

Dancesport Festival

“FREEDOM TO DANCE”

Date: 28 February 2026

Venue: Arena Samokov, Samokov

Eligibility: open to everyone, regardless of federation membership, subject to the Festival rules.

AGE GROUPS:

Up to 7 – born in 2019 or later

Up to 9 – born in 2017 or 2018

Up to 11 – born in 2015 or 2016

Up to 13 – born in 2013 or 2014

Up to 15 – born in 2011 or 2012

Up to 18 – born in 2008, 2009 or 2010

Over 18 – born in 2007 or earlier

PRIZE FUND:

Trophies for all first places, and diplomas, medals and prizes for all finalists.

For couples – competitors over 18, La and St, taking part in the “FREEDOM TO DANCE” CUP – trophies, medals and cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the combined ranking in each style.

Competition formats by age and level, with compulsory dances

First Steps – “Solo”, “Couples” and “Synchro Duo”:

<i>“First Steps” solo and couples</i>		<i>“Synchro Duo” “Basic 2” level</i>		<i>“Synchro Duo” “Open” level</i>	
Age	Dances	Age	Dances	Age	Dances
Up to 7	Ch, W	Up to 9	Ch, J	Up to 9	Ch, J
Up to 9	Ch, W	Up to 13	Ch, R, J	Up to 13	Ch, R, J
Up to 11	Ch, W	Over 13	Ch, R, J	Over 13	Ch, R, J
Up to 13	Ch, W				
Over 13	Ch, W				

**“Couple” and “Solo” at “Basic 1” and “Basic 2” level
with a choice of style and level**

<i>“Solo” and “Couple” “Basic 1” level</i>			<i>“Solo” and “Couple” “Basic 2” level</i>		
Age	Dances		Age	Dances	
	La	St		La	St
Up to 7	Ch, J	W, Q	Up to 9	Ch, R, J	W, T, Q
Up to 9	Ch, J	W, Q	Up to 11	Ch, R, J	W, T, Q
Up to 11	Ch, R, J	W, T, Q	Up to 13	Ch, R, J	W, T, Q
Up to 13	Ch, R, J	W, T, Q	Up to 15	S, Ch, R, J	W, T, VW, Q
Over 13	Ch, R, J	W, T, Q	Over 15	S, Ch, R, Pd, J	W, T, VW, F, Q

**“FREEDOM TO DANCE” Cup – “Solo” and “Couples” – “Open” level
with a choice of dances:**

<i>Format / Age</i>	<i>“Solo”</i>		<i>“Couple”</i>	
	Dances		Dances	
	La	St	La	St
Up to 11	S, Ch, R, J	W, T, VW, Q	S, Ch, R, J	W, T, VW, Q
Up to 15	S, Ch, R, J	W, T, VW, Q	S, Ch, R, J	W, T, VW, Q
Up to 18	S, Ch, R, Pd, J	W, T, VW, F, Q	S, Ch, R, Pd, J	W, T, VW, F, Q
Over 18	S, Ch, R, Pd, J	W, T, VW, F, Q	S, Ch, R, Pd, J	W, T, VW, F, Q

Category “Pro-Am”

Age group and dances:

- ✓ With an “amateur” up to 15 – Cha Cha Cha, Rumba and Jive;
- ✓ With an “amateur” over 15 – Samba, Cha Cha Cha, Rumba and Jive.

In the Pro-Am category only the “amateur” is judged. The “professional” is the partnering dance teacher, or a competitor who has competed in official dancesport competitions and holds class “C” or higher.

Category “Formations”

Age groups:

- ✓ Up to 9;
- ✓ Up to 13;
- ✓ Over 13.

Boys and girls may take part. There is no restriction on the type of dances, the number of dances used or the costumes, in any age group. Children from an older age group may take part, but they must not make up more than 20% of the formation. Formations perform to their own music, no longer than 2:30 min.

Category **“Synchro Teams”**.

Age groups:

- ✓ Up to 9;
- ✓ Up to 13;
- ✓ Over 13.

The team dances in synchrony throughout, without regrouping or changing formation. Boys and girls may take part. There is no restriction on the type of dances, the number of dances used or the costumes, in any age group. Children from an older age group may take part, but they must not make up more than 20% of the team. Teams perform to their own music, no longer than 2:30 min.

Note:

- ✓ Solo events are open to both girls and boys;
- ✓ Dancers who compete as a couple may also compete solo;
- ✓ Dancers from “First Steps” couples may also enter solo events, but only in “First Steps”;
- ✓ Competitors may dance Latin and Standard at different levels (for example, Basic 2 in LA and Basic 1 in ST). This does not apply to “First Steps”;
- ✓ Competitors may enter an older age group;
- ✓ Costumes must be in good taste, meet accepted ethical standards and suit the style being danced;
- ✓ Costumes must fully cover the intimate parts of the body at all times, whatever the movements of the dance;
- ✓ Skin-coloured briefs, bras or any other garments that create the illusion of nudity in intimate areas are not allowed;
- ✓ In all categories up to age 9 (Kids Mini and Juveniles 1), make-up and glittering hair accessories are not allowed;
- ✓ In the “Open” category — the **“FREEDOM TO DANCE” Cup, “Solo” and “Couples”** — competitors choose their own dances, with full placings and preliminary rounds. In all other categories, finals of up to 8 are formed depending on the number of participants, with full placings in each final (1st to 8th).

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME:

08:30	Registration and floor trial for ALL PARTICIPANTS
Part I – “First Steps”, “Formations”, “Synchro Teams” and “Synchro Duo”	
09:30	Start
Part II – “Basic 1”, “Basic 2”	
12:00	Start
Part III – “FREEDOM TO DANCE” Cup – preliminary rounds	
16:30	Start
Part IV – “FREEDOM TO DANCE” Cup and “Pro-Am”	
18:30	Official opening and finals

Note:

- *The programme is provisional! A detailed timetable for all categories will be drawn up after registration.*
- *Categories and/or age groups may be combined at the organiser’s discretion.*
- *Competitors without silicone heel protectors will not be allowed to compete.*
- *Pouring water or any other liquid on or around the dance floor is strictly forbidden. Violations will be fined!*

Entry fees:

€20 per soloist for one discipline, + €5 for each further one

€40 per couple for one discipline, + €10 for each further one

€10 per dancer in a formation or synchro team

Spectators: €10. Children up to 12 – free

VIP table seat by the dance floor (per chair): €30, on prior request.

Entries:

Entry deadline: **18 February 2026**. Entries are not accepted after the deadline!

Late entries that change the prepared programme are charged 50% on top of the above fees!

For more information, VIP table requests and to send your music:

email: freedomtodance@abv.bg

Nikolay Yordanov – tel: +359 888 980 422

Hristina Lalova – tel: +359 897 463 529