

Dear Solo Dance Community,

Over the past few weeks I have noticed more music deductions than any other season before. The problem is that although the tempo is correct, the music chosen doesn't match the style of the dance. As an example, the Hickory Hoedown while being in 4/4 time doesn't mean that just any music in 4/4 will work if the tempo is correct. The music should sound like a hoedown. I have actually seen a Latin rhythm chosen for a Foxtrot this year and Disco for a Quickstep. Although both Quickstep and Disco is related to the Swing category, Disco is not a Quickstep. Also, remember the Ice Dance Swing Dance is a foxtrot, not big band Swing. Finally, be careful that the songs chosen are age appropriate. There have been cases where the lyrics of a song have an adult theme that is not something you would expect a child to sing. If you would not have your young skater singing those lyrics, they should also not be skating to them.

Please be more careful when choosing music. The rules clearly state that the selected song must match the rhythm/style of the dance. This music deduction is quite severe at -2 points from the final score. If you are having a hard time finding correct music, we do offer selections to download off of the Solo Series page on the USFS web site and you're welcome to use any of those.

I hope this helps eliminate these unfortunate deductions.

John Millier