

2016 Rules Change

The 2016 *Rules, Contest Procedures and Scoring Format* became effective January 20, 2016.

The most significant rule change for 2016 is the expiration of the "self-placement" provision (previously described in Section V.5 of the 2015 Rules). Now that the self-placement provision has been deleted, any contestant whose name already appears in the January 2016 and subsequent editions of the Points Registry must remain in his or her current division until sufficient points have been earned for graduation to the next higher skill division.

Any contestant who has not earned any points prior to 1/20/2016, and new contestants who have never entered a CTST contest, shall be required to enter the Novice Division (new contestants may also choose to enter the Newcomer division if offered).

Exceptions to the provisions stated in the above paragraphs may be made. Petitioning to enter a skill level division above Novice, as described in Section XII of the 2016 Rules, is allowed and encouraged when appropriate. In fact, CTST expects Intermediate, Advanced, and All Star caliber dancers (who have no points as of 1/20/2016) to petition to dance in an appropriate division higher than Novice throughout 2016. Continued petitioning shall be encouraged until those upper level dancers "solidify" their appropriate skill level status by earning one or more award points.