

## Preparation for Competition

Place article in Club Newsletter Explain rules for competition.

Include a copy of the entry form with your article.

Make flyer type entry sheet and distribute to as many clubs as possible. Send an e-mail to the officers of the clubs encouraging enthusiasm.

Contact people to judge and make flags for Judges.

Decide how many places to award and acquire medals or trophies and certificates for Judges.

Make tags to pin on his/her back reflecting the position they are dancing. (The No. 1 couple should have a 1, No. 2 couple a 2). You can save a lot of time if you have the back tags numbered and separated for each square. Have two safety pins with each tag.

## Rules for Competition

1) Each square will have a judge with two flags one red and one yellow. a) Flags may be held in each hand or flags may be on each end of a two foot stick. (colors optional)

2) If the square breaks down, but can keep dancing within 10 counts by the judge, they can continue to dance. The judge will count with the yellow end of the flag.

3) If the square cannot continue to dance within the 10 counts to the music they will get the "Red Flag". Then they are out of the competition.

4) The broken down square may not make lines, but must continue dancing without making lines

5) The square must end the tip in the correct position.

6) If there is a tie the squares will continue dancing until only one square remains.

## Instructions Competition Day

Please fill out the registration form as much as possible before arriving.

Arrive 30 minutes early to be assigned numbers and a Judge.

Everyone must be wearing accepted square dance attire and Convention badge.

All members in square/team are capable of dancing mainstream level.

Be sure your judge is not from same club/district etc. as any member of your square.

Everyone must agree to stop dancing if your square gets a Red flag.



## WEB SITES THAT HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON COMPETITION DANCING

- **California Square Dance Council Youth Section**  
[www.squaredance.org/youth/youth-opening.html](http://www.squaredance.org/youth/youth-opening.html)
- **The Dance Competition TEEN ZONE**  
[www.teen.squaredance.bc.ca/index.shtml](http://www.teen.squaredance.bc.ca/index.shtml)
- **College Royal, Square Dancing**  
[www.collegeroyal.uoguelph.ca/square-dancing.shtml](http://www.collegeroyal.uoguelph.ca/square-dancing.shtml)
- **4-H Modern Square Dance Competition**  
[www.gov.ns.ca/NSAF/4H/glkit/sqdance.shtml](http://www.gov.ns.ca/NSAF/4H/glkit/sqdance.shtml)
- **The Pacific Northwest Teen Square Dance Festival**  
[www.teen.squaredance.bc.ca/pntsd.shtml](http://www.teen.squaredance.bc.ca/pntsd.shtml)
- **ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SQUARE DANCE COMPETITION Leavenworth, WA**  
[www.bavarianleavenworth.com/photos\\_squaredance.htm](http://www.bavarianleavenworth.com/photos_squaredance.htm)



### Competition dancing is Recreation

Disapproval of competition in the square dance movement has been expressed by some but the positive aspects are far greater than the negative. The competition in square dancing is an avenue for all square dancers, square dance callers and round dancers to display their accomplishments, meet new friends and dance with others that enjoy a little competition

The Teen competition has been a starting-ground for many of the caller/cuer, teacher, dancer, club executive who keep the recreation healthy. The fact that many adults active in square dancing today share the common experience of having competed in competition dancing.

The United Square Dancers of America endorse the practice of competition square and round dancing for youth.

Most young people enjoy competition and we believe this will help to perpetuate and promote Square Dancing.

The United Square Dancers of America would strongly disapprove of any competition that would embarrass or humiliate a dancer, no matter the age or circumstance!

The United Square Dancers of America is aware all dancers do not approve of competition square dancing. We hope this information will help them understand our position on this subject.

For additional information about USDA or any of its programs, please visit our web site [www.usda.org](http://www.usda.org) or Email the Education/Publications Committee at [usda.education.publications@usda.org](mailto:usda.education.publications@usda.org)

See web site [www.usda.org](http://www.usda.org) Officers & Committees for Current Officers & Committee Chairs mailing address and phone.

All USDA Educational Materials can be printed from the Internet at [www.usda.org](http://www.usda.org)

## INFORMATION ON HOW TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL AND FUN COMPETITION TIP OF SQUARE DANCING



**This information sheet was developed by the Education Committees of the United Square Dancers of America and provides Information on how to have a successful Square Dance Competition event at your dance.**

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