

SUCCESS WITH YOUR SCORE SHEET

By Teri Rowe

Judges are people that are trained to interpret the score sheet, assess your program against a set of criteria and assign a rating/score. They see a program, make an immediate decision...did it "work" for them? If it did, that's the easy part. If it didn't, they take time to checklist down the score sheet to note the problem areas. If you painted a clear "picture" for the judges and/or audience, the response is easily given. When the "picture" is unclear, you will often get mixed responses, mixed scores and more often than not lower scores.

Traditional Score sheet:

Content: What did you do?

- Choreography
- Staging/Forms (patterning)
- Maneuvering

Execution: How did you do it?

- Technique
- Alignment/Spacing
- Precision

Overall Effect: What effect did it have on your audience/judges?

- Projection
- Use of space/floor/dimension
- Use of music

Tips:

- Don't choreograph to the score sheet, just choreograph with a program in mind, then go back and check it against the sheet
- When judges give you critique...LISTEN and look for common patterns of comments. Sometimes one judge may not be "grabbed" by your program, but others are.
- Don't take conflicting comments so literally (i.e. "you need more xyz" and "your need less xyz". Step back and look at the big picture. Obviously something in that caption is confusing to the person assessing the routine. The "picture" isn't clear enough for them.