

April 7-8, 2017

TEXAS BALLROOM presents the AUSTIN OPEN 2017
Texas Union Ballroom, on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin

COMPETITION TERMS AND INFORMATION PACKET

ELIGIBILITY

Amateur-Amateur events are open to ALL amateur dancers.

Mixed Proficiency events are open to any combination of:

- 1) A more advanced amateur dancing with a less-experienced partner. *Only the less-experienced partner will be judged.*
- 2) A professional dancer dancing with an amateur. *Only the amateur will be judged.*

****Please note that both partners must fill out an entry form and pay their entry fees****

Unlimited Entry Admission per Person

Texas Ballroom Member Entry Fee: \$10

Social Competition Only Entry Fee: \$15

Youth Entry Fee: \$25

General Competitor Entry Fee: \$35

PRIZES

Prizes will be offered in selected events. Ribbons will be offered in all events.

FORMAT AND GENERAL RULES

All events are danced in the freestyle format to music selected by the DJ. There will be no solo exhibitions.

Levels Offered (Refer to Proficiency Levels below)

Dance events will be offered at the following levels:

Newcomer

Bronze / Beginner

Silver / Intermediate

Gold / Advanced

Novice, Pre-Championship & Championship/ Open*

**Certain styles only. See Registration website for more information.*

Costumes:

Ballroom and Social: No costume restrictions.

Country Western:

No costumes permitted for Beginner-level Country Western.

Costumes allowed at all other levels of Country Western.

Hats are allowed for gentlemen but not required for any level Country Western event.

Lifts: No lifts will be permitted in any category. Dancers must have at least one foot on the floor at all times.

Dips and Drops: Dips will be permitted. Drops will not be permitted in any category.

Props: No props will be allowed in any category, except for hats in Country Western and Lindy Hop events.

Timing:

Salsa: Must break primarily on 1.

Mambo: Must break primarily on 2

PROFICIENCY LEVELS

Newcomer Events are open to individuals who started dancing after August 1, 2016. To be eligible for Newcomer, this must be the Competitor's first partner-dance competition.

April 7-8, 2017

TEXAS BALLROOM presents the AUSTIN OPEN 2017
Texas Union Ballroom, on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin

Competitors may dance at two consecutive proficiency levels for each dance style entered. Acceptable combinations of levels are:

- Newcomer* and Bronze
 - Bronze and Silver (plus Novice if desired)
 - Silver and Gold (plus Novice if desired)
 - Gold and Novice
 - Novice and Pre-Championship
 - Pre-Championship and Championship
- *Newcomers are encouraged to enter Bronze as well.

Ballroom Proficiency Notes:

1. Proficiency is by style of dance.
For each style of dance entered, the competitor is restricted to

- 1. Two consecutive proficiency levels or**
- 2. Two consecutive syllabus proficiency levels plus novice.**

For example, a person who is dancing Silver/Gold Standard and competing in Silver/Gold Waltz must also compete in Silver/Gold Tango, but would be eligible to dance Bronze/Silver in the Latin dances (CSRPJ). This person would also be eligible to compete in Novice in both Latin and Standard.

Mixed Proficiency entries where the competitor is dancing as the unjudged higher-level partner do not count towards the two consecutive-level limit (see rules for Mixed Proficiency entrants in the Eligibility section above).

2. *Novice Events:* Novice is the first open level. Events are not restricted to syllabi – open moves are allowed. Novice is open to any competitor who is competing in syllabus level(s) of that style or Pre-Championship. Championship dancers are not eligible to compete in Novice.

Social Proficiency Notes:

For the social competition ONLY, competitors are welcome to dance in any two consecutive proficiency levels PER DANCE.

Example: a couple could dance Beginner/Intermediate Salsa and Intermediate/Advanced Argentine Tango.

General Proficiency Notes:

1. Competitors who have accumulated proficiency points on the USADance, Collegiate, or NDCA circuits are requested to abide by those categories.
2. Competitors may register for as many styles of dances as they would like.
3. **If you have been placing regularly in a given proficiency level at previous competitions, we strongly urge you to dance up to the next level of proficiency rather than dancing down. Not only does this provide a more fair competition for younger dancers, but it also challenges each competitor to continually develop his or her dancing.**

All competitors certify by signing the entry form that they are eligible to compete in the events they have marked on the entry form. If a competitor is under 18, a parent or guardian must sign the entry form.

AGE CATEGORIES

Three age categories will be offered at this year's Austin Open for Mixed Proficiency and Am-Am. These categories will be

Youth (up to 17)

Collegiate/A1 (18-34)

A2 (35+).

GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

We reserve the right to disqualify any couple or individual found to be competing in an unsportsmanlike manner. If any inappropriate behavior is seen on the day of competition, we strongly urge witnesses to find one of the Competition Directors immediately to report the incidents so that proper measures may be taken.

SYLLABUS STEPS

April 7-8, 2017

TEXAS BALLROOM presents the AUSTIN OPEN 2017
Texas Union Ballroom, on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin

Steps from any nationally recognized syllabus will be acceptable for syllabus events.

Dancers dancing in a syllabus category may dance material from that category plus any lower category.

For example, a couple dancing Silver may dance both Silver and Bronze material.

Couples dancing Newcomer or Bronze must confine themselves to Bronze material only.

Note: Dancing material from a higher category than the registered level may result in a warning, removal from the dance/competition, or disqualification from that event,

DRESS CODE

Costumes will be permitted, but not required in any level of ballroom/social competition.

Jeans will be permitted in Country Western Events only.

Dancers in beginner-level Country Western are not permitted to wear costumes, however men can wear hats at any level of Country Western.

Suggested dress for Newcomer events:

American Smooth and International Standard Events:

Males: Dark slacks and white shirt closed at the neck, tie, vest optional.

Females: Leotards and wrap skirts or party or cocktail dresses. Longer skirts suggested but not required. Rhinestone jewelry will be permitted.

American Rhythm and International Latin Events:

Males: Dark slacks and black or white shirt, black T-shirt without logos or designs, or black turtleneck.

Females: Same as for Smooth/Standard. Shorter skirts suggested but not required.

Shoes: Competitors should select appropriate shoes.

No slides or flip-flops will be permitted in any event.

Boots will be permitted in Country Western events.

Dance shoes appropriate to the style of dance are recommended.

Props: No props will be permitted in any event except for hats used for Country Western and Lindy Hop Dances. Examples of prohibited items are wands and capes.

ENTRY RULES AND DEADLINE

Entries must be received online by 11:59 pm April 5, 2017. Competitors are urged to register early.

*** Early Bird Registration deadline is 11:59 PM on March 31, 2017.***

** Late registration and late payment will accepted according to the deadlines below**

Registration Deadlines:

Social Dance Events: must be completed by 7:59 pm Friday.

Country Western Events: must be completed by the end of the Social Dance Competition on Friday evening.

Syllabus Ballroom Events: must be completed by 10 am Saturday.

Novice, Pre-Championship, and Championship Events: must be completed by 7 pm Saturday.

Late Registration / Adds:

1. Late registration or adding events on Friday evening will add a one-time \$5 late fee per person to your registration.
2. Late registration or adding additional events on Saturday morning will add a one-time \$10 late fee per person to your registration.
3. Once the competition has begun, late entries will be accepted only if they do not adversely affect the competition schedule.

Payments:

April 7-8, 2017

TEXAS BALLROOM presents the AUSTIN OPEN 2017
Texas Union Ballroom, on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin

1. All payments must be made by the day of the competition. (See above for Early Bird Deadline)
2. Make checks payable to "UT Austin" and put "Texas Ballroom" in the memo.
3. Visit <http://texasballroom.org/comp.php> for latest information on registration costs and payment options.

We highly encourage competitors to print and sign waivers prior to the event to expedite check-in.

Registration is required to compete in all categories and events.

*****The organizers reserve the right to combine or cancel events when necessary.*****

Please see website for list of offered dances.

Please Note: All entry fees/payments are final and non-refundable

WORKSHOP

Denis Generalov, a US Amateur 10-dance champion and professional instructor will offer an International Cha Cha workshop on Friday evening. This workshop will be followed by our Social competition. Prices are shown in the prospective schedule on the next page.

FORMATION TEAMS

While no formal Formation Team competition will be offered, we invite any interested teams to perform their routines on Friday night during the Social Dance Competition for spectators and other teams. If interested, please contact us at txb.competitiondirectors@gmail.com by April 3rd so that we can plan accordingly.

AFFILIATION PASSWORDS

Studio owners and school team captains – if you would like your studio/school to be able to list themselves as affiliates for this competition on the registration, please contact txb.competitiondirectors@gmail.com with your password of choice and how you would like the affiliation to appear so that it may be performed upon registering.

VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Texas Ballroom encourages participants to bring their own video and photography equipment. No plans have been made for commercial services. Please note that tripods must not be set up on or near the dance floor.

LIABILITY

Texas Ballroom and the University of Texas cannot accept liability for injury sustained by persons attending this event: all competitors compete at their own risk and must sign a waiver prior to competing.

Texas Ballroom and the University of Texas accept no responsibility for loss or theft of articles left in changing rooms, hotel rooms, or at the competition venue.

PROSPECTIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Friday, April 7th, 2017- Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom, UNB 3.202

- 6:00 PM Cha Cha Workshop with Denis Generalov
 - Texas Ballroom members: \$5
 - UT affiliates and Student Competitors: \$7
 - General Public: \$10
- 7:00 PM Dinner Break and Check In/Late Registration
- 8:00 PM **Social Dance Competition**
- 12:00 AM Goodnight, see you tomorrow!

Saturday, April 8th, 2017- Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom, UNB 3.202

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM Check-In & Late Registration/Warm-Up

10:00 – 1:00 PM Session I

- Country Western

April 7-8, 2017

TEXAS BALLROOM presents the AUSTIN OPEN 2017
Texas Union Ballroom, on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin

- International Standard

-----**SESSION I AWARDS**-----

1:00 – 2:00 PM General Dancing/Break**

2:00 - 8:00 PM Session II

- American Smooth
- Country Western, Standard, Smooth Awards
- International Latin
- American Rhythm
- All Novice, Pre-champ, and Champ Dances and Open Level Country Western
*Fun Dances (*Time permitting*).

-----**SESSION II AWARDS**-----

8:00 PM End of Session. Thanks for coming, see you next year!

**Times and events are subject to change.

LIST OF OFFERED DANCES

Notes:

1. Not all dances are offered at all proficiency levels
2. Dances may be offered at syllabus and open levels
3. Dances may be offered in single and multi-dance events, depending on proficiency level
4. Refer to entry form for more information.

Social Events (Friday evening)

Blues	West coast
Salsa	Hustle
Bachata	Jitterbug
Merengue	Lindy Hop
Argentine	

Country Western Events (Saturday– Session I)

Triple two step	Two step
Polka	Waltz
Night club	East coast
Cha cha	West coast

International Standard Ballroom (Saturday– Session I)

Waltz	Foxtrot
Tango	Quickstep
Viennese Waltz	

American Smooth Ballroom (Saturday– Session II)

Waltz	Tango
Foxtrot	Viennese Waltz

International Latin (Saturday– Session II)

April 7-8, 2017

TEXAS BALLROOM presents the AUSTIN OPEN 2017
Texas Union Ballroom, on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin

Cha Cha	Paso Doble
Samba	Jive
Rumba	

American Rhythm (Saturday– Session II)

Rumba	Bolero
Cha cha	Mambo
Swing	

NOTIFICATION OF EVENTS

Please note that all times are approximate. Competitors should be in the ballroom and ready to dance 30 minutes prior to the scheduled event. Events may run earlier or later than scheduled. Events will not be delayed. Competitors should remain aware of the progress of the events. Missing competitors will scratch their events.

Please note that this schedule is preliminary. Check the posted heat list for the final schedule of events at the competition.

ATTENTION: In lieu of a welcome dance, general dancing will be interspersed throughout the social competition. Please be prepared for this and make proper travel arrangements.

Note: The organizers will make every effort to allow time between rounds of any one event; however, this time will be used to run other events. Competitors should be aware that entering multiple events may result in a shorter break.

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS

The Texas Union (**UNB**) is located just south of the intersection of Guadalupe and 24th Street on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin.

Texas Union 2247 Guadalupe St, Austin, TX 78713

<https://maps.utexas.edu/#/utm>

Parking

The nearest garage to the UNB (**Map 1**) is San Antonio Garage (**SAG**) located at 25th and San Antonio. (**Map 2**).

FOOD AND RESTAURANT OPTIONS

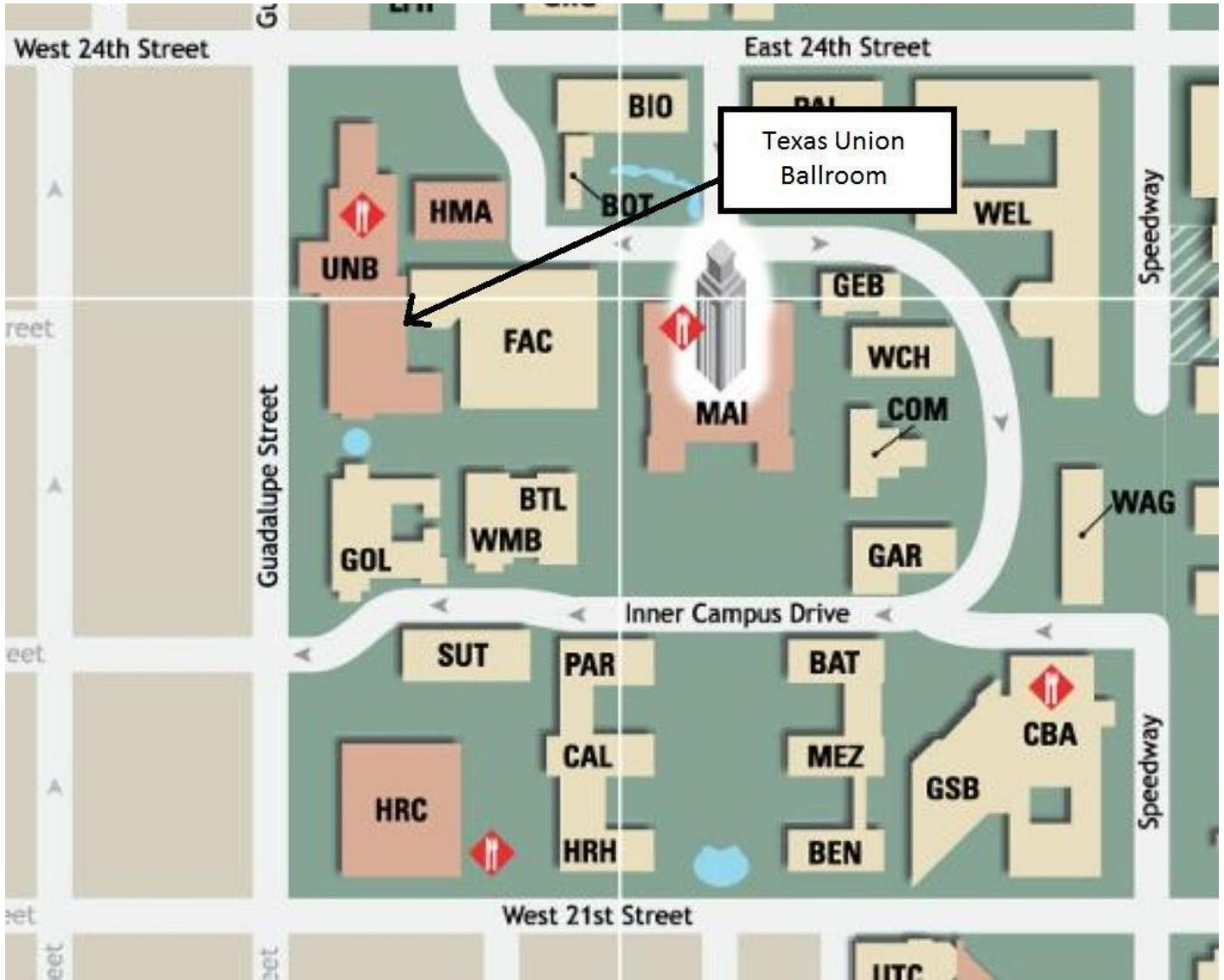
With the exception of Starbucks and Wendy's, many of the restaurants in the Union are closed on Saturdays..

JCL and Wendy's can be found in Jester and the Cypress Bend Café can be found on San Jacinto Street. There is also a Wendy's and a Starbucks on the first floor of the Union.

In addition to these restaurants, there are many off-campus options right across on Guadalupe Street from the Union. Exit the south door and turn right onto the West Mall. Guadalupe will be easily visible.

April 7-8, 2017

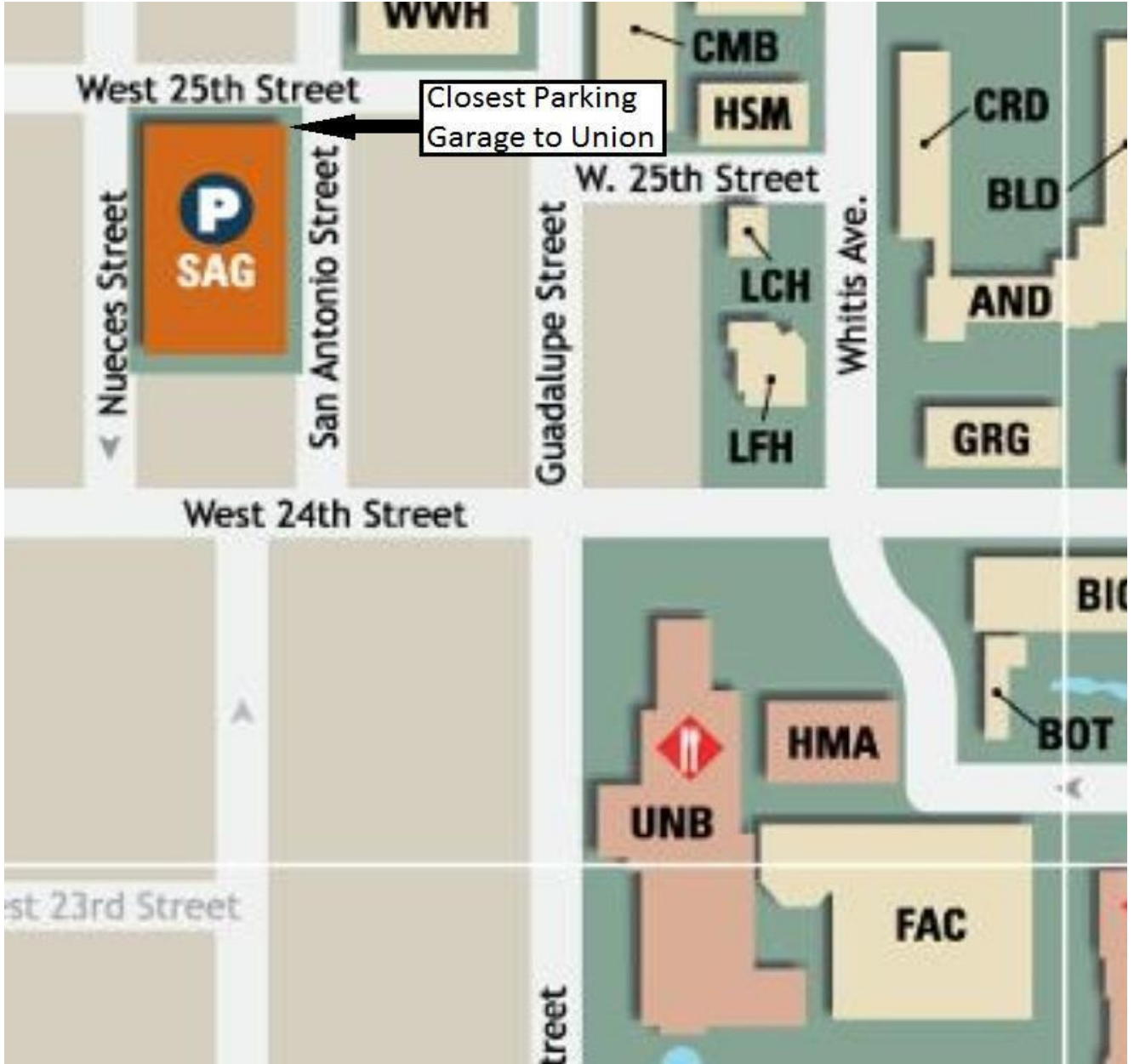
TEXAS BALLROOM presents the AUSTIN OPEN 2017
Texas Union Ballroom, on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin



Map 1 UNB- Union Building

April 7-8, 2017

TEXAS BALLROOM presents the AUSTIN OPEN 2017
Texas Union Ballroom, on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin



Map 2 SAG- San Antonio Garage

Parking: Some parking is available on the Guadalupe Street, and on streets on campus, however attendees should be aware that this parking is extremely limited. Please refer to the map above. In addition, the University of Texas Home Page, <http://www.utexas.edu/parking/maps> has an interactive parking map, which indicates additional locations of visitor parking.

Important note concerning all parking on the University of Texas Campus: There are a number of signs describing parking restrictions both in lots and on the street. Please pay careful attention to the signs. In particular, NEVER park near a sign bearing the text "AT ALL TIMES" as this parking is always restricted to a specific category of user. The University Police are extremely zealous in enforcing parking regulations! Texas Ballroom cannot take any responsibility for parking issues associated with this event.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

April 7-8, 2017

TEXAS BALLROOM presents the AUSTIN OPEN 2017

Texas Union Ballroom, on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin

Austin has a wide variety of hotels in a number of price ranges. The hotels listed below are all within an easy 5 to 10 minute drive of the competition venue. Most of them are on or near I35. Rates given are approximate – please contact the hotels in order to confirm rates prior to making reservations.

Cost Effective Solutions

Rodeway Inn – Austin (University) (0.7 miles from campus)
2900 N I-35 Austin, TX 78705. (512) 477-6395

Super 8 Central/Downtown (1.3 miles from campus)
1201 N I-35 Austin, TX 78702. (512) 472-8331

Days Inn University Downtown (0.7 miles from campus)
3105 N I-35 Austin, TX 78722 (512) 478-1631

Doubletree Club Hotel Austin University Area (1 mile from campus)
1617 N I-35 Austin, TX 78702, (512) 479-4000

Affordable Luxury

Doubletree Guest Suites Austin (1 mile from campus),
303 W 15th St. Austin, TX 78701 (512) 478-7000

All Out Luxury

The Driskill (0.7 miles from campus)
604 Brazos St Austin, TX 78701 (512) 474-5911

The J. W. Marriott (1.8 miles from the Union)
110 E 2nd St, Austin, TX 78701 * (512) 474-4777

Please contact these hotels directly to confirm rates and availability, and to obtain driving directions.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS

Texas Ballroom may be able to arrange limited housing accommodations for student competitors, especially those coming in from out-of-state. Please email txb.competitiondirectors@gmail.com for more information. Accommodations will be on a first come, first served basis.