

# JACK&JILL

## BACHATA COMPETITION AMATEUR CATEGORY

### Competition Structure

- The Amateur division focuses on the true essence of social dancing: natural leading and following, mutual connection, and adaptability & connection with the music. The competition consists of 2 rounds:
- **Round 1 – Preliminaries:** All participants dance with rotating partners every 60 seconds. This round will consist of approximately 10 songs, allowing each leader to dance with each follower at least once.
- **Final Round:** The top 6 leaders and top 6 followers advance to the final. In the final, each competitor will dance with every member of the jury from the opposite role.
- All music will be randomly selected by the organizers and will include modern (sensual) bachata.
- Traditional bachata will not be required, although dancers are free to incorporate it if they feel confident and musically inspired.

### Judging Panel

- The AMATEUR category will be evaluated by:
- Klau & Ros
- Carlos & Chloe
- Cristian & Gabriella
- Masa & Polina
- Issam & Charlotte
- Jorelle & Monica

### Judging Criteria

Each round will be judged based on the following categories:

1. **Leading / Following** – clarity, responsiveness
2. **Connection** – harmony between partners

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### 3. **Movement Quality** – technique, body control and fluidity

Each judge will only score dancers of their own role:

- Followers in the jury will evaluate **followers**
- Leaders in the jury will evaluate **leaders**

Dancers (participants) will also vote for their **top 2 favorite partners** from the opposite role.

## COMPETITION RULES

- All dancers will be randomly assigned partners in each round.
- In this competition, each dancer will be evaluated individually. Everyone will dance with everyone, which means that each participant is responsible for their own score.
- Partner rotation happens every 60 seconds to ensure fairness and variety.
- No lifts, tricks, or acrobatics are allowed where both feet of a partner rise above the leader's knee.
- Outfits and footwear are not judged – wear what makes you feel comfortable and safe.
- Avoid wearing clothing with offensive slogans or controversial imagery. Respect and inclusion are key values of this competition.
- Hygiene, grooming, and scent are not scored but highly recommended.
- Focus on **social dancing**, not show-off or overly choreographed movements. **Connection** with your partner **is the priority**.
- In case of a tie, a **dance-off** (with judges) will be used.
- Do not approach judges for feedback directly after rounds.
- Be on time. Late arrivals may be disqualified.
- Misconduct, disrespect, or unsafe behavior = **disqualification**.

For example:

1. Disrespecting judges, partners, or staff
2. Breaking the rules intentionally
3. Unsafe dancing (e.g. rough or reckless moves)
4. Trying to influence scoring or results unfairly
5. Harassment or rude behavior

- **Note:** A **dedicated competition supervisor** will be present to ensure the rules are followed and handle potential disqualifications.

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# Off-Floor Guidelines & Feedback

- Scores will be **publicly shared** after the competition.
- Brief feedback may be requested during the event.
- For detailed feedback, **private lessons** can be requested.
- Judges have limited time and energy – please respect their capacity.

## PRIZES

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Awards will be given to the **top 3 leaders** and **top 3 followers**:

- 🏆 1st Place: Fullpass + \$200 (shared: \$100 each)
- 🥈 2nd Place: Fullpass
- 🥉 3rd Place: Fullpass

🎫 Fullpasses to win:

- Baychata Festival
- Level Up Festival 2026
- Infinity Festival
- SBK Festival

# AMATEUR CATEGORY

This category is for dancers who:

- Do not feel comfortable competing in the PRO category
- Do not teach bachata (neither regularly nor occasionally, including private classes, online, group or substitute teaching)
- Have less than 2.5 years of experience dancing bachata
- Have little to no experience competing in Jack & Jill or similar dance competitions

If you're unsure which category to choose, we recommend applying for Amateur and letting the organization team review your eligibility. The organization reserves the right to move participants between categories if needed for balance and fairness.

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