points |
| Smoothness & Gracefulness | 20 points |
| Showmanship & Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Failure to salute | 1.0 per violation |
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| 2 handed catch | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per second |
| Break / slip | 0.1 per violation |
| Off pattern | 0.1 per violation |
| Handled roll | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Costume | 2.0 |
| Substance | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling | Disqualification |

NOTE: National Champion of Champions event winner gains automatic selection into the England squad for the following year in Solo for the relevant age group, providing they meet the current NBT A criteria. However, they will be expected to attend England team training days and perform at England Team Assessment Day (usually first regional competition of the year)

7 TWO BATON SOLO

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See General Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Music | Current NBT A Europe or background music |
| Area | Performing area is approximately 5 metres square |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |

Definition

The continuous and simultaneous twirling of two batons by one person involving variety and difficulty of content, speed, control, smoothness and gracefulness, presented in a pleasing manner with correct baton and body technique. Content of Beginner and Novice two baton solo is restricted – see Appendix D for details.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging will begin as the hand leaves the salute position and will end as the baton comes to a stop in the salute position.

Judged on

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Complete Variety | 20 points |
| Difficulty | 20 points |
| Technique | 20 points |
| Smoothness & Gracefulness | 20 points |
| Showmanship & Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Failure to salute | 1.0 per violation |
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| 2 handed catch | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per second |
| Break / slip | 0.1 per violation |
| Off pattern | 0.1 per violation |
| Handled roll | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Costume | 2.0 |
| Substance | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling | Disqualification |

8 DANCE SOLO

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See General Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Music | NBTA set music |
| Area | Performing area will be approx. 9 x 5 metres |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |

Definition

A choreographed routine, combining dance and baton, which interprets musical phrases, tempo, rhythm and style. All dance and baton work must be executed with correct technique. Content of PeeWee, Beginner and Novice dance solos is restricted – see Appendix D for details.

Timing

From start to end of set music

Salute

A salute is optional for courtesy only, but if used should be a standard baton salute, executed correctly

Judged on

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Choreography | | 20 points |
| Dance | Diff 10 / Var10 | 20 points |
| Baton | Diff 10 / Var10 | 20 points |
| Technique | | 20 points |
| Showmanship | | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| 2 handed catch | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per violation |
| Break / slip | 0.1 per violation |
| Off pattern | 0.1 per violation |
| Handled roll | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Costume | 2.0 |
| Substance | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling | Disqualification |

9 RHYTHMIC TWIRL* / OPEN FREESTYLE**

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See General Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Music | Own choice of music submitted as General Competition Rule 1.4g |
| Area | Performing area is the entire floor |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |

Definition

A choreographed routine, combining dance and baton, which interprets musical phrases, tempo, rhythm and style. All dance and baton work must be executed with correct technique. Content of Beginner / Novice freestyle is restricted – see Appendix D for details.

Timing

From start to end of set music

Salute

A salute is optional for courtesy only, but if used should be a standard baton salute, executed correctly

Judged on

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Choreography | | 20 points |
| Dance | Diff 10 / Var10 | 20 points |
| Baton | Diff 10 / Var10 | 20 points |
| Technique | | 20 points |
| Showmanship | | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| 2 handed catch | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per violation |
| Break / slip | 0.1 per violation |
| Off pattern | 0.1 per violation |
| Handled roll | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Costume | 2.0 |
| Substance | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling | Disqualification |

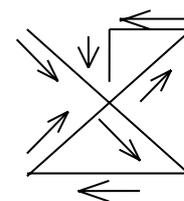
*Rhythmic twirl is a selection only event see General Rule 1.13

** Open freestyle will only be available at Regional Competitions when time allows. Qualification is not required to enter this event at nationals.

10 SUPER X STRUT

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Music | Standard NBTA strut music will be used |
| Area | Performing area is approximately 30' x 20' |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4b) |
| Definition | |

START



1. Floor Pattern - Competitors shall perform individually within the prescribed floor pattern once only. Starting point shall be at upper corner of arena to judges left. Direction of pattern shall be as diagram above. The 5th leg shall not extend beyond the borders set by leg 1, although finish shall be at any point within designated area.

2. Basic Strut Portions - A minimum of four forward consecutive steps of basic strut shall be executed during four different intervals of the floor pattern, on the first leg, second leg, third leg and fifth (final) leg. They shall be performed immediately after opening salute and on the first steps forward on the other specified sections.

3. Baton Work - From first movement to ending salute, no more than two revolutions in one hand, without a pass or dead stick movement, are permitted in the strutting routine. Loops, swings and slides are allowed. The baton must be in full-hand grip, in one hand or the other at all times throughout the strutting routine.

4. Floor Contact - No part of the body other than the feet comes into contact with the floor, intentionally or unintentionally.

5. Timing - A zero score in timing will be given if the Competitor is out of step on one or more segments of the floor pattern. When a score of zero in timing is given, the penalties for out of step shall not count when computing the score. (Other captions should receive scores) Competitors will not be disqualified.

Feature moves, during which the left foot intentionally hits the offbeat of the music, are not considered out of step. Competitors must follow any off beat (intentional out of step) feature move, with re-establishment of ability to again hit the accented beat of music with the left foot, or an out of step penalty will be assessed per violation. If a Competitor does not correct themselves within eight counts of being out of step, an additional out of step penalty will be assessed. Penalty will not exceed 0.5 per eight counts out of step.

If the music stops, Competitor should stop strutting and the stopwatch will be stopped.

Timing

See Appendix B. Penalties will be assessed beginning with opening move and will therefore include any violations before the salute.

Judged on -

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Routine Content | 20 points |
| Choreography | 20 points |
| Smoothness & Gracefulness | 20 points |
| Overall Timing | 20 points |
| Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Drop / Out of Step / Unauthorised Twirling / Floor Contact | 0.5 per violation |
| Omitted required basic** | 0.5 per violation |
| Performing after ending salute*** | 0.5 |
| Break / slip / off pattern | 0.1 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per second |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Failure to salute | 1.0 per violation |
| Improper floor pattern* | 1.0 |
| Rule Violation | 2.0 |
| Gymnastics / Acrobatics | Disqualification |

* Where the boundaries set by the Competitor for the X strut are broken. This penalty can only be given once

** When the four consecutive forward basic marches are not executed correctly at the beginning of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th legs. This penalty is also given if the first move from the opening salute is anything other than straight into the four basic marches.

*** Moving baton from salute to carry position is not considered violation. However, any pose or presentation will be penalised.

NOTE: National winner of Senior Advanced X-Strut is awarded the Lloyd Memorial, which affords automatic selection into the England squad for Senior X-Strut for the following year, providing they meet the current NBTA criteria. However, they will be expected to attend England Team Training days and perform at the England Team Assessment Day (usually first regional competition of the year)

11 DUET

Age Division See Appendix A

Competition Status See General Competition Rule 1.8

Note: Duets must compete at the status level of the duet team member who has attained the higher status in this event. Members must be registered under the same corps – composite entries will not be allowed for domestic competition.

Competition Advancement See General Competition Rule 1.9

Music Current NBTA Europe or background music

Area Performing area is approximately 9 x 6 metres

Costume See General Competition Rule 1.4d)

Definition

The twirling performance of two people each using one baton involving variety and difficulty of content, exchanges / partner sequences, speed, control, smoothness and gracefulness, presented in a pleasing manner with correct baton and body technique. The maintenance of unison is of prime importance. Content of [PeeWee](#), Beginner and Novice duets is restricted – see Appendix D for details.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging will begin with the first salute position from one or both members and will end with the final salute from one or both members.

Judged on

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Twirling | 20 points |
| Teamwork | 20 points |
| Production | 20 points |
| Technique | 20 points |
| Showmanship & Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Failure to salute | 1.0 per violation |
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| 2 handed catch | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per second |
| Break / slip | 0.1 per violation |
| Off pattern | 0.1 per violation |
| Unison | 0.1 per violation |
| Handled roll | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Costume | 2.0 |
| Substance | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling | Disqualification |

12 Artistic Pairs

Age Division See Appendix A

Competition Status See General Competition Rule **1.8**

Note: Duets must compete at the status level of the duet team member who has attained the higher status in this event. Members must be registered under the same corps – composite entries will not be allowed for domestic competition.

Competition Advancement See General Competition Rule **1.9**

Music NBTA set music

Area Performing area will be approx. 9 x 5 metres

Costume See General Competition Rule **1.4d)**

Definition

A choreographed routine for 2 people each using one baton, combining dance and baton, which interprets musical phrases, tempo, rhythm and style incorporating partner sequences and exchanges. All dance and baton work must be executed with correct technique. Content of Beginner and Novice routines is restricted – see Appendix D for details. The maintenance of unison is of prime importance.

Timing

From start to end of set music

Salute

A salute is optional for courtesy only, but if used should be a standard baton salute, executed correctly

Judged on

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Choreography | | 20 points |
| Dance | Diff 10 / Var10 | 20 points |
| Baton | Diff 10 / Var10 | 20 points |
| Technique | | 20 points |
| Showmanship | | 20 points |

Penalties

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Improper salute | | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | | 0.5 per violation |
| 2 handed catch | | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | | 0.1 per violation |
| Break / slip | | 0.1 per violation |
| Off pattern | | 0.1 per violation |
| Handled roll | | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | | 0.2 per violation |
| Costume | | 2.0 |
| Substance | | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling | | Disqualification |

13 TRIO

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | Trio level entered should be that of the solo status of at least two members. |
| Music | General NBTA background music |
| Area | Performing area is approximately 9 x 6 metres |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |

Definition

The twirling performance of three people each using one baton involving variety and difficulty of content, exchanges / group sequences, speed, control, smoothness and gracefulness, presented in a pleasing manner with correct baton and body technique. The maintenance of unison is of prime importance. Content of Beg / Nov trios is restricted as for Solo – see Appendix D for details.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging will begin with the first salute position by one or more members and shall end with the final salute from one or more members.

Judged on

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Twirling | 20 points |
| Teamwork | 20 points |
| Production | 20 points |
| Technique | 20 points |
| Showmanship & Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Failure to salute | 1.0 per violation |
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| 2 Handed catch | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / Undertime | 0.1 per second |
| Break / Slip | 0.1 per violation |
| Off Pattern | 0.1 per violation |
| Unison | 0.1 per violation |
| Handled roll | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Costume | 2.0 |
| Substance | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics Moves / Unauthorised twirling | Disqualification |

14 DANCE TWIRL TEAM

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See General Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Number of Members | 4 to 8 members |
| Music | Own choice of music submitted as General Competition Rule 1.4g |
| Area | Performing area is the entire floor |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |
| Entry and Exit | Without music - See General Competition Rule 1.4c) |

Definition

The twirling performance of 4 to 8 people, each using one baton combining variety, difficulty and originality of dance with baton work, which interprets musical phrases, tempo, rhythm and style. Exchanges and changes of floor pattern should be incorporated. All dance and baton work must be executed with correct technique. The maintenance of unison is of prime importance. Content of Beginner and Novice teams is restricted – see Appendix D for details.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging will begin with the first note of the music and shall end with the last note of the music.

Salute

A salute is optional for courtesy only, but if used should be a standard baton salute executed correctly

Judged on

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Dancing | 20 points |
| Twirling & Teamwork | 20 points |
| Choreography & Production | 20 points |
| Technique & Quality of Performance | 20 points |
| Appearance, Showmanship & Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| 2 handed catch | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Out of step | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per violation |
| Break / slip | 0.1 per violation |
| Off pattern | 0.1 per violation |
| Unison | 0.1 per violation |
| Handled roll | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Substance | 5.0 |
| Entry / exit with music | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling | Disqualification |

15 TWIRL TEAM

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See General Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Number of Members | 4 to 8 members |
| Music | Current NBTA Europe or background music |
| Area | Performing area is the entire floor |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |

Definition

The twirling performance of 4 to 8 people each using one baton involving variety and difficulty of content, exchanges, partner & group sequences, speed, control, smoothness and gracefulness, presented in a pleasing manner with correct baton and body technique evident throughout. The maintenance of unison is of prime importance. Changes of floor pattern should be incorporated whilst maintaining continuity of routine. Content of Beginner and Novice teams is restricted – see Appendix D for details.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging will begin with the first salute from one or more members and shall end with the final salute from one or more members.

Judged on

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Twirling | 20 points |
| Teamwork | 20 points |
| Production | 20 points |
| Technique | 20 points |
| Showmanship & Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Failure to salute | 1.0 per violation |
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| 2 handed catch | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per second |
| Breaks / slips | 0.1 per violation |
| Off pattern | 0.1 per violation |
| Unison | 0.1 per violation |
| Handled roll | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Costume | 2.0 |
| Substance | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling | Disqualification |

16 POMPON TEAM

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See General Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Number of Members | 4 to 8 members |
| Music | Own choice of music submitted as General Competition Rule 1.4g |
| Area | Performing area is the entire floor |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d). Costumes can be in line with the theme of the music |
| Entry and Exit | Without music - See General Competition Rule 1.4c) |

Definition

A choreographed routine which should include a variety of dance and pompon moves combined, which interpret the musical phrases, tempo, rhythm and style. Changes of floor pattern should be incorporated and general effect and staging should be a consideration throughout. Body technique and alignment of pompoms must be correct and the maintenance of unison is of prime importance.

Exchanges are not permitted. Tossing of poms to another team member, or to oneself, is not permitted. Only passes of poms from one member to another are permitted.

Grounding of poms is permitted. Grounding is defined as holding the poms while touching the ground. Placing poms on ground without touching poms is not permitted.

Pompoms

All pompoms must be of the same size and type

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging will begin with the first note of music and shall end with the last note of music.

Salute

A salute is optional for courtesy only, but if used should be a standard pompoms salute, executed correctly

Judged on

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Choreography | 20 points |
| Dance | 20 points |
| Difficulty & Variety | 20 points |
| Technique & Quality of Performance | 20 points |
| Appearance, Showmanship & Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Out of Step | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per second |
| Unison | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Rule violation | 2.0 per violation |

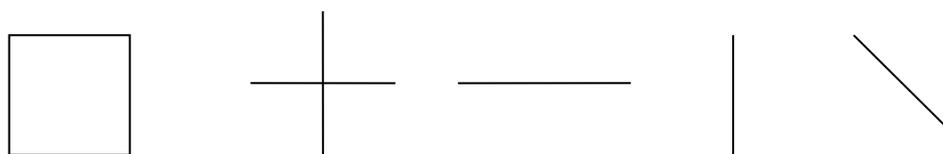
17 DANCE FORMATION TEAM

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | All team members must be no higher than Novice in any event |
| Competition Advancement | See General Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Number of Members | 4 to 8 members |
| Music | Own choice of music submitted as General Competition Rule 1.4g |
| Area | Performing area is the entire floor |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |
| Entry and Exit | Without music - See General Competition Rule 1.4c) |

Definition

Routine to include FIVE set formations and EIGHT set dance moves, in any order. Each team member must have a baton in their hand. Judged on technique of dance moves completed, as well as alignment and spacing of formations completed.

Formations to complete



Dance Moves to complete

| | | | |
|----------|-----------|------------|------------------|
| Leg Kick | Lunge | Toe Points | Step Ball Change |
| Plié | Arabesque | Fankick | Teddy Bear Roll |

It is not necessary for the baton to be used and performances will not be judged on baton work. However, if the baton is used, the correct twirling technique should be executed. The main focus is on correct dance technique and execution of formations.

The defined list of dance moves and formations to be completed is not exhaustive, and others may be performed. Credit will be given for varieties of the necessary moves and formations. Each compulsory dance element must be completed by all team members simultaneously.

Penalty will be incurred for each required formation or dance move omitted from routine. Twirling content is restricted to full hand twirling only.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging will begin with the first note of the music and shall end with the last note of the music.

Salute

A salute is for courtesy only, but if given it must be correct

Judged on

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Dancing | 20 points |
| Formations | 20 points |
| Teamwork | 20 points |
| Technique & Quality of Performance | 20 points |
| Appearance, Showmanship & Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Improper salute / Drop / Fall / Out of Step | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per violation |
| Unison | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Omitted Required Element | 2.0 per violation |
| Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling | Disqualification |
| Rule violation | 2.0 per violation |

18 **MILITARY FORMATION TEAM**

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | All team members must be no higher than Novice in any event. |
| Competition Advancement | See General Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Number of Members | 4 to 8 members |
| Music | Own choice of music submitted as General Competition Rule 1.4g |
| Area | Performing area is the entire floor |
| Costume | Military style with a full skirt and hat as per military strut rules |
| Entry and Exit | Without music - See General Competition Rule 1.4c) |

Definition

Routine to include SIX set formations and SEVEN set manoeuvres, in any order. The moves should be completed all at the same time and not in a ripple. Each team member should have a baton in their hand. It will be judged on staying in step with the music, timing of moves, as well as alignment and spacing.

Formations to complete



Compulsory Manoeuvres

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------|
| 4 Slow marches | 8 Military marches | Left turn |
| Right turn | About turn | Wheel |
| Counter march | | |

It is not necessary for the baton to be used and performances will not be judged on baton work. However, if the baton is used, the correct twirling technique should be executed. The main focus is on timing and correct technique.

The compulsory list of manoeuvres is not exhaustive and other manoeuvres may be used as well as some basic dance steps. At least 50% of the routine must consist of basic marching.

No releases or illusions are allowed

A penalty will be incurred for each set formation or manoeuvre that is omitted.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging shall begin after the first salute by one or more members and shall end with the final salute by one or more members.

Judged on

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Manoeuvres | 20 points |
| Formations | 20 points |
| Teamwork | 20 points |
| Technique & Quality of Performance | 20 points |
| Appearance, Showmanship & Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Failure to salute | 2.0 per violation |
| Improper salute / Drop / Fall / Out of Step | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime (routine) | 0.1 per second |
| Unison | 0.1 per violation |
| Rank, file, intervals, distance | 0.1 per violation |
| Undertime (marching) | 0.1 per sec |
| Omitted Required Element | 2.0 per violation |
| Costume penalty | 2.0 |
| Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling | Disqualification |

Rule Violation

2.0 per violation

19 TEAM GOLD (Nationals Only)

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Age Division | Open |
| Competition Status | Beg/Nov & Int/Adv – see below for status eligibility |
| Number of Members | 4 to 8 members |
| Music | Standard NBTA music for the event being performed |
| Area | Performing area is the entire floor |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4b) |
| Entry and Exit | Without music - See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |

Definition

Team Gold will consist of a team of 4 - 8 Competitors who will be required to nominate a competitor for each of the following:

| One Baton Solo | Two Baton Solo | X Strut | Duet |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|

Five members will be required to compete in one of the above events and then combine (with up to 3 other members if desired) in order to compete in a Twirl Team section. Where a team consists of only four members, one member can compete in a max of two individual events.

Scores for each section will be collated with participants given points for each place gained, i.e. 1st place gains one point and 6th place gains six points, the winning team will be the team with the lowest score.

Team members for this event must all be registered under the same Corps as composite teams will not be allowed. A Competitor can only be in one Team Gold team.

Rules for each of the individual sections of Team Gold may be found in the following sections of the NBTA Rule Book. .

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| One Baton Solo | Section 6 |
| Two Baton Solo | Section 7 |
| Duet | Section 10 |
| Twirl Team | Section 13 |

Status Eligibility

Beg / Nov

All competing team members must be of a status level of Novice or lower for ind/duet events in domestic competition for the current year. Novice restrictions will apply to Beg/ Nov teams.

Int / Adv

If the status level of any one of the team members is Int or Adv for ind/duet events in domestic competition for the current year.

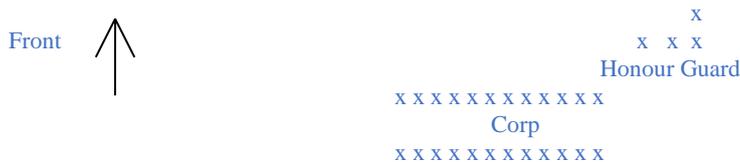
Timing

| | BEG/NOV | INT/ADV |
|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Solo Twirl | 1.20 - 2.00 | 1.50 - 2.30 |
| 2 Baton | 1.20 - 2.00 | 1.30 - 2.00 |
| X Strut | 1.30 - 2.00 | 1.30 - 2.00 |
| Duet | 1.20 - 2.00 | 1.50 - 2.30 |
| Team Twirl | 2.00 - 3.00 | 2.00 - 3.00 |

20 **MILITARY FORMATION CORPS**

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Age Divisions | See Appendix A |
| Number of Members | Minimum of 8 members using baton, no maximum, excluding mace/mascot (optional). Honour Guard is optional but if used, must be in addition to the basic 8 members and follow the Honour Guard Rules as described below. |
| Competition Status | Open to all levels |
| Music | Own choice of music submitted as General Competition Rule 1.4g |
| Area | Performing area is the entire floor |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d . |
| Entry and Exit | Without music - See General Competition Rule 1.4c) |

Honour Guard If an Honour Guard is used, proper respect must be given to the National Colours, it should be properly guarded by 3 members and positioned at the front right of the corps.



Definition

A performance of 8 or more people each with one baton combining marching and manoeuvring incorporating a variety of simple baton work. No more than two revolutions from the centre of the baton are permitted. Lobs and swings are allowed. The maintenance of unison and style is of prime importance.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging shall begin after the first salute by one or more members and shall end with the final salute by one or more members.

Judged on -

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Marching & manoeuvring | 40 points |
| Production | 30 points |
| General effect | 30 points |

Penalties -

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Failure to salute | 2.0 per violation |
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Out of step / phasing * | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| Unauthorised twirling** | 0.5 per violation |
| Dropped equipment | 0.1 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per second |
| Rank, file, intervals, distance | 0.1 each time |
| Costume | 2.0 |
| Entry / exit with music | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics | Disqualification |

* A 5.0 penalty is given if the whole corps is out of step

** A 5.0 penalty is given if the whole corps executes unauthorised twirling

21 TWIRLING CORPS

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Age Division | See Appendix A |
| Competition Status | See General Competition Rule 1.8 |
| Competition Advancement | See General Competition Rule 1.9 |
| Number of Members | Minimum 8 twirlers - no maximum |
| Music | Own choice of music submitted as General Competition Rule 1.4g |
| Area | Performing area is the entire floor |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |
| Entry and Exit | Without music - See General Competition Rule 1.4c) |

Definition

The twirling performance of 8 or more people each with one baton combining dance and baton work which interprets musical phrases, tempo, rhythm and style. Manoeuvres, exchanges and floor pattern changes should be incorporated. The maintenance of unison is of prime importance.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging will begin with the first note of music and shall end with the last note of music. A salute is for courtesy only but if given should be correct

Twirling Time: Minimum of 2.30 minutes

There is no maximum twirling time. There is no restriction as to where the twirling is to be performed during the routine and therefore will be timed throughout the entire floor time. Baton twirling by 8 or more members at the same time shall be timed. Included in the timing are any or all twirls, exchange tricks including 2 & 3 baton sequences, aerials and momentary stops of one or two counts if executed within the twirling portion of the routine and all sections of the routine.

Any twirling not executed by at least 8 twirlers is considered for general effect and shall not be timed and judged by the twirling judge. Should 8 members be twirling and one drops a baton, timing shall continue unless the twirling member does not immediately pick up the baton and continue the routine.

Inspection - See inspection rules. All corps may be inspected before their competition display with the possible exception of Selection events and regional competitions at the discretion of the Competition Director.

Judged on -

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Variety & Difficulty of Twirling Content | 20 points |
| Variety & Difficulty of Twirling Teamwork | 20 points |
| Execution | 20 points |
| Movement | 20 points |
| General Effect & Production | 20 points |

Penalties -

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per violation |
| 2-hand catch | 0.5 per violation |
| Out of step - walking & marching* | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per second |
| Break / slip | 0.1 per violation |
| Off pattern | 0.1 per violation |
| Unison | 0.1 per violation |
| Handled roll | 0.1 per violation |
| Under twirling time | 0.1 per second |
| Dropped equipment | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Entry / exit | 2.0 |
| Substance | 5.0 |

Gymnastics / Unauthorised twirling

*A 5.0 point penalty is given if the whole corps is out of step

Disqualification

22 POMPONS CORPS

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Age Divisions | See Appendix A |
| Number of Members | Minimum of 12 members using pompons (no max) |
| Competition Status | Open to all levels |
| Music | Own choice of music submitted as General Competition Rule 1.4g |
| Area | Performing area is entire floor |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d). Costumes can be in line with theme of the music. |
| Entry and Exit | Without music - See General Competition Rule 1.4c) |

Definition

A large pompon corps choreographed to music which interprets musical phrases, tempo, rhythm and style. Routine should incorporate dance and good use of poms, along with good floor coverage, staging and manoeuvring. Body technique and alignment of pompons must be correct. General effect should be a consideration although there is no emphasis on theme. Maintenance of unison is of prime importance. Exchanges are not permitted. Tossing of poms to another team member or to oneself is not permitted. Only passes of poms from one member to another are permitted. Grounding of poms is permitted. Grounding is defined as holding the poms while touching the ground. Placing poms on ground without touching poms is not permitted. Exchanges and acrobatics are not permitted. Mounts are permitted if under 2 stories. No props or accessories allowed. All pompons must be the same size and type.

Timing

See Appendix B

Timing and judging shall begin with the first note of the music and shall end with the last note of the music. Salute is given for courtesy only, but if given, should be correct.

Inspection - See inspection rules. All corps may be inspected before their Competition display with the possible exception of Selection events and regional competitions at the discretion of the Competition Director.

Judged on

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Routine content | 20 points |
| Teamwork | 20 points |
| Production / General Effect | 20 points |
| Technique / Quality of Production | 20 points |
| Appearance / Showmanship / Presentation | 20 points |

Penalties

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Improper salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Drop | 0.5 per drop |
| Out of step* | 0.5 per violation |
| Fall | 0.5 per violation |
| Overtime / undertime | 0.1 per second |
| Unison | 0.1 per violation |
| Dropped equipment | 0.1 per violation |
| Incorrect illusion technique | 0.2 per violation |
| Rule Violation | 2.0 per violation |
| Unauthorised equipment | 5.0 |
| Entry / exit with music | 5.0 |
| Gymnastics & Mounts** | Disqualification |

*5.0 penalty is given if the whole corps is out of step

** Mounts are defined as any body toss or formation that is two stories or more. A story (as in 10-story building) is defined as a person's height. 1/2 story is defined as a person kneeling/sitting or lunging. Stacking one person on top of another to achieve a pyramid shape or similar form is not permitted.

23 COMMAND MARCHING TEAM (Nationals Only)

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Age Divisions | See Appendix A |
| Number of Members | 9 Competitors (Block formation 3 x 3) |
| Competition Status | Open to all levels |
| Music | No music - verbal commands by the NBTA caller |
| Area | Performing area is entire floor |
| Costume | See General Competition Rule 1.4d) |
| Entry and Exit | Without music - See General Competition Rule 1.4c) |

Definition

The team should be in a block formation of 3 x 3 at the start of the drill. A salute is required at the beginning and end of the performance (see below). A caller gives commands which must be immediately and correctly responded to by the team / squad. The caller will move the squad in any direction possible for it, relative to its position on the floor. There will be no set pattern for the commands. The squad must keep close block formation at all times.

Salute

A salute must be given by the centre front member before the command "Team Advance" can be made. When the command "Team Retire" is given, the team member in the centre back of the squad should "Halt" the squad, about turn, salute, about turn and march the squad off.

Commands

| | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Team advance | (used once) |
| 2 | Left turn | (quarter) |
| 3 | Right turn | (quarter) |
| 4 | About turn | (half turning to right) |
| 5 | Left oblique * | (one eighth) |
| 6 | Right oblique * | (one eighth) |
| 7 | Counter march | (must be to the right) |
| 8 | Team retire | (used once) |

* Counter march cannot be given on an oblique

Judged on

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Marching and Manoeuvring | 20 points |
| Speed and Control | 20 points |
| Commands and Drill | 20 points |
| Technique and Execution | 20 points |
| Presentation | 20 points |

Judging is on immediate response to commands, unison, bearing, rank and file and ability to keep in step. All commands will be given on the left foot.

Penalties

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Disaster | 10.0 |
| Wrong Turn | 2.0 per violation |
| Failure to Salute | 2.0 per violation |
| Improper Salute | 0.5 per violation |
| Bearings / head carriage | 0.5 per violation |
| Precisions | 0.5 per violation |
| Hesitations | 0.5 per violation |
| Dropped Equipment | 0.5 per violation |
| Out of Step | 0.5 per violation |

Floor Penalties

| | |
|------|-------------------|
| Rank | 0.5 per violation |
| File | 0.5 per violation |

Distance
Interval

0.5 per violation
0.5 per violation

24 PARATWIRL EVENTS

Rules as for normal Pompon Strut & Solo. Contestants entering these classes cannot enter normal Pompon Strut and Solo classes, including Sunday Struts.

Pompon Strut

| | | |
|-----|-------------|------------------------|
| 510 | Under 13yrs | Learning Disability P1 |
| 511 | 13yrs+ | Learning Disability P2 |
| 512 | Under 13yrs | Physical Disability P3 |
| 513 | 13yrs + | Physical Disability P4 |

Solo

| | | |
|-----|-------------|------------------------|
| 520 | Under 13yrs | Learning Disability S1 |
| 521 | 13yrs+ | Learning Disability S2 |
| 522 | Under 13yrs | Physical Disability S3 |
| 523 | 13yrs + | Physical Disability S4 |

Classes 510, 511, 520 and 521

The competitor has a learning disability which is identified by a diagnosed or named condition or as recognised delay in their normal learning ability.

Definition of learning disability; a significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information, to learn new skills (impaired intelligence) along with a reduced ability to cope independently (impaired social functioning).

Classes 512, 513, 522 and 523

The competitor has a physical disability which impedes their ability to function, move and walk in a coordinated way. The disability may affect one or more limbs and/or developmental coordination disorders. The competitor may require a walking aid to move and walk independently.

To qualify to compete in the ParaTwirl classes the learning disability or visual physical disability must be confirmed by a health professional and/or paediatrician through way of a copy of a diagnosis letter and/or statement of special educational needs.