

## **4000) Square Dance Calling Regulations**

### **NOTE:**

Performance requirements are intended to test the Caller's ability to elicit enjoyment and graceful, accurate responses from the dancers.

### **4001) Calling: Basic Category Determination**

The levels of competition within the Categories are based on the numbers and types of square dance calls which entrants may be called upon to perform. These are detailed elsewhere within this rulebook.

## **4100) Calling: Team Definition, Eligibility & Alternates**

### **Note:**

Although a Square Dance Team is defined as including dancers, regulations in this section are specific to the Caller. The dancers shall be subject to the regulations under Section 2000 (Square Dancing Competition Regulations)

### **4110) Calling: Definition**

To enter in Calling competition, a boy or girl must be a member of a Team as defined under Section 1000 (General Eligibility), rule 2110, and this Section.

### **4111) Calling: Caller Registration**

Callers must register (Appendix A-5) with the current coordinator by March 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year. See Appendix A-1

### **4115) Calling: Club Affiliation**

To compete in the PNTSDF, a Square Dance Caller must be registered in a "Team" as a square dancer, alternate, or caller. ("Team" is defined elsewhere.) All Callers must be members of a participating Square Dance Club. An eligible Caller may call for another Club. [see rule 2115] [9/12]

### **4120) Calling: Competitor Registration**

The name listed on the square dance entry form as the Team Caller will qualify for calling. The Team Caller is not required to dance, but may dance subject to Sections 1000 and 2000. [see rule 1020] A Solo Caller must dance in a judged position in Round One. Appendix A-2 must be submitted prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> and Appendix A-5 by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **4140) Calling: Alternate**

A competing Caller, who is unexpectedly unable to compete, may be replaced by any other caller, satisfactory to the Chief Square Dance Judge, on a competing or non-competing basis. [see rule 4150]

**NOTE: Alternates (Spares) must meet all eligibility requirements in order to compete.**

### **4150) Calling: Non-Competitor Emergency Exception**

No one enters as a non-competitor except in the case where a Caller is unexpectedly unable to compete in the event of illness or accident and there is no alternate readily available. The Festival Coordinator may then approve/appoint a replacement in a non-competitive status. [see rule 1050]

### **4151) Calling: Caller Participant Shortfall (Emergency exception)**

The following guidelines shall be used to cover these situations:

- 1) The Caller and his recording must meet all eligibility requirements and other regulations pertaining to competition.
- 2) The Caller may call as a competitor or in a non-competitive status as negotiated by the Festival Coordinator. If the Caller chooses to compete, all regulations and entry fees are applicable.

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#### **4160) Calling: Square Dance Category Participant Shortfall**

Occasionally a shortfall of Teams requires the Festival Coordinator to schedule a "Ghost Square" to be able to fulfil the requirements of a given Square Dance Category. The following guidelines shall be used to cover these situations:

- 1) The Festival Coordinator has the responsibility to appoint a caller to call for this "Ghost Square". It is the Festival Coordinator's responsibility to acquire the singing call recording needed (or delegate the responsibility) and the caller to be used.
- 2) This "Ghost" square has a non-competitive caller only, calling to an empty display position, using a singing call of the Festival Day Committee's, Coordinator's or Chief Square Dance Judge's choice. [see rule 2320 for exception] The selection of the singing call should be commensurate with the Category and must be approved by the Chief Square Dance Judge.

#### **4170) Calling: Competitors Without a Square**

Callers who do not have a competing square to call for, may qualify for calling as a Solo. This square does not have to be a "team" under rule 2110, but all 8 dancers in this square must qualify under all other applicable sections and all dancers must be capable of dancing at the level of the category that the Solo Caller's singing call qualifies for. [11/12]

All Solo Callers must be assigned to a specific registered square and call to the level of the registered square in Round One. [09/13]

~~In order to qualify as a Solo Caller, a competitor must have a minimum of one year's patten calling experience at the PNTSDF Festival.~~ [SUSPENDED 06/12]

Any extra Callers who do not have a square to call for, therefore not meeting the requirements of a Team, will not be permitted to call in competition as a "ghost entry."

#### **4171) Calling: Maximum Solo Callers per Club.**

Maximum number of Solo Callers **per** Club shall be limited by the following formula: Total number of competing Callers per Club is limited to 2.00 callers **per square entered**. [09/05] No square may have more than one Solo Caller assigned to it. [06/08]

## 4200) Calling Categories

### 4210) Calling: Category Overlapping

In calling there are 6 distinct categories a Caller may enter which cannot overlap. They are: **Preteen Novice, Preteen, Novice, Junior, Intermediate** [SUSPENDED 06/19 until 2022], or **Senior**.

For example: A Novice cannot win a Senior award nor can a Junior win a Preteen award.

### 4220) Calling: List of Categories

#### **Preteen Novice:**

All entrants can be up to and including 12 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year previous to the current Festival. [9/20]

Entrants will be eligible for Preteen Novice awards if they have never previously competed in a Calling capacity concerned with the Pacific Northwest Teen Festival or any comparable competitive Festival.

Preteen Novices will only compete against other Preteen Novices.

Preteen Novice entrants do not compete for "Champion" awards.

#### **Preteen:**

All entrants can be up to and including 12 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year previous to the current Festival. [9/20]

Preteens will only compete against other Preteens.

#### **Novice:**

All entrants **must** be 13 to 19 years of age, inclusive, as of December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year previous to the current Festival. [9/20]

Entrants will be eligible for Novice awards if they have never previously competed in a calling capacity concerned with the Pacific Northwest Teen Festival or any comparable competitive Festival.

Novices will only compete against other Novices.

Novice entrants do not compete for "Champion" awards.

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4220) Calling: Categories (continued)

**Junior:**

All entrants **must** be 13 to 19 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year previous to the current Festival. [9/20]

This Category is open to anyone who has previously competed in any level of Preteen calling, or anyone who has last completed level of calling was Novice.

No entrant may compete as a Junior if he has ever competed as an Intermediate or Senior Caller.

Any Caller winning the Junior Championship **must** compete as an Intermediate Caller or higher in subsequent years.

**Intermediate:** [SUSPENDED 06/19 until 2022]

~~All entrants **must** be 13 to 19 years of age, inclusive, as of December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year previous to the current Festival. [9/20]~~

~~No entrant may compete as an Intermediate if he has ever competed as a Senior. [SUSPENDED 06/19]~~

~~Any Caller winning the Intermediate Championship **must** compete as a Senior Caller in subsequent years. [SUSPENDED 06/19]~~

**Senior:**

All entrants **must** be 14 to 19 years of age, inclusive, as of December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year previous to the current Festival. [9/20].

Note that the distinction between Senior and the other Categories is more the expected level of accomplishment than in the age requirement.

**4230) Calling: Categories, "Personal Choice Option"**

The above eligibility requirements will not prevent a Caller from competing in a higher Category, if so desired, providing all other requirements are met.

**4231) Calling: Category Alignment**

The Category a Caller competes in need not be the same as that of the dancers in his Team.

**4232) Calling: Category For "Professional"**

Any Caller regarded as "Professional", receiving remuneration, or equivalent on a regular basis, which shall be defined as more than 10 engagements during the current festival year [06/08], for calling (i.e. employed) is restricted to Senior Calling Category only, but not as a Solo.

## 4300) Calling: Round One: Display

### 4310) Calling: Round One

The portion of the Festival in which all competing Callers call their required standard singing call shall be referred to as "Round One".

### 4320) Calling: Display Round Calls

Each caller shall be required to call one standard singing call to his own Team and at least one other Team competing at the same time. This display call will be submitted to the PNTSDF Square Dance Chief Judge along with an original cue sheet. [see rules 4332 & 4351] [11/09]

This Singing Call is performed during Round One of the Square Dance competition.

Exception: Solo Callers shall be required to call to appropriate squares. [see rule 4170]

### 4321) Calling: Singing Call

For purposes of all singing call rounds of competition, a standard singing call shall be considered to be one which adheres to the description filed in the **Terminology** section and is supplied in one of the acceptable media formats defined in rules 4362 & 4363 together with an accompanying printed call sheet as specified in rules 4322 and 4350. [09/05]

Cue sheet(s) to be used on competition day must be submitted, together with the original published singing call cue sheet, to the Chief Square Dance Judge, and will be a fully written cue sheet with the exact order of breaks and figures, from first break/figure to last figure/break **in order of sequence** to be called. [09/15]

### 4322) Calling: Singing Call: Changes to Choreography

Callers may alter "filler patter" to suit their preference and may substitute the opener, middle break, ending and figures of their singing call from a provided approved PNTSDF list of figures found in Appendix B. [09/02]

If a command on a cue sheet is in parenthesis, it is not an optional command and it must be delivered each time it is listed, especially if it is critical to the execution of the dance.

Any singing call routine that is published with a singing call recording offered for public sale that meets that meets the current PNTSDF criteria for the appropriate level is allowed, as long as it is approved by the current Chief Square Dance Judge. (The expectation is that singing call routines published with commercial recordings were selected to be danceable.) [09/13]

The published singing call must be verifiable and category appropriate. [09/06]

Whenever a singing call routine is substituted for the one published with the recording, it must contain at least one movement that is not in a category lower than the one being called to. The exception would be Novice that would contain one movement from movements **53 to 61**. [03/07]

A recording of the competitor calling the singing call with the substituted routine is to accompany the original cue sheet submitted to the Chief Square Dance Judge. [01/03]

The Swing, Dosado, and take your girl (take her by the hand, etc.) can be interchangeable to facilitate improvement in timing. [01/03]

### 4323) Calling: Singing Call: Current Choreography

All calling cue sheets submitted must contain current terminology and if there is any question or discrepancy on whether or not it is current, the Chief Square Dance Judge will be the sole interpreter.

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**4330) Calling: Competitor's Recordings**

Each Caller shall supply an acceptable recording(s) which shall be submitted, together with a card indicating the Caller's name, club, and title of recording, to the Chief Square Dance Judge prior to the prescribed deadline [see rules 4333, 4360, 4362 and 4363] [09/05] Only MP3 files shall be used for all music used by PNTSDF competitors. [06/14]

**4331) Calling: Pre-approval of Display Round Call**

Prior submission of singing calls used in Round One shall be submitted on or before the deadline set forth for "cue sheet entries", under "**Closing Date For Entries**" listed elsewhere. [see rules 4332, 4333 & 9240] [09/06]

**4332) Calling: Round One: Cue Sheet Submittal Date**

Competing Callers' cue sheets for Round One (Display Position) must be received by the Chief Square Dance Judge **before March 1st** of each festival year. Any extension must be granted by the Chief Square Dance Judge prior to the March 1 deadline. The latest that any cue sheet may be received by the Chief Square Dance Judge is March 7<sup>th</sup>. After that date a late application (including valid reasons) together with submission(s) may be made to the Festival Committee at the March meeting for special consideration and appropriate action. [06/10]

**4333) Calling: Digital Recording Submittal Date**

Digital recordings must be submitted together with the Cue Sheet Forms by March 1 of the current Festival year. [09/05] No extensions will be granted. [06/10]

ACCEPTANCE OF CHANGES TO MUSIC after April 1<sup>st</sup> will be at the sole discretion of the Chief Square Dance Judge. [11/15] The entire Cue Sheet must accompany the change. [11/15]

**4340) Calling: Club Caller Limitations [see Rule 4820]**

**4341) Calling: "Caller" Prompting [see Rule 4821]**

**4350) Calling: Cue Sheet Regulations**

Nothing other than the original of, or acceptable reproductions of, the original published cue sheet will be accepted. The original and/or reproductions may be submitted as printed, photocopied, scanned, or by other digital method available.

The submission must include a reproduction of the accompanying printed call sheet as specified in rules 4350 and 4351 (or rule 4322). [09/05]

In the event that above cannot be acquired, submissions that use call sheets other than the Original call sheet produced with the record must clearly state "re-issue and/or not original" on the call sheet! The source for digital data must be provided for on-line verification and proof of authenticity.

In the event the original cue sheet is unavailable, either a copy of the record or a GOOD quality recording **ALONG WITH** a typewritten transcription (must be exact) of the called side of the record will be accepted in place of the original cue sheet.

Submissions missing either the original cue sheet or identification of the source of the digital data submitted will be automatically rejected unless BOTH a recording and typed transcript is substituted.

Accepted singing calls are still subject to other rules governing approval of the PNTSDF.

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**4351) Calling: Marking of Cue Sheets**

All cue sheets must be accompanied by a cue sheet submittal form, which you will find a sample of in the Appendix A section of this book.

DO NOT write the required information on the cue sheet, only the cue sheet number, which will correspond with the submittal form.

Send to the Chief Square Dance Judge.

**4360) Calling: Competitor's Music**

For Round One Calling events, the Music used may be supplied in any of the forms specified in rules 4362 or 4363 with the restrictions and submission requirements as defined in each of those rules. [09/05]

**4362) Calling: Digital Recording**

Audio CD containing converted version of Original electronically distributed MP3 recording purchased online from a recognized recording company or a distributor.

The submission must include a printout of the accompanying call sheet as supplied by the distributor, verifiable online and meeting the requirements of rules 4350 and 4351 (or rule 4322) [09/05]

**4363) Calling: Modified Recording**

Audio CD containing an acceptably MODIFIED version of a recording from a recognized recording company. The intent of these permitted modifications is to allow a competitor to use modified music where the existing music would otherwise be unusable. [09/05]

Modifications permitted are:

Changes to pitch

Adjustments of tonal balance to the limit of +/- 10dB

Noise reduction

Tempo reductions where the resulting tempo is between 124 bpm & 136 bpm (beats per minute) [09/06]

Modifications not permitted include:

Any speed increase [09/06]

Additional voicing, (additional background vocals), additional instrumentation or remix

When a submission in Round One includes any of the permitted modification to the music, a copy of the CD containing the modified music must be submitted WITH the Caller's entry form. The entry must also include an unmodified printout of the accompanying call sheet as supplied by the distributor of the original music, verifiable online and meeting the requirements of rules 4350 and 4351 (or rule 4322). The Chief Square Dance Judge will have the final authority of acceptance of any modified music.

Note: These restrictions apply to Round One Calling only.

**4380) Calling: Round One: Deviation from Standard Procedures**

Any changes to Round One listed above may be at the discretion of Chief Square Dance Judge or the programming committee, and must be approved by the Chief Square Dance Judge.



## 4400) Calling: Further Rounds

### 4410) Calling: Caller Advancement

- A) All **Preteen** Callers must be prepared to go to Round Two
- B) All **Junior** Callers must be prepared to go to Round Two.

~~All **Intermediate** Callers must be prepared to go to Round Two and Three or Four. [SUSPENDED 06/19]~~

- C) All **Senior** Callers must be prepared to go to Round Two, Three and Four.

### 4420) Calling: Extra Rounds, Composition of Dancers on Floor

Callers competing beyond Round One shall call to three squares made up of club level dancers, Preteen, Junior, Intermediate and Senior Square Dancing competitors and/or club advisors dressed in Square Dance attire. [see rule 2801]

### 4421) Calling: Required movements for all Patter competitors

It is required that ALL competitors restrict the contents of their Patter calls to the **Callerlab Mainstream and Basics lists ONLY**.

(This rule is to facilitate the accommodation of dancers for the Calling competitors and is not intended to have a Calling competitor disqualified for using non-Mainstream program material. I.E: If a Caller uses Plus List material on a Mainstream floor, the floor will not function, and the Caller will be penalized accordingly to already established guidelines listed elsewhere.)

### 4422) Calling: Patter Call, Time Limitation:

Patter calls in calling competition shall be at least 2 minutes of calling but not longer than 3 minutes 30 seconds. Penalties will be assessed at 1 point per second deviation. A suitable clock will be provided. [06/08]

### 4430) Calling: Competitor's Recordings

~~Each Caller in Rounds Two, Three and Four shall supply his own recording(s) which he shall carry with him to the callers' platform and hand to the Master of Ceremonies for each performance. [09/05] [06/14] [SUSPENDED]~~

Each Caller in Rounds Two, Three and Four shall supply an acceptable recording(s) [see rules 4460, 4462, 4463, 4470, 4471] and carry with him a copy up to the calling platform. [06/14]

Digital original(s) shall comply with rule 4462.

Modified recording(s) shall contain only modification(s) permitted in rule 4463.

It is strongly recommended that a spare recording be kept in reserve for each intended call.

The competitor is responsible for retrieving his recording after the performance. [06/14]

### 4433) Calling: Further Rounds: Digital Recording Submitted Date

Digital recordings must be submitted by March 1 of the current Festival year. Any extension must be granted by the Chief Square Dance Judge prior to the March 1 deadline. [11/15]

Acceptance of changes to music after April 1<sup>st</sup> will be at the sole discretions of the Chief Round Dance Judge. [11/15]

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#### **4440) Calling: Elimination Rounds**

For ~~Intermediate~~ [SUSPENDED 06/19 until 2022] Senior Calling there will be an elimination after Round Two.

The top 6 (six) competitors must advance to further rounds according to their Category. The top six competitors are determined by the total amount of points accumulated in Rounds One and Two.

#### **4441) Calling: Extra Round Performance**

~~Intermediates have the choice in Round Three of performing either a Patter call or Singing call.~~  
[SUSPENDED 06/19 until 2022]

Seniors will continue to Rounds Three and Four, doing a Patter call and a Singing call, performed as a tip.

#### **4442) Calling: Singing Call, Extra Rounds:**

In the latter rounds of calling competition, a Caller performing a singing call will be permitted more liberties in varying figures and breaks but must still follow the broad pattern of the dance.

#### **4460) Calling: Competitor's Music**

For all Round Two, Three and Four Calling events, the music used may be in any of the forms specified in rules 4462 or 4463. [09/05]

#### **4462) Calling: Digital Recording**

Audio CD containing converted version of Original electronically distributed MP3 recording purchased online from a recognized recording company or a distributor. [09/05]

#### **4463) Calling: Modified Recording**

Audio CD containing an acceptably MODIFIED version of a recording from a recognized recording company. The intent of these permitted modifications is to allow a competitor to use modified music where the existing music would otherwise be unusable. [09/05]

The modifications permitted are:

- Changes to pitch
- Adjustments of tonal balance to the limit of +/- 10dB
- Noise reduction
- Tempo reductions where the resulting tempo is between 124bpm & 136 bpm (beats per minute)  
09/06]

Modifications not permitted include:

- Any speed increase [09/06]
- Additional voicing, (additional background vocals), additional instrumentation or remix

#### **4470) Calling: Singing Call: Reuse of Singing Calls**

A Caller's singing call used in the extra Round(s) may NOT be **the** singing call used in previous Rounds.

#### **4471) Calling: Patter Call: Reuse of Patter Calls**

A Caller's patter call used in the extra Round(s) may NOT be **the** patter call used in previous Rounds. To be considered a different patter call, no more than five (5) calls called in sequence shall be in the same order as called in a previous round and different music must be used. As penalty for reusing a patter call from a previous round, the Caller will receive a score of zero (0) for that extra round with a repeated patter.

#### **4480) Calling: Rounds Two, Three, And/Or Four: Deviation from Standard Procedures**

Any changes to Further Rounds listed above may be at the discretion of Chief Square Dance Judge or the programming committee and must be approved by the Chief Square Dance Judge.

## **4500) Calling: Judging**

### **4510) Calling: Judging of Callers**

A Competing Caller will be judged as an individual, not as a member of a Team.

### **4520) Calling: Selection of Judges**

The current Festival Coordinator will instruct the current Chief Square Dance Judge to select the Calling Judges on as broad a basis as possible, including judges from all countries represented by the competing Callers.

### **4530) Calling: Quantity of Judges**

A Caller will be judged by three Judges during each round.

### **4533) Calling: Round Two: Chief Timer**

The Chief Timer shall compile times for each Caller in Round Two of Calling.

### **4540) Calling: Location of Judges:**

Round One: Judges shall be separate from one another and not communicate with each other during the competition. One is usually placed between the Square Dance Judges at each of the three judging positions on the Display Round floor.

Extra Rounds: Judges may be seated at the same table so they may observe the Caller performing. The Judges, again, are not allowed to communicate during the actual competition.

### **4550) Calling: Basic Judging Guidelines: Points deductions**

All Calling Judges will be instructed to award each element of judging with a Six (6) to begin each round, and remove one point per deviation from accuracy or add one point for proficiency of performance.

### **4551) Calling: Judging; Points Available**

Each Judge awards up to 10 points for each Element except for Knowledge Of Call in Round One. (Knowledge of Call is evaluated by the Cue Sheet Checker. Round One Judges should ignore this section if it is on the scoresheet, unless otherwise directed by the Festival Coordinator.)

### **4552) Calling: Judging: Evaluation Elements**

Points are awarded for Knowledge of Call, Command, Tone & Pitch, Rhythm & Phrasing, Personality, Timing, Enunciation, and Clarity.

### **4553) Calling: Patter Call, competition:**

For purposes of calling competition, adherence to the Patter Call description (under Terminology) shall be a major point in judging patter Callers.

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**4554) Calling: Judges: Communications between**

Judges are required to make their own decision when it comes to evaluating the competitors. The PNTSDF highly values their judgement and request that they not be influenced by other's opinions nor is it our wish they impose their opinion upon any other Judge.

Judges should use discretion about discussing scores and giving opinions during competition day until competition day is completed.

Judges are allowed to freely communicate with their judging colleagues in the breaks between Callers, and at all other times during the day.

The communication limitation is defined as that time Judges are in possession of judging scoresheets.

**4560) Calling: Judge Policy: Conflict of Interest**

No chosen Calling Judges or Square Dance Chief Judge shall be involved with preteen/teen competitors in the teaching or grooming of any competitor(s) within a period of eight months immediately prior to the current, upcoming Festival competition. [06/15] Any contact with competitor(s) must be perceived to be impartial. [09/10]

Any former PNTSDF Calling competitor may not be appointed judge for a period of two years after their final participation in the PNTSDF Calling division.

**4570) Calling: Judges: Unable to Clearly Hear Competitor**

Judges may stop the competition and have the sound corrected if they are unable to hear the competitor clearly. A signal should be given to either the Chief Square Dance Judge or the Master of Ceremonies to correct the situation. If this should occur, no penalties shall be given to either the Caller or to the Square Dance Teams competing.

## 4600) Calling: Scoring

### 4610) Calling: Scoring, General

Competitors in all Categories perform a singing call in Round One. Competitors in all but the Preteen Novice/Novice Categories perform a Patter call in Round Two. [See rule 4410 (c) & (d) and rule 4441 for further rounds.] Scoring methods and advancement are covered in other Sections.

### 4620) Calling: Points

Each of three Judges award a maximum of 10 points for each of the Requirements listed below. Each Requirement is assigned a Multiple Factor as listed below.

<u>Requirement / Element</u>	<u>Factor</u>
Knowledge of Call	5
Command	5
Tone & Pitch	5
Rhythm & Phrasing	4
Personality	5
Timing	6
Enunciation	4
Clarity	7

### 4621) Knowledge of Call Score, Round One (Singing Call Only)

For Round One only, a **Knowledge of Call** default value of 120 points is awarded. This value is reduced by 12 points for each error listed on the **Cue Sheet Checker Error Form**. The Chief Square Dance Judge must validate all listed errors by initialing the form.

A sequence done out of order is one error for each out of sequence block. If a whole figure/break is missed, it is one error for each command missed/errored. [11/15]

### 4630) Patter Calls: Time Limits

Guidelines for Patter Calls shall be:

Caller will perform Patter for a minimum of 2 minutes, but not longer than 3 minutes 30 seconds. For the purposes of calculating the minimum 2 minute requirement, time will begin with the first word called.

Note: The MC will lift the tone arm from the record at the end of the record (or call) and leave it off the record. The record will not be restarted for the purposes of finishing the patter call.

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#### 4640) Scoring for Categories of Competition

The total score for a Caller is a cumulative total of the score for all required Rounds, as defined in Sections 4300 & 4400. For each Category, these Rounds are:

Preteen Novice and Novice	Round 1 Only
Preteen and Junior	Round 1 + 2 Total
<del>Intermediate</del> [SUSPENDED 06/19]	Round 1 + 2 + 3 (Top Six) Total
Senior	Round 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 (Top Six) Total

#### ~~4650) Calling: Score Calculations~~

~~The Calling Score Calculation Form is used as a worksheet and guide to determine a Caller's score. The intent of the above rules are incorporated into the design of this form. [See rule 4660]~~  
[SUSPENDED 11/12]

## 4700) Calling: Terminology

### 4710) Singing Call Definition, General:

Basically, a square dance call done to a melody, the metre and phrasing of the call being arranged so as to suit that melody.

A typical singing call, as published in record form by a modern square dance recording company, consists of breaks and figures repeated in a pattern. Repetition of the break and figure are usually done with little or no variation.

Preteen Novice, Novice, and Preteen singing calls must be only one figure, called twice for the heads then twice for the sides. [06/08]

Junior singing calls may be a maximum of two figures, published on the same cue sheet, each called once for the heads and once for the sides. [06/08]

Intermediate singing calls may be a maximum of two figures, each called once for the heads and once for the sides. [06/08] [SUSPENDED 06/19]

Senior singing calls may be up to four figures called in any order of heads/sides but must be to the heads twice. [06/08]

Other, less common patterns may reduce the number of breaks to two, one or none.

### 4720) Patter Call, General:

Basically, a square dance call done to music in which the melody is subordinate to rhythm and phrasing. The Caller is not restricted to any particular pattern or sequence of calls except that each call called must be compatible with the preceding and following calls; that is, the dancers must be in a position to do what is called.

It is also expected of a Patter Caller that wherever the calls called produce a change of partners and/or sequence of couples within the square, subsequent calls should return the square to its original formation by the end of the dance. Failure to do so would create uncertainty as to what is expected of the dancers.

\* **Note:** For the purposes of P.N.T.S.D.F., patter is defined as "a medley of miscellaneous steps and figures in Square Dancing".

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**4730) Calling: Competency**

Callers will be rated on their abilities in Knowledge of Call, Command, Tone & Pitch, Rhythm & Phrasing, Personality, Timing, Enunciation, and Clarity.

**4731) Knowledge of Call:**

In Singing Rounds, Caller should know the call letter perfect (with the ability to vary somewhat the filler/patter, phrasing and melody of the call.)

In Patter Round, Caller should exhibit confidence and be successful in producing continuous, smooth flowing choreography that results in the square returning to its original starting formation.

**4732) Command:**

The Caller should be in command of (have authority over) the floor of dancers and the calls (commands) should be given in a concise, no-nonsense manner.

**4733) Tone & Pitch:**

The tone of the Caller should be pleasing to the ear, not screechy or raspy or monotone. The pitch of the Caller's voice should be the same note of the music, which simply means - the Caller should be able to "carry a tune".

**4734) Rhythm & Phrasing:**

The Caller should have the ability to give his commands with emphasis on the downbeat so that the call is within the phrase of the music. In patter round the caller should use rhyming and filler material as time keepers. This is not necessarily important to the execution of, or direction needed, for a call. [09/10]

**4735) Personality:**

The Caller should appear to be happy and enjoying his job; should move about the stage somewhat, watch or at least look at all of the squares, and should be keeping time (tapping his foot or snapping his fingers for example) with the music.

**4736) Timing:**

Calls should be given at the proper time for the dancers to execute with a smooth flow. The most effective performance by the dancers should be achieved by regulation of the time or speed.

**4737) Enunciation:**

Call words should be emphasized so that they are distinct and pronounced so that they are easily understood.

**4738) Clarity:**

Calls should be given crisply, cleanly, and be clearly understandable to all dancers on the floor.



## **4800) Calling: Policies**

### **4801) Calling: Extra Rounds, Composition of Dancers on Floor**

The Master of Ceremonies, and/or Floor Manager and/or Chief Square Dance Judge may suspend proceedings and direct dancers on the floor to correct any situation which is perceived to be unfairly to the advantage or disadvantage of the performing Caller.

### **4810) Calling: Call List: Changes to**

Individual calls may be added, deleted or changed by a majority vote at any given PNTSDF meeting, with the exception of the representatives' meeting held the day before competition. [see rule 2001]

These amendments will become effective in January [see rule 9810] [09/13] of the dance year immediately following the dance year in which the changes were implemented.

### **4820) Calling: Club Caller Limitations**

Club callers, or a designated person acceptable to the Chief Judge, may appear on stage with a competitor to provide moral support. He will confer with the sound technician who will adjust the **initial** volume, bass, treble, etc. for the competing Caller.

### **4821) Calling: Caller "Prompting"**

No one shall be allowed to prompt or cue a competing Caller subject to disqualification of the preteen/teen Caller. Representatives are required to notify all club members and those associated with their club that this section has a severe penalty. [06/08]

### **4830) Calling: Cue Sheet Review and Rejection Policy**

The Cue sheets will be checked by the Chief Square Dance Judge, then the club representatives will be given written (email) confirmation that the cue sheets have either been accepted or rejected (if a call has an unapproved call or non-current terminology) by March 15<sup>th</sup>. The Chief Square Dance Judge will inform the representative of a re-submittal deadline for the new choice of singing call cue sheet. [11/12]

### **4831) Calling: Disposition of Cue Sheets**

The Chief Square Dance Judge will retain all approved cue sheets and produce them for the Cue Sheet Checker at competition.

### **4840) Calling: Sound Equipment and Adjustment**

Selection of sound equipment to be used will be at the discretion of the sound committee chairperson.

The sound adjustments will be made by a sound technician and inadequate sound reproductions will be corrected by an appointed person in charge of sound, or by any Judge deeming sound inadequate or unclear.

There will be a 3 to 5 second sound check before every calling competitor throughout the competition day. [09/18]

### **4841) Calling: Sound Equipment Limitations**

All switches, if any, on the microphone will be made inoperable. This is applicable to microphones in both the Main Hall and the Patter Hall.

### **4850) Calling: Penalty for Late**

If a Competing Caller is not available as needed, there will be a five-minute warning **announced** in the appropriate hall, and where feasible in the other halls. If after 5 minutes have elapsed and the Caller is still not available a 5-point penalty will be assessed. After a total of 10 minutes has elapsed a further 10 points penalty will be assessed. After 15 minutes have elapsed a further 15-point penalty will be assessed. After a total of 20 minutes, the Caller will receive zero (0) for that round.

## **4900) Calling: Awards**

### **4910) Calling: Awards: Preteen Novice**

Best [Display] Singing (including single entry)  
Based on highest score Round One.  
Second  
Third

### **4920) Calling: Awards: Preteen**

Champion  
Second  
Third  
Cumulative scores for all Rounds.

Best [Display] Singing Call (including single entry)  
Based upon Round One Display only.

Best Patter Call (including single entry)  
Based on Round Two Patter Calling only.

### **4930) Calling: Awards: Novice**

Best [Display] Singing (including single entry)  
Based on highest score Round One.  
Second  
Third

### **4940) Calling: Awards: Junior**

Champion  
Second  
Third  
Cumulative scores for all Rounds.

Best [Display] Singing Call (including single entry)  
Based upon Round One Display only.

Best Patter Call (including single entry)  
Based on Round Two Patter Calling only.

[Continued next page]

**4950) Calling: Awards: Intermediate** [SUSPENDED 06/19 until 2022]

Champion

Second

Third

Cumulative scores for all Rounds.

Best [Display] Singing Call (including single entry)

Based upon Round One Display only.

Best Patter Call (including single entry)

Based on Round Two Patter Calling only.

**4960) Calling: Awards: Senior**

Champion

Second

Third

Cumulative scores for all Rounds.

Best [Display] Singing Call (including single entry)

Based upon Round One Display only.

Best Patter Call (including single entry)

Based on Round Two Patter Calling only.

[END OF SECTION]