

**Mixed Pro-Am Division:**

1. The Am must be eligible to qualify as a Newcomer Novice, Amateur Novice, or Non-Professional dancer. (See General Rules)
2. Any Am who has previously won any Pro-Am competition at the Novice Invitational will not be allowed to dance as an Am again in the same division.
3. The Pro in the division may only dance **ONCE**.
4. This is a Swing category and dance content must be 80 % that style.
5. No minimum or maximum bpm (music speed) limitation.
6. There are no lifts or aerials allowed.
7. Apart dancing allowed within first 32 beats of music. No breakaways or other apart dancing except free spins.
7. There are no other restrictions.

**Junior Pro-Am Division:**

1. You must be 12-17 years of age and qualify for the Amateur Novice Division to compete in this division.


**Amateur Novice Jack & Jill:**

1. Anyone that qualifies may enter this contest.
2. You must sign up in person. No proxies.

**Non-Professional Jack & Jill:**

1. Anyone that qualifies may enter this contest.
2. You must sign up in person. No proxies.

**27th Annual**  
**NOVICE INVITATIONAL 2010**  
**March 19, 20, 21**  
*Member Tour Event For AANCE*  
**Sponsored by The Southwest Whip Club**  
**Event Organizers**  
**Peggy Bourque & Helen Villasenor**  
**Hilton Houston NASA Clear Lake**  
**3000 NASA Road One, Houston Tx.**



**Categories of Competition**

- Newcomer Novice Strictly Swing
- Amateur Novice Division
- Amateur Novice Strictly Swing
- Non Pro Division
- Non Pro Strictly Swing
- Mixed Pro-Am Division
- Female Pro-Am Amateur Novice
- Female Pro-Am Non-Pro
- Male Pro-Am Amateur Novice
- Male Pro-Am Non-Pro
- Junior Pro-Am

**Cash Prizes in ALL Routine Divisions**

**NO DANCERS MEETING!** 😊  
 See Rules & schedule for details



**Overseer**  
**Debbie Figueroa**

**Weekend MC**  
**Mike Topel**

**Head DJ**  
**Victor Loveria**



**Weekend Workshop Instructors:**

**Erica Berg & Jason Barnes**

**Ticket Prices**  
**Weekend Presale Ticket \$75**  
**\$90 at the door**  
**All Workshops FREE with Weekend Ticket**  
**\$30 for Friday night only**  
**\$40 Saturday only**  
**\$30 Sunday only**

## WEEKEND SCHEDULE — TENTATIVE

### DANCERS PLEASE NOTE: MANDATORY ROLL CALL 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO EACH CONTEST

Time	Friday 3/19/10	Time	Saturday (Continued)
7:00pm	Doors Open	5:00pm	Male Pro-Am Novice—Strictly Swing
8:00pm	<b>CUT-OFF for Friday contests &amp; All ProAM Strictly Swing</b>	6:00pm	Female Pro-Am Non Pro—Strictly Swing
8:30pm	Newcomer Novice - Strictly Swing	7:00pm	Junior Pro-Am Strictly Swing
9:00pm	Novice J & J Preliminary	8:00pm	Amateur Novice - Strictly Swing
10:00pm	Non-Pro J&J Preliminary	9:00pm	J & J Finals
11:00pm	Advanced J&J Preliminary	10:00pm	Routine Divisions
2:00am	Doors Close	2:00am	Doors Close
	<b>Saturday 3/20/10</b>		<b>Sunday 3/21/10</b>
10:45am	Doors Open	11:00am	Doors Open
11:00am	Workshop - <b>Jason Barnes &amp; Erica Berg</b>	12:00pm	Female Pro-Am Novice—Strictly Swing
12:00pm	Workshop - <b>Jason Barnes &amp; Erica Berg</b>	1:00pm	Male Pro-Am Non Pro—Strictly Swing
1:00pm	Workshop - <b>Jason Barnes &amp; Erica Berg</b>	2:00pm	Non-Pro - Strictly Swing
2:00pm	Doors Close	4:00pm	Awards
2:00pm	Floor tryouts 2:00pm-3:00pm <b>ONLY</b>	5:00pm	Doors Close
3:00pm	Doors Open		
4:00pm	<b>CUT-OFF for ALL remaining weekend contests</b>		

### Novice Invitational 2010 Contest Rules

#### General:

- The Novice Invitational is open to all eligible contestants in every division.
- All categories are traditional male / female, lead / follow couples.
4. Costumes are acceptable in all categories except Strictly Swing, Pro-Am Strictly Swing and Jack & Jill.
5. This is a Whip, Push, and West Coast Swing Dance Competition.

**Definition of Whip, Push, and West Coast Swing for Novice Invitational:** *West Coast Swing is a slotted dance where the Follower travels up and down an imaginary slot and the Leader remains basically at the halfway point of the slot. Comprised mainly of 6 and 8 count patterns, each pattern can be identified by an even number of weight changes during the first two beats, with the Follower moving forward. Furthermore, each pattern ends with an odd number of weight changes, normally called an anchor, where*

*both Leader and Follower are not traveling. Additionally, West Coast Swing is known to have 2 beat (normally walks) and 4 beat (normally triples) extensions during the course of a pattern. However, these extensions are considered to "dilute" the dance if done with great frequency. East Coast Swing movements, like Shag and Lindy patterns, are also considered to "dilute" the dance. Whip and Push are the Texas derivatives of West Coast Swing. While many patterns have the same timing regarding weight changes, the styling of the Texas forms normally includes a double resistance exhibited on the last two beats of virtually every pattern. Furthermore, a delay on the first two beats (known as a Hitch Step) occurs during the Follower's movement forward at the beginning of most, if not all, patterns.*

- Dancers may not compete at different levels of competition over the weekend. This excludes Jack and Jills.

7. Dancers may compete in multiple swing contest categories during the week-end. No one may enter a particular contest more than once with the exception of the Pro-Am Divisions.

8. Contestants must dance at least two (2) minutes and no more than three (3) minutes to music they provide (except the Jack & Jill, Strictly Swing and Pro-Am Strictly Swing categories for which Novice Invitational will provide music). Failure to dance at least two (2) minutes will result in disqualification. The penalty for any other rules violation (s) will be the loss of one placement for each infraction in the final contest standing.

9. There will be **no dancers meeting**. All competitors must attend the mandatory roll call before their division.

10. Dance Order will be determined by reverse order of entry: **First in, last to dance.**

#### 11. Qualification for Newcomer Novice Dancers:

This division of competition is designed and intended for anyone who has never competed as a NOVICE competitor or AM competitor in a Pro-Am and has never taught dancing in an organized class setting. Dancers may only compete in this category once.

#### 12. Qualification for Amateur Novice Dancers:

You must have never danced in a Non-Professional (Intermediate), Open or higher Class category, in Classic, Showcase, Strictly Swing/Just Dance style or equivalent categories, or as a Pro in a Pro-Am, in any style of dance. Jack & Jill competitions are not excluded. You cannot have ever taught any style of partner dance. This division is not open to all levels.

#### 13. Qualification for Non-Professional Dancers:

Considered the equivalent of "Intermediate" or "Novice Intermediate", you must have never danced in a Rising Star, Open or higher Class category, in Classic, Showcase, Strictly Swing/Just Dance style or equivalent categories, or as a Pro in a Pro-Am, in any style of dance. Jack & Jill competitions are not excluded. This division is not open to all levels.

14. Definition of a LIFT: That point when both feet are off the ground, and weight is not self supported.

15. Definition of a DROP: The point at which the head goes below your partner's waist and weight is not self supported.

16. Definition of an AERIAL: The point at which one partner is off the ground due to the other partner and not maintaining contact with their partner.

17. All rules will be **STRICTLY** enforced.

#### Entries:

1. There is no limit to entries to any division with the exception of deadline regulations. **In place of a Dancers Meeting there will be a MANDATORY roll call prior to each contest. ANY COMPETITOR NOT PRESENT AT ROLL CALL WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO DANCE.** (Please check schedule. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS). If there are fewer than five (5) entries in any division, the Novice Invitational reserves the right to combine or cancel that division. Novice Invitational also reserves the right to have any and all lead/follow categories run in a heat format in lieu of prelims or spotlight format for time restraints.

2. Each entry form (Jack & Jill excluded) must be accompanied by a \$15/a person (\$30 per couple) per contest, fee before 3/19/10, after 3/19/10 \$20/per person (\$40/ per couple) per contest. All entrants are required to purchase a weekend ticket and must be included or have verification of purchase. All competitors must attend the mandatory roll call before their division. See above General Notes #9. Mail entries to: Novice Invitational, c/o Southwest Whip Club, PO Box 631933, Houston, Texas 77263-1933.

#### Newcomer Novice Strictly Swing:

- Any dancer that qualifies may enter this category. (See General Rules)
- This is a Swing category and dance content must be 100% that style.
- This is a lead/follow category, no choreographed routines are allowed.
- No lifts, drops or aerials and no planned entrances or exits allowed.
- No apart dancing other than free spins.
- This division is danced in heats of 3-5 couples.
- Couples will dance approximately two (2) minutes to music provided by Novice Invitational. The music will be selected at random and the couples will be given no prior music information.

#### Amateur Novice Division:

- Any dancer that qualifies may enter this category. (See General Rules)
- This is a Swing category and dance content must be 80% that style.
- There are no lifts or aerials allowed.
- Apart dancing allowed within first 32 beats of music. No breakaways or other apart dancing except free spins.
- There are no other restrictions.

#### Amateur Novice Strictly Swing:

- Any dancer that qualifies may enter this category. (See General Rules)
- This is a Swing category and dance content must be 100% that style. It is a lead/follow category and no choreographed routines are allowed.
- No lifts, drops or aerials and no planned entrances or exits allowed.
- No apart dancing other than free spins.
- Couples will dance approximately two (2) minutes to music provided by Novice Invitational. The music will be selected at random and the couples will be given no prior music information.

#### Non-Professional Division:

- Any dancer that qualifies may enter this category. (See General Rules)
- This is a Swing category and dance content must be 80% that style.
- There are no lifts or aerials allowed.
- Apart dancing allowed within first 32 beats of music. No breakaways or other apart dancing except free spins.
- There are no other restrictions.

#### Non-Professional Strictly Swing:

- Any dancer that qualifies may enter this category. (See General Rules)
- This is a Swing category and dance content must be 100% that style.
- This is a lead/follow category and no choreographed routines are allowed.
- No lifts, drops or aerials and no planned entrances or exits allowed.
- No apart dancing other than free spins.
- Couples will dance approximately two (2) minutes to music provided by Novice Invitational. The music will be selected at random and the couples will be given no prior music information.

#### Pro-Am Strictly Swing—All Divisions:

- The Pro may dance with up to five (5) different Am partners per division.
- The Novice partner must not qualify as a Non-Pro, Rising Star, Open or higher level dancer. The Non-Pro partner must not qualify as a Rising Star, Open or higher level dancer.
- The Pro can qualify as either Rising Star, Open or Professional level dancer.
- Any Am who has previously won any Pro-Am competition at the Novice Invitational will not be allowed to dance as an Am again in the same division.
- This is a Swing category and dance content must be 100% that style.
- It is a lead/follow category and no choreographed routines are allowed.
- No lifts, drops or aerials and no planned entrances or exits allowed.
- No apart dancing other than free spins.
- Couples will dance approximately ninety (90) seconds to music provided by Novice Invitational. The music will be approximately 112-124 bpm, and will be selected at random. The couples will be given no prior music information.
- Costumes are not allowed. (continued)