

Who can compete?

To join the competitions at Paris SwitchXperience 2025, make sure you:

- Have a valid Full Pass or Party Pass,
- Register for each competition before the official deadline (check the weekend schedule!),
- Pay any competition fees required,
- Meet the specific entry criteria detailed in these rules.

Divisions

This year, we're excited to bring back the Strictly competitions after taking a little break last year!

These are the official judged competitions at Paris SwitchXperience 2025:

· Novice Switch Strictly

Open to dancers who qualify for the WSDC Novice level, based on the WSDC Jack & Jill Advancement Chart (Chart 3).

· Open Switch Strictly

Open to all WSDC-level dancers, regardless of their competition level.

Fivent teachers at Paris SwitchXperience 2025 are not allowed to compete in the Open Strictly, but they're more than welcome to cheer from the sidelines

General strictly rules

- You're allowed to enter more than one Strictly division but you may not compete with the same partner in more than one Strictly Swing contest.
- If participating in the open stage in duo, you cannot enter strictly with the same partner.
- A couple's division is determined by their highest WSDC Jack & Jill level.
- If partners have different levels, they must enter the division that matches the higher skill level.

What we expect from competitors

- Plan ahead: Register on time (online or at the event), pick up your bib number, and check for last-minute schedule changes.
- Know the rules: You're responsible for following them ... even if you haven't read them!
- Be ready to compete:
 - o Be in the ballroom 15 minutes early.
 - o Check which heat you're in and follow marshalling instructions.
 - o Wear your bib on your back, hips, or bottom—not on your arms or legs.
 - o Missing your comp or withdrawing late = no refund.
- Show good sportsmanship: Always treat partners, judges, and others with respect on and off the floor. Poor conduct may lead to penalties or disqualification.
- Use the right channels: Direct any questions or concerns privately to the Chief Judge. Confronting or pressuring judges is not allowed and may result in disqualification or a ban.
- Check your scores: You can review them at the end of the event or by contacting the Scorer or Chief Judge afterward.

Attire & Vibe on the dancefloor

We love creativity and self-expression, but just a quick reminder to keep your outfits and behavior respectful for everyone. That means avoiding anything that could be seen as offensivelike political, religious, violent or sexual content.

Also, keep in mind:

- · All ages (including young dancers) might be at the event
- · Your dancing might be live-streamed or recorded

We're all about big energy, fun, and maybe a little humor, but all within the frame of great dancing and good taste. If anything crosses a line (like overly suggestive moves or behavior that would feel uncomfortable in social dancing), it could lead to a penalty or disqualification.

Let's keep the dance floor amazing for everyone! *

How you'll be judged (from most to least important)

Here's what our judges are looking for, in order of priority:

• West Coast Swing content

→ Show clear swing patterns with variety and contrast—it should feel unmistakably like WCS!

• Role switching

→ Depending on the comp, judges will look at both how often you switch roles and how smoothly you do it.

Then, we also look at:

- Timing → Stay on time!
- Teamwork → Keep that connection strong. Great partnering means listening, adjusting, and supporting each other, physically and energetically, especially in a strictly!
- Technique → Control, balance, clean footwork, body lines—how well you execute your dancing really matters.
- Musical interpretation
- Showmanship → Great energy, confidence, and presence are a plus—but not a substitute for solid dancing. Keep it genuine and respectful. Good sportsmanship on and off the floor always counts!

About tricks

Weight-support moves like dips, slides, splits or leans are allowed if and only if both partners stay in contact with the floor. If a move looks unsafe or includes a lift, it might get flagged and could result in a lower placement ... so when in doubt, leave it out!



Respect, safety & support

At SwitchXperience, we're committed to making the event a safe, respectful, and welcoming space for everyone—on and off the dance floor.

If you ever feel unsafe, experience or witness harassment, aggression, or any kind of inappropriate behavior, please don't hesitate to reach out—whether it happens during a competition, at a party, or in any other context during the event.

You can talk to any judge or competition team member. We're here for you, and we'll make sure to handle your concern with care and complete confidentiality.

What about the non-judged divisions?

We know some of you might wonder what happened to the Choreo Tribe Challenge or how the new Open Stage fits in, don't worry, they're still here! They're just not part of the judged competitions.

Here's a quick overview:

→ Back by popular demand! You'll learn a Switch choreography in just 2 hours, then perform it with your tribe. No judges—just fun, connection, and good vibes.

→ A space for choreographed WCS performances featuring Switch and/or Steal. Open to duos or groups, 1–3 minutes max.

Want all the details? Check out the Open Stage Rules here

Behind the scenes: how it all runs

Curious about how things are organized or scored? Here's a look at what happens on our side to make the competition smooth, fair, and fun! You don't need to memorize this part—but if you're the curious type, read on. \bigcirc

What we handle as organizers

We select the judging panel, including the Chief Judge, scorer, MCs, and DJs.

Mock judges may be approved by the Chief Judge. While their scores won't count toward the final results, their participation helps with training, consistency, and building future judging teams.

- We collect and check competition registrations, verify eligibility, and assign bib numbers to each dancer.
- We aim to run all comps as scheduled, but may adjust formats, extend deadlines, or cancel prelims if numbers are low. If a comp is canceled, entry fees will be refunded.
- We handle scoring:

- o Prelims use callbacks (yes / no / alternate)
- o Finals use relative placement (for Novice & Open)

The list of finalists will be posted at the venue, in the WhatsApp group, and on the SwitchXperience Facebook pages once prelims are complete.

Results will be announced during the awards ceremony and scores will be published at the end of the event.

About the music

All songs are handpicked by our awesome competition DJ.

In spotlight finals, the tracks will be about the same length for each couple, and the DJ will choose the best moment to fade out to keep the vibe smooth.

We encourage all participants to read our full Code of Conduct here

