

## Introduction

TAIPDC is Ireland's longest established pole dance competition. This highly prestigious event attracts both professional & amateur pole dancers from all over Ireland competing for "The All Ireland Pole Dance Champion" title

The aim is to provide a platform for athletes to demonstrate through a choreographed routine, the strength and agility that Pole Dance now represents in the field of sporting entertainment.

## Rules and Regulations for the All Ireland Pole Dance Championships 2025

### 1) Definitions

- A. "Organisers" refers to the founders of the All Ireland Pole Dance Ireland competition and the final organiser - El Fegan
- B. "Competitor" is the name recorded on the Application Form.
- C. "Competition" refers to the All Ireland Pole Dance Championships finals to be held in Belfast on Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2025..
- D. "On-line Heats" refers to the All Ireland Pole Dance Championships preliminary heats.

### 2) Initial Selection Criteria

- E. The competitor must be at least 18 years of age
  - F. The competitor must live in Ireland (Proof of address required)
  - G. The Competitor must be available all day for the AIPDC on Saturday Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2025
  - D. Video Submissions; All applications will only be processed with the correct administration processing fee and correctly completed forms. The video submission link can be sent via the application form. Your video link submissions need to be minimum 2 minutes maximum 3 minutes continual play, unedited with full sound and vision avoiding any obstruction or distractions from the online judges. Your online auditions will be marked by a panel of experienced judges using the same score sheet as used in the finals in accordance to the AIPDC rules, it is important you read these rules carefully before your submission. Video applications close Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May You will be advised on or around Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June if you have been successful. Judges decision is final. Applications will only proceed if the candidate has been successfully pre-selected and invited via email by the AIPDC team after all videos have been reviewed.
  - H. Application may only be submitted by the competitor.
- ### 4) Participation in the heats and the competition requires receipt of the completed and signed document and close adherence to all the conditions outlined below.
- I. The competitor declares that he/she has no contracts of obligations by other organisations or persons related to pole dancing.
  - J. The registration form must be completed in full accordance with these rules, dated and signed.
  - K. Competitors are not permitted to advertise, via clothing, flyers or any other form of marketing material for their own personal gain or representation of any other company, organization, association or individual not officially part of the AIPDC event.
  - L. Successful applicants /finalists will be requested to pay an entry fee of £20 on confirmation of their spot. This will be payable via link supplied in finalists confirmation email.

5) Stipulations on Film & Photography

- A. All photography and other footage remain the property of the organiser. The performer has no rights to compensation for photography and other footage made before, during and after the heats or the competition.
- B. The competitor explicitly and irrevocably agrees that all footage and photography can be used by the organiser for promotional, advertising and commercial purposes;
- C. The competitors must be available for a photo shoot and interview prior to the competition if requested
- D. The organiser expects the competition winners to co-operate with the promotion of the competition and activities. This may include pre, during and post competition media interviews and photographs
- E. Finalists in all categories will be invited to send a 1 to 2 minute video introducing themselves (name, age, where they live, train, inspiration\_ and 'story' of their performance. This video will be used in the finals prior to their performance as an introduction.

6) The Solo Division, Over 40s, Advanced, Elite, Pro

- A. The competitor is skilled in pole dancing & must enter the correct category. See guidelines. If too advanced for the category entered the competitor will be moved to the correct category.
- B. The competitor may choose the music for their show. Music choice must be appropriate for your category or performance. The use of inappropriate wording for example swear words, derogatory remarks, political or religious messages in your music is prohibited. Mixes and mash ups are acceptable. Music for the finals must be received 4 WEEKS PRIOR to the final event.
- C. A routine is no longer than 5 mins for all categories bar amateur which is 3.30 mins
- D. The title of the All Ireland Pole Dance Champion is valid for 1 year from the date of the competition
- E. The competitor may join the audience before and after their show but not converse with the judges during any part of the evening
- F. Footware must be worn off stage – no bare feet outside of stage area
- G. You may use props. They must be signed off by the competition organiser.
- H. The competitor may not perform nude or partially nude. No G-Strings are permitted in the competition. It **is** permitted to remove articles of clothing / costume but must not jeopardise H&S regulations. To be cleared with the organiser in advance
- I. If entering the solo division the competitor may also enter the doubles division or vice versa
- J. The poles used in the competition will be 45mm X stage poles. There will be 2 poles one stationary (on the left, looking at the stage from the audience) and one spinning (on the right, looking at the stage from the audience). Compulsory.
- K. Using the pole construction support frame or otherwise to hold your full body weight during the performance, without the use of a safety prop or harness is NOT permitted. This includes moving from one pole to the other using the pole construction support.
- L. The solo division will be judged on;  
Presentation;  
Personality – the manner, enthusiasm, confidence and general character of the participant  
Interaction – how they engage the audience and judges  
Originality – level of individuality during choreography compared to other participants  
Costume & props –look and suitability (& safety) of the outfit and props with routine  
Stage presence

Artistic Performance;

Musicality – musical interpretation and connection of music to moves

Timing & Flow

Choreography -choice of tricks and transitions

Story -does the routine tell their story

Poise & balance, on and off poles

Technical Performance ;

Tricks – difficulty and control

Combinations -difficulty and control

Transitions – difficulty and control

Floor work – difficulty and control

Full use of stage and poles -depth and height, in all directions

Diversity – range of tricks, transitions and floor moves

Flexibility – range of flexibility during all moves

Lines and extension

Physical endurance and strength

Deductions may be awarded for any of the following (between 1 & 5 points);

Falling, slipping, tripping, incorrect performance length, costume malfunction, inappropriate striptease, facial, body or hand gestures.

- M. Grip. Competitors may wear gloves that are no higher than the wrist and may apply grip directly to the skin. NO grip is to be added directly to the pole. Poles will be cleaned and disinfected between all performances by trained pole cleaners.
- N. Any failure to abide by the above mentioned rules will result in immediate disqualification

#### 7) Doubles

Division

- A. The competitor is skilled in pole dancing
- B The competitor may choose the music for their show
- C A routine is no longer than 5 mins
- D The competitor may join the audience before and after their show but not converse with the judges during any part of the evening
- F Footware must be worn off stage – no bare feet outside of stage area
- G You may use props. They must be signed off by the competition organiser.
- H The competitor may not perform nude or partially nude. No G-Strings are permitted in the competition. It **is** permitted to remove articles of clothing / costume but must not jeopardise H&S regulations. To be cleared with the organiser in advance
- I If entering the solo division the competitor may also enter the doubles division or vice versa
- J The poles used in the competition will be 45mm X poles. There will be 2 poles one stationary (on the left, looking at the stage from the audience) and one spinning (on the right, looking at the stage from the audience). Compulsory.
- K Using the pole construction support frame or otherwise to hold your full body weight during the performance, without the use of a safety prop or harness is NOT permitted. This includes moving from one pole to the other using the pole construction support.
- L The Doubles division will be judged on;

Presentation;

Personality – the manner, enthusiasm, confidence and general character of the participant

Interaction – how they engage the audience and judges

Originality – level of individuality during choreography compared to other participants

Costume & props –look and suitability (& safety) of the outfit and props with

routine Stage presence

Artistic Performance;

Musicality – musical interpretation and connection of music to moves

Timing & Flow

Choreography -choice of tricks and transitions

Story -does the routine tell their story

Poise & balance, on and off poles

Technical Performance ;

Tricks – difficulty and control

Combinations -difficulty and control

Transitions – difficulty and control

Floor work – difficulty and control

Synchronicity / Timing (Doubles Only)

Synergy and connection

Full use of stage and poles -depth and height, in all directions

Diversity – range of tricks, transitions and floor moves

Flexibility – range of flexibility during all moves

Lines and extension

Physical endurance and strength

Deductions may be awarded for any of the following (between 1 & 5 points);

Falling, slipping, tripping, incorrect performance length, costume malfunction, inappropriate striptease, facial, body or hand gestures.

- O. Grip. Competitors may wear gloves that are no higher than the wrist and may apply grip directly to the skin. NO grip is to be added directly to the pole. Poles will be cleaned and disinfected between all performances by trained pole cleaners.
- P. Dressing rooms are for competitors and staff only – they are off limits to family members or friends of the performers
- Q. Performers are not permitted to drink alcohol (or take drugs) before or during the night of the competition
- R. Any failure to abide by the above mentioned rules will result in immediate disqualification

#### (9) Competition Judges

- A. An expert judging panel will score the competitors performance, their decision is final.
- B. Competitors may not communicate with members of the judging panel before, during or after the competition
- C. In the case of a tie breaker for first, second and third place, the scores for technical performance (tricks) will be used to confirm the place, if these are the same then scores for presentation and then artistic performance will be used. If this is still inconclusive the judges will decide the winning competitor based on complexity of tricks or performance.
- D. The head judge and / or organiser reserves the right to expel a competitor from participation, both before and during the competition due to; Inappropriate or offensive conduct either in person or via social media. Refunds will not be given.

If any information supplied is provided to be misleading, false or inaccurate

Behaving in a derogatory manner to other competitors or officials.

- E. The head judge / organiser reserves the right to stop any performer at any time if there is a

safety risk to competitor(s), spectators or staff.

- F. The organiser reserves the right to invite wild card entries to compete in either section of the competition.

9) Rights and responsibilities of the competitors to the AIPDC Title

- A. The title All Ireland Pole Dance Champion is an official title valid for 1 year commencing the date of the competition
- B. The All Ireland Pole Dance Champion winner is an ambassador of pole dancing in Ireland.
- C. The organiser reserves the right to retract the title if the competitor causes any damages to the competition.
- D. In the case of retraction the runner up becomes the new The All Ireland Pole Dance Champion.

10). Rights and Responsibilities of The Organiser

- A. The Organiser is not liable for injury or damage resulting from participation in the heats and/or the competition, which includes any transportation to and from the heats or the competition.
- B. The organiser reserves the right to change the rules contained herein.
- C. All decisions not addressed in this document will be made by the organiser
- D. A decision by the organiser is binding.
- E. Offer help with understanding your rights and these rules.

I declare that I have read and understood the above mentioned rules and regulations

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

