

## STRENGTHENING FAIRNESS AND INTEGRITY IN WDSF ADJUDICATION

Dear Presidents,  
Dear General Secretary,

With the steady growth of WDSF competitions worldwide, the Federation continues to strengthen all aspects of competition management. Our shared goal is to enhance the quality, transparency, and credibility of our sport.

In the coming months, WDSF will implement new measures to recognise exemplary organisers and events, while jointly with the WDSF Academy, we will raise standards in adjudicator education, event management, and the appointment process for judging panels. The continued success of DanceSport depends on fairness, professionalism, and trust across all levels of our structure — from organisers and adjudicators to athletes and coaches.

With the recommendation of the **WDSF Sports Enforcement Team**, actions have been taken against a number of licensed adjudicators as follows:

### Identified Cases (as of November 2025)

1. 2 adjudicators – WDSF GrandSlam Series, Wuxi, China (July 2025)
2. 2 adjudicators – WDSF World Championship Youth Latin (July 2025)
3. 2 adjudicators – WDSF GrandSlam Series, Stuttgart, Germany (August 2025)
4. 1 adjudicator – WDSF GrandSlam Series Standard, Rome, Italy (October 2025)
5. 4 adjudicators – WDSF World Championship Youth Standard, Elbląg, Poland (October 2025)
6. 4 adjudicators – WDSF World Championship Standard, Sibiu, Romania (October 2025) (Additional events remain under investigation.)

A number of adjudicators who breached the **WDSF Code of Conduct** or failed to perform to the expected professional standard have **been removed from the pool of judges' selection for a pre-assigned period**.

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**WDSF has also identified and suspended officials who contacted appointed adjudicators with the intent to influence or request favours — actions strictly prohibited under WDSF regulations.**

National Member Bodies play a crucial role in maintaining the credibility of our competitions. WDSF strongly urges each federation to remind its licensed adjudicators that:

- Any form of pressure on athletes to attend specific training camps, lessons, or schools is strictly inappropriate.
- Formation of groups or teams that imply preferential treatment is unacceptable.
- Public promotion of judging appointments or attempts to influence panel composition violates professional standards.

WDSF will exclude from future invitations any adjudicator found to have breached these principles. Depending on the severity, exclusion may range from 12 to 24 months or longer, and in serious cases, licenses will not be renewed.

We kindly request all NMBs to review and reinforce these standards within your national adjudicator pool. Please ensure that any potential breaches or conflicts of interest are reported directly to the WDSF Sports Commission:

- **Mr. Nenad Jeftic, Vice President for Sports** · – [nenad.jeftic@wdsf.org](mailto:nenad.jeftic@wdsf.org)
- **Mr. Sergey Nifontov, General Secretary** · – [sergey.nifontov@wdsf.org](mailto:sergey.nifontov@wdsf.org)

All reports will be handled in strict confidence.

WDSF remains committed to ensuring that every athlete competes in an environment of fairness, respect, and integrity. We count on your continued cooperation to uphold these values and strengthen the trust placed in DanceSport within the international sporting community.

Kind regards,

**World DanceSport Federation**