

# **Emerald Ball Dancesport Championships**

## **COVID Guidelines as of February 19, 2021 (Subject to Change)**

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As organizers of this event, we believe it is our responsibility to minimize the risks associated with COVID-19 to the fullest extent. Please read the following precautions and guidelines to be implemented at our traditional-style competition in Dallas, Texas. These are subject to change based on our hotel policies. All attendees are required to sign the following release form: <https://emeraldball.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/COVID19-release.pdf>

### **Check-In & Registration**

- Check-in limited to one studio at a time per desk.
- We have secured a private room of approximately 2,500 square feet for registration. This room is referred to as the Topaz room and is directly across from the ballroom.
- We ask that you bring your own pen, or keep the pen we give you during the course of the competition.

### **Ballroom**

- The competition will take place in the largest ballroom available on the hotel's property. It is approximately 27,000 square feet.
- The ballroom will have the largest possible dance floor to increase social distancing between couples. It is 6,000 square feet, or approximately 100 by 60 feet.
- Current hotel air filtration, in both the ballroom and hotel rooms, uses MERV 8\* filters. The hotel is scheduled to clean AC coils in February or March, and will upgrade to MERV 13 filters in all meeting spaces before the competition in April.

\*MERV, otherwise known as Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value, is a system used to evaluate the efficiency of an air filter based on how effective it is at catching particles of varying sizes. The higher the MERV rating, the higher the air filtration capabilities of a particular filter to remove microns and contaminants.

- There will be no more than 3 people per table and tables will be at least 6 feet apart. Tables will not intermix studios or groupings.
- In-depth sanitation and cleaning of the ballroom will occur between sessions.
- There will be NO on-deck area. Couples will enter the dance floor from their tables.
- There will be NO water stations. Bottle water will be provided.
- There will be NO food allowed in the ballroom.
- Hand sanitizer is provided at all entrances and tables.
- There will be a separate entrance and exit to the ballroom.
- Everyone will be subject to once-daily temperature checks upon entering the ballroom.

### **Masks**

- All attendees and spectators are required to wear masks while not on the dance floor or drinking liquids. This will be strictly enforced.
- As we get closer to the event, we should know where we stand regarding masks on the dance floor. We will be in full compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, statutes, ordinances, rules, regulations or orders, including, without limitation, those relating to health, sanitation, and safety.

### **Judges and Officials**

- All officials are required to wear masks unless drinking liquids (EMCEE excluded).
- Officials will sit on stage and remain 6 feet apart. They are unable to move round the dance floor while judging.

## **Awards**

- There will be a dedicated award center for all single dance awards.
- Multi-dance and Scholarship awards will be presented on the floor, in placement order. All winners are required to wear masks to self-collect the award from a table on the floor **and** remain 6 feet apart with masks for pictures.

## **Parties**

- There will be NO parties during the event, public or private. We ask that you act in the best interest of the safety of fellow attendees and adhere to this guideline.