



International
Longboard Dance & Freestyle
Federation

OFFICIAL RULEBOOK
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INTRODUCTION

The ILDFF

The International Longboard Dancing and Freestyle Federation, hereafter named ILDFF, was established in 2021. We recognized the need for fair, unbiased and democratic ruling and judging in the sport. The following competition rules apply to all ILDFF sanctioned longboarding competitions.

About this document

This document is a work in progress.

The ILDFF rulebook was prepared by the founding members of the ILDFF being Simon Arsenidis, Jelle Lemmens and Werner Wildberger.

Changing this document

Members and contributors can always suggest changes to this document. We are open for any constructive feedback. Either use our contact form on the website (<https://www.ildff.com/rulebook-feedback>) email us info@ildff.com.

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1 DEFINITIONS

1.1 What is longboard dancing?

Longboard dancing is a very creative and visually appealing art to express yourself.

It is a free to choose form of expressing yourself and your style on a longboard, combining elements of old school skating, longboard surfing, dancing steps, tricks, and carving on a skateboard. Steps and footwork from the mentioned examples have been adapted to the longer wheelbase of the boards and the basic carving on a longboard.

The foundation for all moves and maneuvers are even and rhythmic carves of the board. Those carves can be compared to the beat or rhythm of a song or music in general. In regular dancing you move your body in accordance with the rhythm of the music, whereas on a longboard you create your own flowing rhythmic motion together with the carves of your board.

Connecting different elements fluently into each other while carving is called a (dancing) line.

Every line can consist of various steps, spins, tricks and g-turns, with no limits set.

Basic moves are derived from freestyle skateboarding and boardwalking on a surfboard and evolved into an art form itself, what we call longboard dancing.

The goal of longboard dancing is to look flowy, impressive and effortless on the board while performing your own interpretation to the carves of the board. The combination of steps should be well thought through and not to hectic as this may be considered overacting.

Besides the basic carves there are no limits to your creativity while dancing with your board. Even one or two steps off the board can be incorporated into a line while keeping the rhythm and flow alive.

1.2 Athletes

1.2.1 Responsibilities

All athletes have the following responsibilities:

- To abide by the ILDFF rules and regulations.
- Athletes will check-in at the competition office according to deadlines and times defined by the event organization in official communications.
- To clear the competition area before the competition begins and avoid interfering in any way with the progress of the competition.
- To respect and accept the jury's judgement.
- To be aware of their surroundings at all times while at the venue in order to avoid collisions and accidents through the event.

1.2.2 Liability waiver

All participants at an event sanctioned by the ILDFF must sign a liability waiver. This includes all competitors, workers, volunteers, media, and officials. There are no exceptions.

1.2.3 Behavior

The following behavior is not tolerated by the ILDFF and will lead to exclusion from the event/venue:

- Reckless behavior: This includes forming any obvious or serious risk to others, deliberately damaging buildings or surroundings, behavior with conscious disregard of a substantial and unjustifiable risk will not be tolerated.
- Obscene language: Speak to others in a condescending or mocking manner. Use variations of inappropriate words or curse words and phrases, use sensitive words in an insulting or joking manner.
- Obscene behavior: Obscene Behavior means any physical activity of the human body, whether carried out alone or with other persons, including, but not limited to singing, talking, dancing, acting, pretending, or pantomiming which, as a whole, is considered by the average person and according to contemporary community standards to appeal to lewd interests, which represents or depicts any kind of sexual conduct in an overtly offensive manner, and which lacks any serious literary, artistic, political, religious, scientific, or educational value.
- Discrimination: The ILDFF is committed to condemn racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination, retaliation, and harassment in our sport. Racism and discrimination of any type will not be tolerated.

1.3 Event officials and staff

The designated officials of an event sanctioned by the ILDFF shall have the power to enforce the rules as found in this document. Officials reserve the right to prevent any competitor from participating in any ILDFF sanctioned event. All appointed officials must be up to date with the latest rules and regulations.

Event organizers are required to have the following officials:

1.3.1 Chief of Execution (CoE)

The Chief of Execution is a function established for all competitions sanctioned by the ILDFF. The CoE is appointed by the ILDFF to ensure that the competition is organized and conducted in compliance with the ILDFF rules and standards. The CoE has the final decision power connected with the athletes' disqualifications.

The CoE issues the final approval of the following event outputs before released to the public:

- entry lists
- starting lists
- partial and complete results

1.3.2 Event director

The Event Director works inside the Local organizing committee with comprehensive responsibility for the event production. The Event Director is responsible for the competition venue infrastructure, equipment, and staff's overall safety and functionality. The Event director has the final decision regarding all safety and health-related issues of the event.

Event organizers are required to have the following staff:

1.3.3 Judging panel

The judging panel for each competition is appointed by the ILDFF and the local organization committee. Ideally the judging panel consists of 5 judges and 1 head judge. In this case, the head judge doesn't score or contribute to the Tie-Breaking process.

If an event is not able to provide the recommended judging panel, a minimum of 3 judges is mandatory. This scenario may include the head judge. In this case the head judge does contribute to the scoring and tie-breaking process.

1.3.4 Head judge

The head judge will be appointed by the event director and the CoE. The head judge is responsible for the judges and all communication between them and the event officials. It is the task of the head judge to oversee all requirements and responsibilities of the judges. The head judge records the tie-break voting process and furthermore acts as a point of contact for complaints.

1.3.5 Judges

The judges will be appointed by the event director, the CoE and the head judge and they report directly to the head judge. Judges evaluate athlete performances by the ILDFF's scoring process and criteria. A judge shall score fairly, without regards to past events, race, gender or sponsor. A judge will never favor or discredit any athlete on their personal preference or personal affiliations and always aims to give the fairest evaluation based on the same criteria to all athletes. They shall not give out any information in regards to scores or the competition to anyone outside of the judging panel. Discussions between the judges are to stay confidential among them.

1.3.6 Timekeeper

The timekeeper is responsible for keeping the time of each athlete's performance during the competition. They communicate on timing directly to the announcer.

1.3.7 Announcer

The Announcer delivers commentary, as well as communications from the Chief of Execution, Event Director, Local Organizing Committee and the Judging Panel, to the audience and athletes.

1.3.8 Scoring and data service

The Scoring and Data Service is a service set up, operated and provided by the ILDFF. It is a combination of human resources, software, hardware and outputs needed to run the event.

1.4 Power of the ILDFF officials

The designated officials of an event sanctioned by the ILDFF shall have the power:

- The final say on matters concerning the ILDFF Rulebook and the enforcement of it.
- Disqualification of a competitor for the reasons set out in the rules.
- Suspension or cancellation of a competition due to safety issues (after consulting with the event organization).

1.5 Protests

To file a protest a competitor must inform the CoE or Head Judge up to a maximum of 5 minutes after the completion of their run. A competitor who does not file a protest within this period immediately forfeits their right to protest.

This is the only time a protest can be made. Once the set time has passed they will have missed their opportunity to protest. The final decision regarding protests lies solely with the ILDFF Officials.

1.6 Technical specifications of material

1.6.1 Longboard

A longboard consists of a deck with four wheels attached by trucks. The longboard cannot be attached to an athlete's feet by any physical means.

The board must not pose a safety hazard in any way, it may not have any sharp edges which could cause injury to competitors. It may be any shape within the size limits set by the organization.

1.6.2 Helmet

A variety of helmets fitting the athletes' need for protection are available on the market. The ILDFF suggests the use of products that are compliant with one of the following standards:

- AS/NZS 2063,
- EN 1078-2012,
- Snell B95-1998. (Latest version),
- Snell B90 (Latest version),
- US CPSC 16 CFR Part 1203,
- ASTM F1447 - 12. (Latest version)

1.6.3 Participation number

If participation numbers are used by the event organizer, these numbers must be fitted in a well visible area for the judges. When participation numbers have been issued, they must be used as instructed and are not tampered with.

Athletes participating without the correct use of their assigned number will be listed as a DSQ (Disqualified). These rules only apply on events which use numbers issued by the organization.

2 SAFETY

Safety is an essential aspect of ILDFF governed events. The Local Organizing Committee, together with the officials and the athletes shall collaborate to carry out the event under the safest conditions possible. The Organizing Committee shall comply with domestic regulations and take all necessary steps to guarantee immediate medical first aid for the entire event. The Local Organizing Committee must take all required steps to provide easy and prompt access to the competition area for all medical staff and emergency vehicles.

2.1 Athlete safety equipment

Each athlete shall skate using the safety gear they deem necessary to guarantee their safety. Athletes must wear helmets, if applicable, under their own responsibility or of their legal guardian.

2.2 Photo- and videographers

The event director provides dedicated media areas. All media representatives are obliged to stay within this dedicated zone during the runs itself. They shall in no way interfere with the athletes or judges.

3 COMPETITION FORMATS

3.1 Boundaries of performance

Whatever competition procedure will be applied, athletes will be able to choose freely the type of tricks they will execute as well as which area of the field of play they will use for a set amount of time.

A competition typically comprises three rounds: qualifier/pre-rounds, semi-final, and final. Depending on the number of athletes the number of rounds can vary.

3.2 Competition formats

Longboard Dance and Freestyle competitions may be run, but is not limited to, in one of the following formats:

General Scored Contests: In this format the athlete performs one or two qualifying runs. The amount and length of runs is determined by the Local Organizing Committee together with the CoE before the event. The athletes with the highest total score at the end of the qualifiers will advance to the Semi Finals.

Knock-out Contests: In this format athletes will compete in a 2-rider face off session for a set amount of time. Each judge votes for one of the two participants to advance to the next round. In rounds with uneven participants a lucky loser from the last round is selected by the judges to complete the runs. This format continues until one rider is left as the winner.

4 SCORING PROCESS REGULATIONS

4.1 Judging process and criteria

4.1.1 Scoring scale

The judges will award points on a scale from 0 to 10 (in increments of 0.5) for three categories to grade overall presentation, based on the following scale:

0 - very poor	7 - good
3 - poor	9 - very good
5 - average	10 - outstanding

4.1.2 Categories

A well-executed run shows a good degree of difficulty, variety and aesthetics. These three pillars embody a run in Longboard Dancing and Freestyle. These requirements are judged by the following categories:

- Degree of difficulty of maneuvers and commitment
The athlete should maintain control throughout the whole run. How difficult certain tricks and steps are, is taken into account while scoring this category. The athlete should engage the performed tricks with minimal insecurities and instabilities.
- Variety (dancing, freestyle, manuals, innovative moves)
An athlete should mix up the different subcategories in a harmonious way. A run should be balanced between dance steps, tricks, manuals and innovative moves. Not mixing up the run will result in a lower score in this category.
- Aesthetic and personal expression (style of execution, creativity of tricks and routines)
This is subjective and can be defined as a display of the mastery of the individual tricks executed. Aesthetics and personal expression define an athletes' run. It sets their runs apart from the other same or alike maneuvers performed by different athletes.
- Consistency
The ability to land tricks, sequences, or lines without bailing and maintaining full control during the whole run of the athlete. At the beginning of each run the consistency score is set to 10. Each missed trick or step will deduct one point of the consistency score.

4.1.3 Flow factor

To finalize the scores per run a flow factor will be applied to an athlete's run. It is based on how well the competitor puts a run together and rewards or sanctions the smoothness of transitions between tricks and combos. The flow factor is a judge's opportunity to appreciate remarkable runs in terms of flow of the performance.

The flow factor acts as a multiplier to the total score with the following options:

- x0.9** - Underperforming multiplier - athlete's performance does not look harmonious or well connected.
- x1.0** - Standard multiplier - applied as default value. The run is balanced and well connected.
- x1.1** - Outstanding multiplier - exceptionally good flow and transitions throughout the entire run.

4.1.4 Final score

For each run, of the five judges scores, the highest and lowest score will be discarded. The average of the remaining scores determines the final result.

If a rider forfeits one run they will not be given a re-run. Forfeited runs will be scored as a 0.

4.2 Additional info

Judges will not score riders who skate out of start order for a heat. Repeated refusal to skate respecting start order may result, at discretion of the Head Judge, in athlete's disqualification. If for whatever reason a contest phase cannot be completed, ranking will be defined including scores up to the last run that every rider skated with equal opportunities. Equality must be considered on the basis of safety and rideability variables such as: surface moisture, visibility, light, wind, noise. Decisions on this matter are left to the head Judge after consultation with the CoE and Event Director.

The judges' marks are anonymous, which removes any public accountability of the judges for their scores. Once competition scores are approved by the Chief of Execution and published, they are final and not subject to any appeal.

4.3 Tie-Break

The judges panel votes to break the tie. Each judge has one vote. The head judge records the voting process.

5 TIMEKEEPING

All devices and other tools used to measure or signal the time of performances are managed by a timekeeper. Athletes can commence their performances only after the given signal.

For all runs and individual trick attempts, athletes have a 5-second limit to begin after receiving the signal. If an athlete purposefully doesn't start their performance within this time limit, they may lose the opportunity to be scored.

The timekeeper does not stop the clock under any conditions other than the athlete's withdrawal. If the performance has to be interrupted for external reasons, the athlete will be granted the restart or re-run option. A trick will be considered in time and scored only when the maneuver has been in progress before the signal horn marking the performance's end sounds.

The successful or unsuccessful maneuver is counted in the athlete's performance and scored according to the ILDFF's judging criteria.

6 SUGGESTED COMPETITION RELATED PROCEDURES AND SITUATIONS

6.1 Competition related procedures

6.1.1 Event registration

This is the first step of the procedure to enter a competition. Event registration follows the rules and procedures set by the ILDFF and are done only electronically.

WHERE: Online

WHEN: Within the registration time window

WHO: Athletes or their legal guardians

6.1.2 Event check-in

The event check-in is a time-limited procedure that confirms an athlete's participation in the competition. It has to be fulfilled by the athletes themselves and if necessary, their legal guardians. A valid document of identification is required to complete the check-in.

Only after completion of the event check-in will the athlete be added to the competition start list and allocated a competition slot.

WHERE: Registration desk

WHEN: Within the check-in time window

WHO: Athletes or their legal guardians

6.1.3 Judges meeting

Meetings for the judges and Event Director will take place in a suitable location before the competition begins.

The CoE will host such meetings in conjunction with the head judge and the Event Director. Topics of the meeting should include at least the competition schedule, judges schedule, contest format, judging criteria, and all-important event related information.

6.2 Irregular ranking marks

DNS: Did Not Start. This IRM is used to refer to athletes that completed a competition check-in, but later did not skate any of the competition runs or trick attempts.

N/A: Not Available. Athletes that did the event check-in, but fail to show up for the competition check-in, will be ranked according to the last competition round they have checked-in to.

WDW: Withdrawal. Athletes that did the event check-in, but later withdraw from the competition

DSQ: Disqualified from competition due to competition rules infringement or bad behavior.

6.3 Competition related situations

6.3.1 A presented athlete does not start a run or a trick attempt

If an athlete, for reasons other than personal health condition, does not start a run or a trick attempt within 5 seconds from the starting signal provided by the announcer, DNS will be used as a score marking for the run, or single trick attempt.

6.3.2 Competition interruption during an athlete performance

The competition will resume from where it was interrupted, and the interrupted athlete(s) will be granted a restart or re-run.

6.3.3 External interference during an athlete performance

In case of external interference that might compromise the athlete's performance, the CoE or event director -at their own discretion- can grant the athlete a restart or re-run option.

6.3.4 Equipment (longboard) failure during athlete's run

If any equipment failure occurs during a run or a jam session, the athlete may try to continue with the broken or otherwise damaged equipment.

The athlete can be provided a replacement, the clock is not interrupted.

6.3.5 Minor infringement to the competition rules

The head judge may decide to score a run or a single trick attempt with a "0" - ZERO points. The athlete remains eligible for ranking with their other performances.

7 MISCELLANEOUS

7.1 Event results validation and contingency format protocol

In the case where it is clear that the weather, or other external conditions, will not allow the completion of the intended competition format, the CoE, after consulting with the event director, might opt to apply an alternate competition format.

If the (semi) final cannot take place / cannot be completed, the results of an event can be considered final and used to distribute medals and awards if all the competitors had an equal chance to compete in the previous competition rounds.

7.2 Event communication

At the end of every competition day ILDFF will release and distribute the start lists, results, and other relevant communication.

7.3 Changes to rules

The ILDFF reserves the right, at our sole discretion, to update, change or replace any part of the rulebook. It is the athlete's responsibility to check the latest update periodically for changes.

By competing in any ILDFF sanctioned event the athlete automatically confirms that they are up to date and agreeing to the latest version of the rule book.