

Dance Champs Rules and Regulations - 2010

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS -- DANCE CHAMPS is open to performers of all ages. Performers may enter as many routines as they wish. A SEPARATE ENTRY FORM must be submitted for each routine. Studio Summary Sheet, Entry Forms and Dancers Release Forms need to be filled out completely and clearly and returned by the deadline date. Names and ages of all participants must appear on the official entry form or it will not be accepted. Personal checks will not be accepted.

Mail entries with payment (studio check, cashier's check, credit card or money order). Absolutely **NO REFUNDS** after the deadline date. Entries are due in our office 30 days prior to the regional competition date. Entries are accepted on a First come, First served" basis and will be limited based on available venue times. **On line Entries** are also accepted with credit card payment. Some competitions will close out early. Entries will be reviewed and processed immediately. Confirmation packets will be sent to your studio, either by mail, e-mail or faxed informing each studio of their studio code, location, map, and approximate program schedule at least six days prior to the competition. If the maximum number of entries has been received by the deadline date, additional entries will not be accepted. DANCE CHAMPS reserves the right to change competition dates and locations due to unforeseen circumstances, add additional competition days, or cancel a competition that does not receive the minimum entries required.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE – Dance Champs does not have a general format for our regional competitions. When all entries are received, a breakdown of solos, duet/trios, small and large groups, and productions are evaluated. A time schedule is confirmed and placed on our WEB SITE. Each regional schedule may vary. On a two day competition, Junior/Petites may compete on Saturday, and Teen/Seniors compete on Sunday. Dance Champs strives to obtain high quality theatres and stages, with hardwood floors at least 40 feet wide and 30 feet deep. Rosin is permitted but must be provided by your studio.

RELEASE FORMS – Each performer's parent/legal guardian must sign the Dance Champs Release Form completely in order for each participant to perform at Dance Champs. For insurance purposes, teacher's signatures are not acceptable. The signed release form must accompany completed studio entries by the deadline date.

ENTRIES received after the deadline date are subject to a \$10 late fee per routine payable prior to competing and may not appear in the program book. A change to a routine is subject to a \$10 service charge, payable by credit card. No changes can be made 7 days prior to the competition and absolutely no changes at the competition. There is a \$30 service charge on all returned checks with two percent interest charged per month until the check is paid. No phone or faxed entries will be accepted unless payment is received.

PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES consists of BALLET, POINTE, LYRICAL, TAP, CLOGGING, SONG AND DANCE, POM PON, JAZZ, HIP HOP, ACROBATS, CHARACTER, OPEN, PRODUCTION, MODERN, MUSICAL THEATRE, JUST FOR KIX, AND PARENT. Routines containing three or more tricks, competes in the Acrobat, or Open categories. Lifts are permissible.

Acrobat – Combines gymnastic and dance choreography.

Ballet – Consists of ballet technique, classical steps and movement.

Character – A routine portraying a recognizable character

Clogging – Performed in clogging shoes using clogging technique

Hip Hop – Street or contemporary jazz-funk. Careful of lyrics

Jazz – A routine consisting of jazz movements and technique

Lyrical – Dancers interpret the lyrics, mood and content of the music

Modern – Interpret dance using balance, control, and contemporary modern style

Musical Theatre – Any style of dance interpreting a song from Broadway/Movie Musical

Open – Any style of dance

Pointe – Classical or contemporary pointe technique and steps –pointe shoes only

Pom Pon – Routine includes marching, kicks, leaps, sharp arm movements and the use of poms

Song and Dance – Must contain singing and any style of dance – taped music

Tap – Scored on Tap technique. No tap sounds in music.

JUST FOR KIX CATEGORY – Competitors with less than two years of training and/or first time competing MAY enter this category but it is not mandatory. Just for Kix Category does not qualify for High Point Awards. Routines adjudicated on a higher point scale.

PARENT CATEGORY - All parents must be at least 22 years of age. They may compete in group routines only. Routines are not eligible for High Point Awards or Cash Awards.

PROPS are permissible and must be essential to the routine. Props are such things as ropes, balls, chairs, benches, and free standing scenery. If you have questions concerning props, please call our office. Props need to be set up within two minutes and taken off the stage immediately following the performance. The use of fire, smoke, fog machines, knives, electricity and live animals are prohibited. Liquids of any kind, gel, aerosol, helium balloons and throwing of glitter are prohibited. Props cannot exceed 10 feet high and performers cannot stand above 6' on the prop. Performers must completely clear off the stage in the event of loose feathers, streamers, hairpieces, etc. or points will be deducted. No items may be thrown or shot into the audience. Deductions will result and routines may not qualify for high point awards. Studio owners/teachers will be responsible for any damage to the stage, dressing rooms, or any part of the venue from their routine.

SINGING is allowed only in SONG AND DANCE, OPEN, PRODUCTION, MUSICAL THEATRE, and PARENT DIVISON. Additional sound equipment/microphones may NOT be used or connected to the Dance Champ sound system. Microphones provided upon prior requests.

AGE Category**PETITES – 8 years of age and younger**
TEENS – 13 – 15 years of age**JUNIORS – 9 – 12 years of age**
SENIORS – 16 years of age and older

Age is based on the dancer's age as of January 1, 2010. Duet/trios, small groups, large groups, and production numbers are based on the average age of dancers. **DECIMALS ARE DROPPED WHEN DETERMINING AGE OF ROUTINE.** If protests arise, dancers must be prepared to present proof of age. (birth certificate, drivers license, etc.) Protests must be in writing, signed, and presented to the Dance Champs Director one hour prior to the incident. If there is a dancer 18 years old or older and the average age is 12 years and under, the group routine must compete in the 13 / Over Division. The youngest group dancer must remain on the stage 50 % of the routine.

ENTRY FEES - SOLOS -- \$75; DUET/TRIOS -- \$90; SMALL GROUPS (4-9 PERFORMERS) -\$26 EACH; Large Groups (10-19 PERFORMERS) -\$26 EACH; PRODUCTIONS -- (20 OR MORE PERFORMERS) - \$26 EACH

MR. and MISS DANCE CHAMPS TITLE –All solos qualify for Mr/Miss Petite, Junior, Teen and Senior Dance Champ Regional Title at **NO ADDITIONAL ENTRY FEE.** Highest Point Platinum, High Gold, or Gold score is awarded this special title.

DC JAZZ CHALLENGE – Join Dance Champs for a “Simulated Audition”. Six-eight counts will be taught to participants. They will perform on stage until the judges, by elimination, have chosen the top three winners from the Junior Division (12 years of age and younger) and the Senior Division (13 years of age and older). Winners will be awarded \$25, \$15, and \$10 in DC Cash. Tickets may be purchased at the DC Boutique for \$10.

MUSIC --Solo, Duet, Trio and Group Routines are limited to 3 minutes. Productions are limited to 7 minutes. Each routine must be recorded on a clean, cut on a single CD cued and ready to play. Professional labels will be included in your confirmation packet and must be placed on your CD's. Music is to be turned in at the Registration Table at the beginning of each competition day – one hour prior to start time. Score sheets and music can be picked up at the end of each competition day by the Studio director or Studio designee. Studio name cannot be used as song title, name of routine, worn as costume apparel or appear on a prop. If this occurs, deductions will be taken. Sound Systems vary at each location. Our DJ will not adjust the speed of the music or make cuts in the music. Please have a backup CD readily available if needed. Please have your music professional recorded. Dance Champs is not responsible for unreadable CD. Dance Champs is not responsible for lost, stolen or unclaimed music.

JUDGING Our panel of well-qualified judges critique each performance. Each performance is judged against a pre-set point system. (50 points per judge) Our scoring system allows for multiples of PLATINUM, HIGH GOLD, GOLD, HIGH SILVER, SILVER, and BRONZE. Judges decisions are final. DANCE CHAMPS is a family-oriented event. If the judges feel that a performance, costume, or song lyrics are inappropriate or too suggestive, points will be deducted and they may not be eligible for high point awards. Routines may be stopped and disqualified. DEDUCTIONS will be given for tapes not properly cued (1 pts); performances over the time limit (1 pts); routines not completed (5 pts); routines, music, and costumes not suited for family viewing (1-6 pts); routines entered in the wrong category (1 pts); time delays (5 pts).

SCORE SHEETS and judges' critique CD's may be picked up at the conclusion of each day. Dance Champs is not responsible for uncollected critiques/scores sheets.

Additional Information

All routines must compete in their designated day and time frame. If this is not possible, routines will be adjudicated and will not be eligible for High Point Awards. Entries received without payment will not be accepted until payment is received. Solo performances which are not completed the first time and attempted a second time will be adjudicated, deducted 5 points, and not eligible for High Point Awards.

Teachers and dancers give their permission and consent to the directors of Dance Champs to use their images or photographs or appear in videos or other electronic media for advertising, news coverage, or any other commercial use of our event. All participants grant permission to the directors of Dance Champs the use of their photographs to appear in print and our website to promote Dance Champs. Smoking is prohibited in the competition areas. SPORTSMANLIKE conduct is expected from all participants including teachers, dancers, and parents. Dance Champs reserves the right to disqualify routines/studios for obstructing this rule.

Dance Champs and the hosting facility are not responsible for personal injury or property loss.

PHOTOGRAPHY is strictly prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in confiscation of cameras and possible studio disqualification. Please be sure that your parents are aware of this rule.

Any performer competing in a dance competition takes certain inherent risks. These include but are not limited to sprains, bruises, pulled muscles, and broken bones. Dance Champs Participants in this competition indicate the acceptance of such risks. Therefore by virtue of entering this event it is agreed that participants will not hold Dance Champs, its officers, directors, staff or employees responsible for injuries sustained or illnesses contracted by them while in attendance and/or participating in any activity related to a Dance Champs competition. The hosting facility is not responsible for personal injury or property loss to either contestants or spectators.

Unclaimed awards, critiques, photos, music and score sheets will not be mailed.

Coaching dancers is not allowed.

PERFORMERS CANNOT ENTER, EXIT, OR JUMP OFF THE FRONT OF THE STAGE DURING OR AFTER THEIR ROUTINE. THIS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THIS IS FOR THE SAFETY OF THE DANCERS, JUDGES, AND OUR AUDIENCE.