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# BRAZILIAN ZOUK DANCE COUNCIL

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## **BRAZILIAN ZOUK DANCE COUNCIL**

### **RELATIVE PLACEMENT SCORING SYSTEM**

Find everything you need to know about how registry events are scored. Please email any questions to the Brazilian Dance Council at [info@brazilianzoukcouncil.com](mailto:info@brazilianzoukcouncil.com).

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## WHAT IS RELATIVE PLACEMENT

Relative Placement is a scoring system which provides a fair method to value each judge's subjective vote. It makes sure that every judge has an equal vote on the end result, no judge has more power than the other one. Consequently, one high or low judge is disregarded and favoritism or bias from a judge is avoided.

## HOW DOES RELATIVE PLACEMENT WORK

### Judges

A **minimum of five judges** are required with a maximum of nine.

In the preliminary and semi-final round an even or odd number of judges may be used: five, six, seven, eight or nine. In **Jack & Jill** competitions, one half of the judges may judge leaders, the other half followers.

A **final round** of a competition must be judged by an **odd number of judges**: at least five, recommended seven, preferred nine.

### Preliminary Round, Semi-Finals, Finals

In the preliminary round and if needed in the semi-finals, the competitors (single, couple or group) are not ranked in a specific order, a **call-back system** is used instead.

The judges select competitors for the next round (essentially **yes** or **no**) and determine alternates.

The scorer (which in most cases is the head judge) transforms the selections in ordinals: 1 for the selected competitors, 2 for alternates and 3 for the unselected. According to the total number of 1s, 2s and 3s received the competitors are ranked.

The head judge determines how many competitors are promoted for the next round. There are two possibilities:

- Pre-fixed number of semi-finalists or finalists
- Considering the natural break in the ranking (often it occurs, that the first group of ranked competitors are close together before there is a break to the second group with the rest of the ranked competitors)

### Final Placements

In the finals, all the competitors (usually couple or group) get placed by the judges by defining a rank: 1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place, etc. while duplicate placements are not allowed.

**For the final placement a majority is needed.** If no competitor has a majority of the same placement, the next placement is added to the previous placements until a majority is reached:

- 1st and 2nd place (= 1-2)
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd place (= 1-3)

- etc.

If two or more competitors have an equal majority, the numerical value of the ordinals for each competitor is added. The competitor with the lower sum get ranked higher. If the sums for two and more competitors are equal, the next placement is added to the previous placements.

## Examples of Relative Placement

### Example 1:

Competitor Number	Judges Placements					Total Relative Placement						Final Place
	Judge 1	J2	J3	J4	J5	1-1	1-2	1-3	1-4	1-5	1-6	
1	1	5	1	1	2	3						1
2	2	2	5	4	1	1	3					2
3	3	3	3	2	3	-	1	5				3
4	4	4	2	3	4	-	1	2	5			4
5	5	1	4	5	5	1	1	1	2	5		5
6	6	6	6	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	5	6

In this example, the result is clear through all competitors. The majority of votes with five judges is three.

- Although Judge 2 placed competitor #1 fifth, the majority of three judges placed them first, so the final place is first as well.
- Competitor #2 got one first place and two second place votes. Therefore 1-1 is 1 and 1-2 (1st plus 2nd) is 3.
- Competitor #3 got no first place, one second place and four third place votes: 1-1 is 0, 1-2 is 1 and 1-3 is five (1st plus 2nd plus 3rd)

## Example 2:

Competitor Number	Judges Placements					Total Relative Placement						Final Place
	Judge 1	J2	J3	J4	J5	1-1	1-2	1-3	1-4	1-5	1-6	
1	2	1	5	1	1	3						1
2	1	2	2	5	5	1	3 (5)	3 (5)	3 (5)	5		2
3	5	6	1	2	2	1	3 (5)	3 (5)	3 (5)	4		3
4	3	3	3	3	6	-	-	4				4
5	4	4	4	6	4	-	-	-	4			5
6	6	5	6	4	3	-	-	1	2	3		6

In this example we have a more complicated situation. The majority of votes is still three.

- For competitor #1 the result is clear, the majority of judges voted them first.
- Competitor #2 and #3 reached both the majority of three for 2nd place. Now we take the sum of the ordinals:  $1+2+2=5$  (written in brackets) for both competitors, we have an equal situation.
- The same procedure will be repeated until a majority is reached. In this example the difference is eventually at 1-5.
- Competitor #4 has more votes for 1-3 than #2 and #3, but less for 1-2, so the final place is 4.

## COMPLETE RULES

The complete rules for can be found at the following website:

<http://www.dallasdance.com/backup/rpframes.htm>