

European Championship in Rueda de Casino 2017



Since 2009 there has been a Rueda competition at ruedafestival Stuttgart every year for Rueda de Casino groups, and they have become more and more international over the last few years. That's why the next ruedafestival Stuttgart (28th-30st of July 2017) will host the official European Championships in Rueda de Casino for the third time.

Date:

Friday, 28th July 2017: Presentation of the groups and possibly a preliminary round

Saturday, 29th July 2017: Final during the ruedafestival's Galaparty

Place:

Sängerhalle in Stuttgart/Germany

Registration deadline:

To be able to plan the competition as well as possible, we ask groups to register their participation in the competition by 15th April 2017.

Prize:

There will be prizes and cups for at least the best three groups. The winning team will get at least 1.000 euros in cash.

Rules for the competition:

Preamble:

Rueda de Casino is a dance for groups with a big social component. Despite them comprising the element of competition, there will be a spirit of fair play in the European Championships in Rueda de Casino. All participants, judges, the supervisor and the organiser will treat each other honestly, open mindedly, fairly and with respect.

1. Character:

Rueda is a special way to dance Cuban Salsa. All couples stand in a circle and dance the same moves at the same time, which are called out to them by a "cantante" (caller). In addition to usual Salsa moves there are special moves only for Rueda de Casino, such as those which involve changing dance partners and are typical of this kind of group dance.

2. Performance:

This should always convey the character of Cuban salsa. Acrobatics, lifts and other non-salsa or show elements can be added, but may not be the main aspect of the performance. We expect predominantly dynamic Ruedas!

3. Group size:

4 to 12 couples per group with no restrictions on gender

4. Participants:

All dancers are allowed to participate, but everyone is only allowed to dance in one group. At least 50% of each group have to be Europeans or have been a permanent resident in a European country for at least 2 years. As German law stipulates the protection of minors, every dancer has to be at least 18 years old. The organizer is authorized to give a wild card to a non-European team.

5. Choice of music:

Each group is allowed to perform to their own music, which can also be a mix of different songs. But it should consist of at least 75% salsa rhythm. The selected music should last 3:00 to 3:30 minutes (absolute min 2:45; absolute max. 3:45, plus maybe 0:20 intro). There are no restrictions on the speed of the music.

6. Own music:

Every groups should send a music file with its own music per email to the organizer, recorded in high quality in a common music data format (e.g. mp3). We suggest every group to bring an USB-stick with the music for reserve.

7. Entry Fee:

Each dancer needs a "Fullpass" or at least a "Partypass" for ruedafestival Stuttgart, which will be offered at a sizeable discount to the groups (in 2017: e.g. Partypass only 10 Euros instead of 20€ per person).

8. Judges:

The five judges will be selected because of their qualifications, experience and competence. Nobody can be a judge if a partner or direct relative is a participant in the competition. A judge is not allowed to be a regular coach of one of the competing groups. The judges must decide independently, fairly and appropriately.

9. Judging in the final:

The judges will award points relating to the quality of the performance: the better the performance, the higher the number. Points out of a maximum of 10 will be awarded for each of the following three elements of performance:

- a) Technique: Rhythm / dancing in time to the music, technical performance, level of dance education, synchronicity
- b) Artistic merit: choreography, moves & combinations, use of the floor space, creativity, music interpretation
- c) Rueda authenticity: frequent changes of dance partner, originality of the Rueda performance, live calling by the cantante

So each judge can award a maximum of 30 points for one group. It is also possible for the spectators to award additional up to 25% of the points. The organizer has the chance to decide if he wants to use that option.

10. Preliminary:

If there is a high number of groups taking part, it is possible to hold a preliminary round. That will take place either on the same day or probably one day earlier. In that preliminary round the best 4 teams will be chosen to advance to the final. The judging in such a preliminary round may be done in a simpler way, which will be decided on by the organizer, supervisor and judges.

11. Supervising the rules / supervisor

It is the responsibility of the organizer to ensure that everybody keeps to the rules. He can announce a supervisor, who will support him in monitoring. The supervisor should not be a judge. If participants break rules or behave unfairly towards other competitors, the supervisor will give them a warning. In further cases or in very serious cases the organizer or the supervisor has the right to disqualify a group.