

# USA GRAND NATIONAL DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

## USA GRAND NATIONALS DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE 2026

	Main Ballroom	Habersham Ballroom	Kennesaw Ballroom	
<b>THURSDAY, May 21st – Registration opens at 4PM</b>				
6:30 PM	BALLROOM CLOSED (for set-up and sound-check)	Nicole Zwerlein (FREE) WCS Level 1	<b>NOT AVAILABLE for PRACTICE until Friday</b>	6:30 PM
7:30 PM		Joey & Jennifer (FREE) Beginner Carolina Shag		7:30 PM
8:30 PM	Early Bird Party (FREE) Hosted by: Atlanta Swing Dancers Club, Swing Invasion, and Wicked Westie	Early Bird Shag Party (FREE) Hosted by: Michael & LeAnn		8:30 PM
<b>FRIDAY, May 22<sup>nd</sup></b>				
<b>Registration opens at 10:00AM</b>				
<b>Non-routine competition sign-ups close 1 hour before contest starts</b>				
7:00 AM	Floor trials/Sound check (7:00 – 10:00)	Practice/Private	<b>NOT AVAILABLE for PRACTICE until 6 pm</b>	7:00 AM
11:00 AM	Nicole Zwerlein WCS Level 2	Social Dancing		11:00 AM
12:00 PM	PJ & Mia WCS Level 3	<b>Pro-Am Shag Strictly Pro-Am Swing Strictly (Awards following) 12:00 PM</b>		12:00 PM
1:00 PM	Mark & Sharlot WCS Advanced/All-Star	<b>Non-Professional Carolina Classic (1:30 PM)</b>		1:00 PM
2:00 PM	Jordan & Tatiana Intensive "Swing to Everything" (2:00 – 5:00) <b>*EXTRA*</b>	<b>Shag Jack &amp; Jills (2:30 PM) (Awards following)</b>		2:00 PM
2:30 PM				2:30 PM
5:00 PM	<b>Ballroom Closed for Dinner Break</b>	<b>Ballroom Closed for Dinner Break</b>		<b>Available at 6PM</b>
<b>Routine Competitors (not mandatory)/Judges Meeting – Galleria Room (5:00 PM)</b>				
7:30 PM	<b>Ballroom Opens Social Dancing</b>	Practice/Private	Practice/Private	7:30 PM
8:00 PM	<b>Opening Ceremonies!</b>			8:00 PM
8:15 PM	<b>Rising Star (8:15 PM) (Rising Star Tour)</b>			8:15 PM
9:00 PM	<b>Carolina Masters (Shag) (9:00 PM)</b>			9:00 PM
10:00 PM	<b>"High Stakes" Showcase (NASDE) (10:00 PM)</b>			10:00 PM

11:00 PM	Social Dancing (11:00 – until)	Vinyl Party (11:00 – until)	Practice/Practice	11:00 PM
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**SATURDAY, May 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Registration opens at 9:00AM**

**Non-routine competition sign-ups close 1 hour before contest starts**

7:00 AM	Floor trials/Sound check (7:00 – 9:20)	Practice/Privates	Practice/Privates	7:00 AM
9:30 AM	Maxime & Torri WCS Level 1	Robert Royston WCS Level 3		9:30 AM
10:30 AM	Jordan & Tatiana WCS Level 2	Joel & Chantelle WCS Level 1	Practice/Privates	10:30 AM
11:30 AM	<b>Jack &amp; Jills (11:30 AM) Prelims/Semis/Finals Novice, Newcomer, Advanced, Sophisticated</b>	Joey & Jennifer Carolina Shag Beginner	KP & Brynn WCS All-Star	11:30 AM
12:30 PM		Sam & Lisa Carolina Shag for WCS	<b>Junior Pizza Party (12:30 PM – 2:00 PM)</b>	12:30 PM
1:30 PM		Thibault Ramirez Specialty Workshop Intro to Boogie Woogie	Practice/Privates (2:00 PM)	1:30 PM

**Ice Cream Social – Atrium (2:30 PM)**

3:00 PM	<b>Jack &amp; Jills (3:00 PM) Prelims/Semis/Finals Intermediate, Masters, All-Stars  (JACK &amp; JILL AWARDS following comps)</b>	Afternoon at the Shag Pavilion Social Dancing (cont)	Practice/Privates	3:00 PM
5:00 PM		Joey & Jennifer (5:00 PM) Carolina Shag Intermediate		5:00 PM
6:00 PM	Dinner Break	Alyenendrove Tsorokean Specialty Lift Workshop (1.5 hours) "The Moment Between"	Benji Schwimmer WCS Advanced/All-Star (6:00 – 6:50 PM)	6:00 PM
7:30 PM	<b>Ballroom Opens Social Dancing</b>	Practice/Privates	Practice/Privates	7:30 PM
8:00 PM	<b>Open Strictly Prelims/Finals (8:00)</b>			8:00 PM
9:15 PM	<b>Team (9:15)</b>			9:15 PM
10:00 PM	<b>"Saturday Night in Vegas" (10:00) Carolina Classic Classic</b>			10:00 PM
11:45 PM	Social Dancing (11:45 – until)	Social Dancing (11:45 – until)		11:45 PM
12:30 PM	<b>Theme Party &amp; Costume Contest</b>			12:30 PM

**SUNDAY, May 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Registration opens at 9:30AM**

**Non-routine competition sign-ups close 1 hour before contest starts**

7:00 AM	Floor trials/Sound check (7:00 – 10:00)	Practice/Privates	Practice/Privates	7:00 AM
10:00 AM	Sean & Alyssa WCS Level 2	Kyle & Sarah WCS Advanced/All-Star (WSDC)		10:00 AM
11:00 AM	Thibault & Nicole WCS Level 3	Sam & Lisa Carolina Shag Advanced	<b>Hugo &amp; Stacey (MOVED) WCS Level 2 2:30 -3:20</b>	11:00 AM

12:00 PM	<b>"Everybody Dance Now" (All American J &amp;J) Awards immediately following</b>	Alyenendrove Tsorokean Specialty Lift Workshop (1.5 hours) "The Alchemy of Momentum"	Practice/Private	12:00 PM
1:30 PM	<b>Pro-Am Routines (1:30 PM)</b>	Alexis Garrish WCS Level 1 1:30 – 2:20		1:30 PM
2:30 PM	<b>Junior Shag (2:30 PM)</b>	Practice/Private	Business Workshop Dani Darasz "Business is a form of ART" <b>FULTON ROOM</b>	2:30 PM
<b>Ice Cream Social – Atrium (3:30)</b>				
4:00 PM	<b>Cabaret (4:00 PM)</b>	Practice/Private	Practice/Private	4:00 PM
4:30 PM	<b>Champions Strictly Prelims/Finals (4:30 PM)</b>			4:30 PM
6:00 PM	Dinner Break			6:00 PM
<b>8:00 PM – "Dress to Impress" Cocktail Party – Atrium Bar</b>				
8:30 PM	Doors Open for Awards	Practice/Private	Practice/Private	8:30 PM
8:45 PM	<b>USA GNDC AWARD CEREMONY ("Dress to impress")</b>			8:45 PM
10:00 PM	Social Dancing (10:00 – until)	Social Dancing (10:00 – until)  Always Stay Sunday Night! (~12:00 AM – IYKYK)	Practice/Private	10:00 PM
<b>Safe Travels Home! See you next year – GNDC Celebrates 30 years - May 27 – 31<sup>th</sup>, 2027.</b>				

Workshops:

Level 1: Fundamental patterns and techniques with basic partnering and musicality concepts

Level 2: Requires fluent recall and application of pushes, passes, whips, and basic variations

Level 3: Complex patterns or detailed technique. Significant experience needed

Advanced and All Star: Entry is based on WSDC competition level