

OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

All entries must be submitted with payment in full, using credit card or debit card. Entries will not be processed without full payment.

GENERAL RULES & GUIDELINES:

- There is no limit to the number of entries a studio or student may have.
- A performer is not allowed to compete against himself/herself in the same age division or category.
- No use of live animals or live people as props
- No use of dangerous/destructive props such as knives, glass, sand, swords, water, paint, etc.
- The stage must be left clean by the performers.
- Props are permitted in all categories: however, there is a 2-minute time limit in setting up and removing props for each entry.
- No changes in category, entry participants, levels or ages will be made on the day of the regional competition; unless special permission is granted
- All competitors must be able to provide proof of their age within one-half hour of the performance of the entry in question. Only a Studio Director can initiate a protest. All regional ages are as of January 1 of the current competition year.

- No refunds will be made for competition entry fees.
- All competitors, teachers, and audience members should always conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. Teachers/Studio Directors/Parents are responsible for categorizing their entries based on categories of competition. They are also responsible for placing the dancer in the correct level - recreational, intermediate, Advanced, Adult/Teacher. If an entry is mis- categorized, the Judges will place the entry in the appropriate category of competition without a deduction.
- Score sheets will be available online within 48 hours of the competition. Video Critiques will be available online in a timely fashion via email.

TYPES OF ENTRIES:

Solo (1 performer) Duet (2 performers) Trio (3 performers) Small Group (4-9 performers) Large Group (10-19 performers) Lines (20+ performers)

AGE DIVISIONS:

- Participants will be divided into the following age divisions:
Mini: Ages 5 and Under Petite: 6-8 Junior: 9-11 Teen: 12-14 Senior: 15-19 Adult: Ages 20 and up and for teachers who wish to compete

AGE GUIDELINES:

- Ages of performers will be determined as of January 1. When determining the age division for an entry, please average the ages of the participants in an entry and then drop the decimal point. Therefore, 8.5 would be age division 6-8, not 9-11.

TEACHER RULE:

Teachers are only allowed to compete in the Adult Category. A “teacher” is defined as any individual that is being compensated for classes or choreography and/or teaches 3 or more hours per week.

ADULT RULE:

- Adult Division includes the following: Teachers, Professionals and Parents. Any routine solo, duet/trio, group or line that has a performer 20 years old or older will automatically be placed in the Adult age division, regardless of average age of participants.

LEVELS OF COMPETITION:

- All solos performed by the same dancer must be entered in the same level. For example, a dancer may take 4 hours of Jazz and 1 hour of Tap per week, the dancer would be considered an intermediate dancer, regardless of the breakdown on disciplines.
- Petites (6-8) can only be entered as Recreational or Intermediate, not Elite. Minis (5 & Under) can only be entered as Recreational.
- In a group routine with dancers of different performance levels (REC/INT/ELITE), the entry should be entered in the level that applies to at least 50% of the dancers. In a Duet/Trio with dancers of different levels, at least 2/3 of the dancers must be from the level they are competing in. Violation of these rules will result in disqualification of the routine from the top ten. If a mixed-level routine has more than 50% INT dancers, but you feel the overall level of the routine is elite, please be fair and consider challenging your dancers by placing them in the ELITE performance level.

NOTE:

Please be advised that these rules are offered as guidelines only for studio owners in the placement of their dancers in the level of competition they feel appropriate for their dancers. We trust that you will be fair in placing your dancers in the level you feel best reflects their ability of dance. Because no competition can possibly know how many hours a child dances or for how many years they have danced, teachers are left to their own sound judgement when entering routines. The judges may elevate routines or lower routines that are obviously placed in the wrong level. All decisions are final. Here are some additional situations to consider:

1. The spirit and intent of our Performance Levels is to provide dancers with the opportunity to compete against other dancers with similar experience and training. It is NOT designed so that your studio will place in the overalls more often.
2. Our performance levels should not be used as a tool to simply keep your groups from competing against one another. Each group placement should be based only upon the qualifications of that team.
3. If a group is a mixed level of dancers, simply because you meet the 50% requirement, does not mean that a dance should be entered in the INT level. For example: if a studio puts together its five top INT dancers with 5 Elite level dancers, just because there are 50% INT level, does not mean it is an INT routine.
4. If you have any questions regarding placement or any other rule, please feel free to email or call us, we are always happy to help.

RECREATIONAL LEVEL:

- This level is for students new to competitions who take 3 hours or less of class per week. These students should have limited competition experience of only 1-2 years. Adult acts may be entered in the recreational level.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL:

- Students who take 3-6 hours of class per week and have participated in competitions for 3-4 years.

ELITE LEVEL:

- This level is designed for more advanced students who take 6+ hours of class per week and have at least 5+ years of competition experience.
- Petites & Minis (8 & Under) cannot compete at the Elite Level, they must be entered as Recreational or Intermediate.

TIME LIMITS:

Solo: 3 minutes • Duet/Trio: 3 minutes • Groups: 3 minutes • Lines: 7 minutes

Entries that exceed the time requirement may result in a point deduction if “extra minutes” were not purchased.

TITLE DIVISION:

Title entries will be awarded based on their Technique score, Showmanship score and Overall Impression score. There is no minimum number of dancers for a Title Award to be presented.

Title Age Divisions

Miss Petite Mr. Petite Miss Junior Mr. Junior Miss Teen Mr. Teen Miss Senior Mr. Senior Miss Adult Mr Adult

GENERAL AWARDS:

Ages 8 and under

Ages 9-11

Ages 12-14

Ages 15-19

- Each entry will be adjudicated and receive an award indicating their entry's achievement based on the scoring system for each level of competition.

RECREATIONAL LEVEL:

Diamond 300-275 Sapphire: 274-252 and under

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL:

Diamond 300-280 Sapphire: 279-261 Ruby: 237 and under

Advanced LEVEL:

Diamond 300-285 Sapphire: 284-270 and under

- One award will be given to the studio for their entry's achievement: Diamond Sapphire Ruby individual placement pins indicating the entry's achievement will be given to each participant in the group, line.
- The "Champion of the Category" will be announced for all categories in which there are two or more entries per age division and category.

OVERALL TOP AWARDS:

- Overall Awards will be presented to the TOP scoring entries in each level of \$100.00 will be awarded to every 1st Place Overall Winner, regardless of level or number of entries.
- One award will be given to the studio of the TOP Overall scoring solo, duet/trio, small
- Only one (1) solo per dancer is eligible for Overall Awards.
- Top 10, Top 5, Top 3 or the Top Overall 1st place entry will be recognized during the Overall Awards. This will be based on the number of entries at the regional competition.
- All ties will be broken; first by technique score, second by showmanship/presentation score, and third by a judge's poll.

PHOTOGENIC COMPETITION:

- All contestants entered in photogenic will be eligible for their own Top Overall Awards.

PHOTOGENIC ENTRIES:

The photograph can be any size, color or black and white. Photogenic entries will receive a score sheet at the conclusion of competition. \$100 Prize for the overall winners

REGIONAL AWARDS:

Adjudications, Overall Top Awards, Title Category, Adult Category, Special Judges Awards, , Photogenic Choreography Awards Showcase Student Award

REGIONAL AWARDS: All Overall Winners receive a \$100 Prize

CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION:

All categories of competition may contain up to 3 acro tricks. Entries that are primarily acro/gymnastics in nature or contain more than 3 acro tricks should be placed in the "acro/gymnastics" category or the "open" category.

ACRO-GYMNASTICS - A routine consisting of controlled moves such as walkovers, limbers, handstands, chest rolls, etc. Majority of routine must be acrobatic moves. Must contain some dance moves, steps and choreography.

BALLET - Routine which must include classical steps and ballet technique.

BATON - Routine using baton(s) and baton technique.

CHARACTER - A routine portraying an easily recognizable character throughout. It can be from a play, movie, television Broadway, or a stereotype such as a lawyer, law enforcement officer, etc.

CLOGGING - A routine utilizing either traditional or contemporary clogging technique and style.

CONTEMPORARY - Routine incorporating lyrical or jazz movement fused with modern elements.

DRILL TEAM - Precision marching in military or dance styles.

FOLK/ETHNIC - A routine incorporating ethnic styles of dance such as polkas, Hawaiian and Spanish, etc. **HIP HOP** - Routine must consist primarily of hip hop technique. No suggestive moves or inappropriate music.

JAZZ - Routine must consist of primarily jazz technique.

LYRICAL - Routine should demonstrate balance, extension, isolations and control using contemporary lyrical moves set to the mood or lyrics of the music.

MODERN - Interpretive dance using balance and control.

MUSICAL THEATRE - Routine featuring any style of dance interpreting a song from a Broadway show or movie musical.

OPEN - Routine consisting of any of our listed categories or combinations of listed category styles. May contain an unlimited number of acro/gymnastics elements.

POINTE - Routine must consist of pointe/toe technique.

POM PON - Routine which must include such elements as marching, clean, sharp arm movements, kicks, leaps, jumps and splits. The routine must incorporate pom pons. Up to 3 acrobatic tricks allowed, but no stunts or tosses.

PRODUCTION - A routine utilizing a group of at least 20 dancers, utilizing props, sets, and a main theme or storyline.

SONG & DANCE - Routine must contain both singing and any listed category of dance (tap, jazz, ballet, etc.). Accompaniment must be on tape and backup voices only will be permitted.

TAP - Routine must contain tap technique.

VOCAL - Routine may be any type of vocal presentation. Accompaniment must be on CD or live. No lead vocals permitted on tape, backup voices only will be permitted.

ADJUDICATION:

- We will provide only competent Judges. Our panel will consist of teachers, choreographers and working professionals that are well versed in the categories of competition. They will also have an understanding of what it takes to choreograph for children and what skills are attainable for performers at various ages. All decisions of the Judges are final.
- Routines will be given a numerical score from each Judge.
- Judging Criteria is as follows:

Technique - 40 points • Execution of Choreo - 20 points • Choreography - 15 points
Showmanship/Presentation - 15 points • Costume - 5 points • Overall Impression - 5 points

JUDGES CRITIQUES:

- We will verbal critiques to each studio owner online from all three judges for each routine in a timely fashion following the conclusion of the competition.

ENTRY CONFIRMATIONS AND SCHEDULING:

PAYMENTS:

- All entries submitted with payment in full, using credit card or debit card
- Entries will not be processed without full payment.
- There are no refunds for competition fees.
- In the unlikely event that it is necessary to cancel a competition all entry fees will be returned in full.
- We reserve the right to cancel any competition due to weather, number of entries or any other circumstances deemed necessary. In case of cancellation, all registration fees will be promptly refunded.
- Sportsmanlike behavior is expected at all times.