

## 2010 MN State Convention - Competition

Competition - defined by Webster as official participation in an organized sport. Square Dance - a lively dance with various steps, figures, etc. in which couples are grouped in a given form as in a square. Square Dance Competition - a lively dance with various steps or figures in an official participation in an organized sport.

An article in the United Square Dancers of America (USDA) News, issue 1, 2010 stated "true competition among and between dancers ...should not be done. Competition between the caller and the dancer can and should be fun as well as challenging. List the winners and give them a lollipop or something and forget about it until the next year."

USDA adopted a resolution at their June, 2009 meeting which supports holding a competition event at conventions and festivals. We, the 2010 Minnesota State Square & Round Dance Convention Steering Committee, are planning on providing, to the dancers who attend the Convention, the ability to test their proficiency in correctly dancing the mainstream moves as defined by Callerlab. We should maybe call it something other than Competition, since there has been some discussion of "Dancers Don't Compete, We Just Dance For Fun". But in all reality, people really do compete, every day, from work to getting in the shortest line at the checkout counter.

Randy Dougherty will be the caller for the Competition Event, which will be held at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, at the Convention Site. The rules will follow the National Square Dance Convention: last square dancing. Each square will have a judge, someone who is proficient and knowledgeable in the mainstream moves.

Team squares must be registered by Saturday at 3:30 p.m. in the lobby at the Competition information table. Individuals and couples wishing to compete may post their interest in joining others at the Competition information table. The registration form and additional information is available on the web site [www.mnsquaredanceconvention.com](http://www.mnsquaredanceconvention.com) and then clicking on the link for "Competition".

Open Square Dance Competition will take place on Saturday, June 12, 2010 at 6:30 PM in the Main Arena.

**Competition Requirements:**

- 1) No minimum or maximum age requirements required to compete.
- 2) All participants must be registered for the 2010 Minnesota State Convention.
- 3) A competition form must be filled out and must have a complete square to be able to compete.
- 4) Team squares must be registered by 3:30 PM Saturday 6-12-2010 in the main lobby of the convention or by pre registering and emailing the form to [rmcneil@ideaone.net](mailto:rmcneil@ideaone.net)
- 5) Team squares MUST arrive for check in by 6 PM Saturday 6-12-2010 in the Convention lobby.

**Rules & Process of Open Competition:**

- A) Dance level will be Mainstream.
- B) Dance time will start with 15 minutes of patter.
- C) Teams will be constant movement during competition.
- D) If a Square Judge finds a square has broken down, the judge will then raise a yellow flag and give the square a count of (10) ten, out loud, to the beat of the music, to allow the square to fix themselves, without forming lines, they then can continue dancing. **THIS WILL ONLY HAPPEN ONLY ONE (1) TIME DURING COMPETITION FOR EACH TEAM!!!!**
- E) The Square Judge will then raise a red flag upon a square breaking down for the second (2) time, and the square will be done competing.
- F) Each square must resolve back to the same spot they started. (Ex: #1 head couple must be in #1 spot, #2 side couple in # 2 spot and so on)
- G) If after (15) fifteen minutes of patter, more than one (1) square is remaining, the caller will call another (5) five minutes of patter with an increased level of difficulty (still mainstream). In case of a tie, the square that did not receive a yellow flag will be considered the winner.

**2010 Minnesota State Square & Round Dance Convention  
Square Dance Open Competition  
Team Registration form**

By completing below our team/square agrees:

- 1) We can only participate if we are registered for the 2010 Minnesota Convention.
- 2) All members of this team must be fully capable of dancing all the calls at Mainstream level.
- 3) We must be in constant movement and will be allowed (1) one time of 10 beats of music to fix our square from our Square Judge.
- 4) We agree to stop dancing if our Square Judge gives us a red flag, even if members of our team do not agree with his or her ruling. Judges rulings are final.
- 5) We understand all the rules of this competition and agree to have fun while participating in the type of event.

**Please Print Clearly**

**TEAM NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Team Captain) \_\_\_\_\_

CITY AND STATE \_\_\_\_\_

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All team members must arrive no later than 6 PM Saturday in the main lobby for CHECK IN and to be assigned a SQUARE JUDGE and NUMBER.