



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

THE FOLLOWING RULES AND REGULATIONS SHALL BE READ AND A SIGNATURE PROVIDED ON THE STUDIO ENTRY FORM ACKNOWLEDGING ACCEPTANCE OF ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS SET FORTH.

GENERAL CATEGORIES

Solo	1 Dancer
Duet/Trio	2-3 Dancers
Small Group	4-9 Dancers
Large Group	10+ Dancers
Production	Min. 20+ Dancers
Production Extended	Min. 30+ Dancers

AGE DIVISIONS

6 & Under, 7-8 Years, 9-10 Years, 11-12 Years, 13-14 Years, 15-16 Years and 17-18 Years and 19 & Over. Categories shall be split when more than 10 entries are received in an age division. Where possible, such division shall be based on age. A dance routine may enter a higher age category to avoid competing against itself. A dancer may compete against him/herself in a group routine when the majority of the dancers are different. No dancer may perform the same routine twice in two different age divisions.

AGE DETERMINATION

The average age of all dancers in a Duet/Trio, Group or Production determines the appropriate age division. To figure this average, add the ages of all the dancers and then divide by the number of dancers. ROUND UP WHEN THE DECIMAL IS GREATER THAN 0.5. All ages are as of the first day of competition; full names, ages and birth dates shall be included on the entry form. Each dancer shall bring proof of age. If a protest arises, such proof shall be presented upon request of a Dance Championships Director.

DANCE CATEGORIES

All dance categories, excluding acro and hip-hop, may contain no more than two (2) gymnastic tricks. A trick is a movement that passes through or stops at a fully inverted position with both feet off the floor. Shoulder rolls and lifts are not considered tricks. A gymnastic pass is considered one (1) trick.

If lip synchronization or props are used in any dance category other than open, it shall play a minor role in the routine. The major emphasis of the routine shall be dance.

JAZZ: Routine shall consist primarily of jazz technique.

TAP: Routine shall contain tap technique and consist primarily of tap work. Tap sounds on CD are NOT allowed.

BALLET: Routine shall consist primarily of ballet technique and include classical steps and movements.

LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY: Routine shall demonstrate balance, extensions, isolations and control using contemporary lyrical styles.

MODERN: A contemporary or abstract style of dance. Routine shall be danced in a contemporary modern style exhibiting freedom of movement to create unusual and interesting effects.

ACRO: Routine shall consist primarily of acrobatic moves incorporated with the rhythm of the music. Routine shall consist of at least 50 percent acrobatic moves with the balance of the routine containing dance moves, steps and choreography. Acro contestants shall provide their own equipment.

PRODUCTION: Routine shall tell a story or portray a theme. Routine may incorporate any combination of listed dance categories.

OPEN: Any routine that does not apply to the listed dance categories including, but not limited to, musical comedy, mime, character, clogging, song & dance.

HIP HOP: Routine shall consist primarily of hip hop or street style technique.

TIME ALLOWANCES

Solo and Duet/Trio entries are limited to 3 minutes. Group entries are limited to 3 minutes 30 seconds. Production entries are limited to a minimum 4 minutes 30 seconds and maximum 6 minutes. Production Extended entries are limited to a minimum 6 minutes and maximum 10 minutes.

All dancers are required to be at the competition at least one (1) hour prior to their scheduled performance times except during the first hour of competition, when dancers are required to be at the competition site ½ hour prior to their scheduled performance times.

ENTRIES

Entries will be processed on a first come basis when received with payment in full. Studio schedules including performance times and contestant numbers shall be mailed at least 10 days prior to the scheduled competition. The deadline for additional entries, changes or refunds shall be seven (7) days after the mailing of studio schedules.

BACKSTAGE

Due to limited space available, the only persons allowed backstage during the competition, except participating dancers, are studio directors and teachers and those who are needed to move props. Studio directors and teachers shall not arrive backstage more than five (5) routines in advance of the start of the category. The backstage shall remain clear for routines to enter and exit.

PERFORMING

Dancers shall report backstage three (3) routines in advance of their scheduled performance, accompanied by a studio director or teacher. Entrances and music shall not start until the MC announces the routine to the judges. Any dancer leaving the stage and not completing a routine will not be allowed to repeat the routine, unless there is a problem with the music.

MUSIC

CD's shall be turned in three (3) routines prior to the scheduled performance. The name of the routine and studio shall be clearly printed on the CD or label. All performance CDs shall be picked up immediately after completion of the performance. Dance Championships Directors are not responsible for lost or stolen CDs.

PROPS

The Dance Championships is not responsible for any props. The taking on and off of props and cleaning the stage after it has become littered during a routine is the sole responsibility of the studio. Trampolines are not allowed.

INDECENT MOVEMENTS, LYRICS OR COSTUMING

If dance movements, lyrics or costuming is deemed too suggestive or otherwise inappropriate for our family audience, it shall not be scored. Such determination shall be made by the panel of judges.

JUDGING PANEL

Contestants shall be judged by a panel of qualified, competent judges in the following categories: Presentation, Technique and Overall Impression. All decisions of the judges are final.

Judges comments shall be provided to each Studio Director on CD or flash drive. The routines shall be labeled and organized in chronological order. In the event of a technical problem, cassette tapes shall be used.

AWARDS

In the event of a tie for Overall High Score or Grand Champion, a Trophy shall be presented to each routine and the Cash Scholarship shall be equally divided.

CATEGORIES: Gold, Silver and Bronze medals with neck ribbons will be awarded to each dancer in the three (3) highest scoring routines in each category. Each dancer

in routines that achieve an average score of 90 will be recognized with merit. Honorable Mention ribbons will be awarded to each dancer in the remaining routines for each category in the 12 & Under age division.

OVERALL HIGH SCORES: For each age division containing a minimum 10 qualifying routines, a \$200.00 Cash Scholarship and Trophy shall be presented to the Overall High Score. For each division containing a minimum 15 qualifying routines, trophies shall be awarded to the next nine (9) highest scoring routines.

GRAND CHAMPION: A \$100 Cash Scholarship and Trophy shall be presented to the highest scoring routine in the 12 & Under age division. A \$100 Cash Scholarship and Trophy shall be presented to the highest scoring routine in the 13 & Over age division. A Grand Champion Ribbon shall be presented to each dancer in a Grand Champion routine other than solos. A Trophy will be presented to the teacher of the Grand Champion routine.

SPECIAL AWARDS: For each age division containing a minimum 15 qualifying routines, one (1) Choreography Plaque shall be presented to the teacher of a solo/duet/trio and one (1) shall be presented to the teacher of a group selected by the judges. A \$100.00 Cash Studio Spirit Award and a Plaque shall be presented to the studio Director of the dance studio entering the most dancers. Production routines will not compete for the Grand Champion Scholarship and Trophy; however, the highest scoring production routine shall receive a Trophy. Where there are three (3) or more production routines, a \$100 Scholarship shall be included.

SCORING

If there is only one contestant in a category, an average score of 87 shall be attained to receive a gold medal

DEDUCTIONS

- 15 pt. deduction: if tap sounds are on tape in tap category
- 15 pt. deduction: for violating rule regarding gymnastic tricks
- 15 pt. deduction: for dancer performing incomplete routine
- 1 pt. per second, per judge: for violating time allowances

STUDIO DIRECTOR and TEACHERS

Studio Directors shall check-in at the hospitality desk. Judges comment CDs will be available to the Studio Directors after their studio's participation in the competition is completed. Score sheets shall be distributed at the hospitality desk to teachers only after each award ceremony. Scoring results shall be posted in the Directors' Room for teachers to view. Protests shall be submitted by the Studio Director or teacher to a Dance Championships Director prior to the ensuing award ceremony.

PROHIBITIVES

Non-compliance will result in disqualification or removal from the competition site. Smoking, the use of spray paints, fingernail polish anywhere in the building. Eating or drinking in the auditorium. Rhythmic applauding, screaming or whistling during the performance of a routine. Photography and video cameras (including digital cameras and cell phones). Studio Directors and Dance Teachers 19 years or older who teach competition classes will not be allowed to compete.

INHERENT RISKS

Any dancer competing in a dance competition takes certain inherent risks. These may include, but are not limited to, sprains, pulled muscles and broken bones. Participation in this competition indicates the acceptance of such risks by dancers. By virtue of entering this event, it is agreed that dancers shall not hold The Dance Championships or its officers, directors or staff responsible for injuries sustained while in attendance or participating in The Dance Championships event. Furthermore, The Dance Championships is not responsible for personal property loss or theft to either dancers or other persons.

MEDIA RELEASE

Participants and teachers by virtue of entering a Dance Championships competition, give their permission and consent to the Dance Championships Directors to use their images or photographs or appear on videos, television or any other electronic media for advertising, news coverage or any other commercial use of our events.