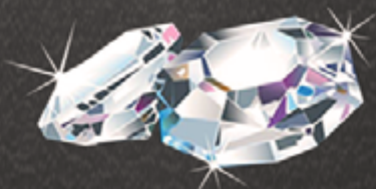


# WESTIE GALA



*Hello everyone!*

*Welcome to Stockholm, Sweden and Westie Gala New Year's Eve Edition! Get ready for a n event with a little bit more bling. Dress up, get down and be ready to party! We've got 4 days of workshops and social dance nights, 2 solo intensives, a fun competition format in the All level High/Low Soiree Strictly, a Gala Variety Dinner and New Year's Eve Party, 6 WSDC JnJ divisions from Newcomer to All-Star + Sophisticated and much more. A jam packed WCS extravaganza! Dance, mingle, socialize, learn and most importantly, have fun! We are so excited to get the festivities started and to ring in the New Year together with you all... Cheers!*

*- Westie Gala Team*

## GENERAL INFO

### **Wristbands**

Make sure you wear your event wristband at all times. You need it to enter all of the weekend activities. On occasion, while on the floor, staff might ask you to show it. Please be kind to them and display your wristband clearly at that time as well as when you enter the room. If you lose it you are liable to pay a fee for a replacement.

### **Water, food & drinks**

Water is available in the lavatories and hotel rooms. We won't have water dispensers at our disposal so make sure you bring your own water bottle to the ballroom and fill it up when you have a schedule window. Swedish tap water is known for it's good taste and high standard quality. If you haven't booked a meal pack, there are restaurants and a supermarket nearby. Also, feel free to support the hotel bar so that the Scandic staff are pleased with our presence and want us back

### **Take care of the dance floor!**

Please help us take care of the beautiful floors in the ballroom. Avoid drinks, liquids, food, chairs, tables, etc. Try to stick with standard recognised dance shoes rules. Suede or leather sole, Toms, indoor shoes, etc.

### **Photography and filming**

Our official event photographer is present throughout the event, but you are allowed to click away as you please. Feel free to share your photographs with us. You can also tag them and post them on the event page on Facebook and yes, you are allowed to film the contests. We encourage you to film all competitions and share it online. You can also post links on our FB page. Remember that if you are part of the event, you might get tagged. If a photo of you coming from our sources appears on social media and you do not approve of it, notify us and we will take it down.

### **Workshop Notebook**

At the end of each workshop your instructors are invited to give a demonstration of what has been taught for you to film. We ask of you to please respect the content, don't share it on the internet and film only at the end of every workshop, not during. Note that you are only allowed to film the workshops you have personally attended!

### **Disclaimer**

West Coast Swing is a physical activity and dancers participate during all times at their own risk, fully accepting and understanding that the organisers and any service providers to them cannot be held liable to any circumstances. Please be careful with your bags and personal property at all times. Do not carry valuables or important possessions. The organisers and Scandic staff hold no responsibility for your bags or personal property.

# WESTIE GALA

## THURSDAY

Time	
20.00 - 03:00	<b>Treasure Thursday (100 SEK admission fee*)</b>
20.00 - 21.00	Blues workshop with The Halls
21.00 - 03.00	Social dancing until 3 am

\* Entry admission to the blues workshop and pre-party are not included in the full pass.

## FRIDAY

Time	
10.30	Event desk opens
11.00 - 12.00	Music Workshop - Head DJ Koichi (Open to everyone!)
	<b>Lunch Break - Food available at Rönnerdahls 11.30 -14.00</b>
12.10 - 14.10	<b>Leg Action &amp; Body Isolations with Michael (Intensive 1) **</b>
14.00	Comp registration opens
14.30 - 16.30	<b>Foot Work and Style Variations with Patty (Intensive 2) **</b>
16.30 -18.00	Event desk & Comp registration
	<b>Workshops</b>
Time	Ballroom
16.45 - 17.45	Open Competitors Forum - Q&A with Chief Judge Steve Hunt
18.00 - 19.00	Attila & Aggi
19.00 - 20.00	Daniel & Maïna
	<b>Dinner break 17.30 - 20.30</b>
20.00 - ??..??	<b>Fancy Friday</b>
20.00	Social dancing
21.00	<b>SOIREE STRICTLY</b>
22.00	Social dancing
23.30	<b>SHOWTIME!</b> - Teachers jam

\*\* Both intensives are sold as a separate package and are not included in the full pass.

## SATURDAY

Time		
09.45 - 11.45	Event desk and comp registration (Note: Closes at 11.30 sharp!)	
	<b>Comps Ballroom - Workshops Conference Area</b>	
Time	Ballroom	Alpha
10.00 - 11.00	Patty Vo - Styling	Michael Kielbasa - Footwork
11.10 - 12.10	Michael & Patty	Steve and Kate
	<b>Lunch Break - Food available at Rönnerdahls 11.30 -14.00</b>	
13.00 - 14.00	WSDC prelims! (See separate competition schedule below)	Attila & Aggi
14.10 - 15.10		Daniel & Maïna
15.20 - 16.20		Steve & Kate
	<b>All JnJ Finals Ballroom</b>	
17.00	WSDC Newcomer JnJ Finals	
17.15	WSDC Novice JnJ Finals	
17.30	WSDC Sophisticated JnJ Finals	
17.45	WSDC Intermediate JnJ Finals	
	<b>Dinner break 18.00 - 20.30</b>	
20.00 - ???.?	<b>Sassy Saturday</b>	
20.00 - 22.00	Social dancing	
22.00 - 22.15	WSDC Advanced JnJ Finals	
22.15	WSDC All Star JnJ Finals - SPOTLIGHT!	
22.45	Social dancing	
23.45	Awards + SHOWTIME	
00.?? - ??	Party + Social Dancing!	

## Competition Schedule

Time	Alpha	
13.00 - 13.45	WSDC Novice JnJ Prelims	NOTE! The stated hours are only approximate and can potentially be earlier than anticipated! Please do make sure you are in the ballroom area 15 min before your division, lined up and ready to go when it's your turn. IF we notice that we can shave off time, we will try to cut the slots shorter if possible. Thank you!
13.45 - 14.00	WSDC Newcomer JnJ prelims	
14.00 - 14.30	WSDC Novice JnJ Semis	
14.30 - 15.00	WSDC Intermediate JnJ Prelims	
15.00 - 15.15	WSDC Advanced JnJ Prelims	
15.15 - 15.30	WSDC Intermediate JnJ Semis	
15.30 - 15.45	WSDC Sophisticated JnJ Prelims	
15.45 - 16.00	WSDC All-Star Prelims (If needed!)	

Since we are running JnJs prelims and workshops simultaneously to create lots of time for social dancing, if there's not a specific workshop you are taking, we encourage everyone to be in the ballroom and cheer on your friends during comps. Support them and help us build up the energy while they dance. Thank you!

## SUNDAY

	Workshops		
Time	Ballroom	Alpha	Charlie
10.00 - 11.00	Daniel Pavlov - It's not too late to isolate (Main Ballroom)		
11.10 - 12.10	Daniel & Maïna	Attila & Aggi	Steve & Kate
12.20 - 13.20	Steve & Kate	Attila & Aggi	Michael & Patty
	Lunch Break - Food available at Rönnerdahls 11.30 -14.00		
13.50 - 14.50	Attila & Aggi	Michael & Patty	Daniel & Maïna
15.00 - 16.00	Michael & Patty	Daniel & Maïna	Steve & Kate
16.10 - 17.10	Steve & Kate	Daniel & Maïna	Attila & Aggi
17.10 - 19.00	Chill out time		
	Variety Gala Dinner at Scandic hotel restaurant 19.00 - 22.00		
19.00 - 21.00	Social dancing - Ballroom (Playlist)		
21.00 - 23.30	Social Sunday *		
23.45 - 00.15	NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION		
00.15 - ??.??	Party and social dancing!		
??.??	Breakfast - SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!		

\* Songs played by our DJs between 21.00-23.00 will be shorter or faded out around the 2-3 min mark so you can enjoy dancing with as many people as you can.

Although most workshops are open to everyone and you could technically attempt to attend one level up or down, We want EVERYONE to enjoy and get the most out of the workshops this weekend. This means being realistic and ONLY attending workshops that are appropriate to your current knowledge level of WCS. Please respect this and be fair to your fellow dancers. If you are struggling, you are most likely NOT in the right level. Your instructors will be monitoring while teaching to make sure everyone are in the appropriate class of their current dance abilities. They have the authority to recommend another track if necessary. To get an idea of what workshops you can attend, read the definitions above. NOTE! The schedule and workshops guidelines are preliminary and subject to change. Be on the lookout for any updates that may be posted on the website, FB event page and/or our instagram account.

We appreciate your understanding regarding the thought behind the level descriptions and hope you enjoy the content our amazing pros are bringing to all of the workshops regardless of level. If there are any doubts, please feel free to come talk to us and we'll do our very best to help you find the best approach suited for you.

Check out the approximate level description guidelines on the next page. Thank you!

# WORKSHOP LEVELS

## **GOLD**

### **Open level - These workshops are for all our guests**

Open to everyone! The open level are classes for all dancers of any level to attend. Generally these classes tend to be more about having fun and sharing the joy of the dance. The content is adapted so all participants can learn from it and it adds energy and atmosphere to the event.

## **RUBY**

### **Recommended level - Newcomer & Novice**

You are fairly new to WCS and perhaps taken an intro course at a local dance studio or similar. Still, the International traveling is somewhat out of your comfort zone. But you try to attend socials, maybe some weekly classes and events in your hometown. You are working on your basics and also want to learn more material to better understand the fundamentals of WCS.

## **EMERALD**

### **Recommended level - Novice**

You are very familiar with your basics, travel occasionally to international events, social dance on a very regular basis and have already endured a few novice comps or you are considering it. You now feel confident dancing all basic patterns, turn, etc. You want to have more variety, learn new moves, technique and variations to be able to play more.

## **SAPPHIRE**

### **Recommended level - Intermediate**

You have been competing for some time, travel to international events on a regular basis and also social dance every opportunity you get. Your body awareness is now at a higher level where you can start to distinguish when technique is lacking. You want to incorporate more isolations, foot work and enhance your individual skills inside of the partnering.

## **DIAMOND**

### **Required WSDC JnJ level - 20 Intermediate points or more**

This is a fast paced workshop level for those close to moving up to, or already in the Advanced and All-Star division. No audition will be available for this track. We ask you kindly to respect the levels set aside. Note that the instructors will be monitoring and are obviously also allowed to recommend a lower level to an attendee if they feel it's necessary.

# CODE OF CONDUCT

In times like these, even though some of the information in this section should go without saying, to help secure the surroundings that we feel responsible for as event organizers, we would like you to take a moment and read these simple guidelines so that everyone can feel safe and well taken care of during the weekend of fun we are here to share with each other...

## Being a good event attendee

Be respectful to your fellow attendees. Many attendees will be happy to meet you and dance with you. Some will not. We all need to be cool with that. It is okay for any person to decline a dance (or multiple ones) with any person; you do not have to give a reason. Dancing with someone is not a right. If someone says “no” to a dance, please accept that response graciously. If the person tells you “no” repeatedly, please stop asking them to dance and as mentioned in the workshop and dance etiquette section, don’t offer unsolicited advice to fellow dancers either in class or on the social dance floor.

Try to use your full range of senses on the dance floor to avoid accidental collisions and injuries. It is every dancer’s responsibility to be aware of their own and their partner’s movement and position, as well as the movement and position of the dancers surrounding them to avoid all forms of dangerous contact. If you do collide with someone on the dance floor, offer an apology, even if you are not at fault.

Be respectful to event staff, even if you are experiencing a personal frustration. Without the goodwill of these individuals, a smoothly functioning event is impossible.

Please be aware that another person’s boundaries may be different than your own. If you by any chance accidentally touch someone in an inappropriate way, even if you weren’t aware the touch was deemed inappropriate, please apologize. If someone mentions that a particular way of moving is painful to them, just say you are sorry and avoid that movement in the future, even if you don’t understand why.

No forms of harassment will be tolerated. Harassment includes offensive verbal comments (related to gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, OR religion), sexual images in public spaces, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of workshops or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention. Participants asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately!

If such behavior would still take place, as event organizers we reserve the right to take any action we deem appropriate, including warning the offender, resulting in potential expulsion from the event without refund, and/or expulsion from all future events. If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns, please contact a member of event staff immediately. We will be happy to help participants contact the event directors, local law enforcement or otherwise assist those experiencing harassment to feel safe for the duration of the event.

Finally, be aware of your own boundaries and physical needs. Do not neglect your health, remember to sleep properly, wash your hands frequently, and don’t forget to take necessary medications if applicable.

We expect all participants to understand and follow these rules for the duration of the entire event! We understand that these may be sensitive issues to bring to light but they are important to us, because we really do want everyone to feel welcome, without the pressure of things occurring during the event that could ruin, not only the experience of the weekend, but also leave scars for the future. Even if it’s “just” a bad taste or overall unpleasant memories from our beloved dance and thus the community as a whole.

And now that we’ve cleared the air, let’s help each other out and make the most of the weekend - Enjoy!