

# NEW CONTEST RULES

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### NEW TEAM CLASSIFICATIONS FOR 2009

IN AN EFFORT TO PROMOTE MALE DANCERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND MAINTAIN FAIRNESS IN COMPETITION, THE FOLLOWING 4 TEAM CLASSIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED:

- ♦ PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ALL MALE
- ♦ PUBLIC JR. HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL ALL MALE
- ♦ PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL COED
- ♦ PUBLIC JR. HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL COED

COED WILL ONLY APPLY TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT CONTAIN 25% OR MORE MALE PERFORMERS WHO ARE SCHOOL CERTIFIED FULL-TIME MEMBERS OF THE DANCE TEAM. ALL OTHER PUBLIC SCHOOL TEAMS CONTAINING LESS THAN 25% MALE CERTIFIED MEMBERS SHOULD REGISTER AS A REGULAR JR. HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL OR (BY TEAM SIZE) AS A SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE, OR SUPER TEAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL. COED AND ALL MALE PUBLIC JUNIOR HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO TEAM SIZE GUIDELINES.

### NEW CATEGORIES OF DANCE FOR 2009

IN ADDITION TO JAZZ, PROP, HIGH KICK, MILITARY, NOVELTY, LYRICAL, MODERN, POM, HIP HOP AND SHOW PRODUCTION, TWO (2) MORE CATEGORIES HAVE BEEN ADDED FOR COMPETITION: **OPEN ROUTINES AND SPECIALTY ROUTINES**. SINCE COED HAS BECOME A TEAM CLASSIFICATION, NO LONGER WILL COED BE A DANCE CATEGORY.

TO ENTER THE **OPEN DANCE CATEGORY**, A ROUTINE MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS: (1) IT INCLUDES ONLY FULL-TIME CERTIFIED TEAM MEMBERS AND (2) IT IS EITHER A TAP, BALLET, LIGHT, OR MULTI-CULTURAL ROUTINE, OR IT INCORPORATES AT LEAST TWO OR MORE DISTINCT STYLES OF DANCE (SUCH AS HALF JAZZ, HALF HIGH KICK, OR 1/3 PROP, 1/3 MILITARY, AND 1/3 HIGH KICK). OPEN ROUTINES MAY BE COUNTED TOWARD SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS FOR REGIONAL COMPETITIONS AND TOWARD THE JACKET COMPETITION AT NATIONALS.

TO ENTER THE **SPECIALTY ROUTINE CATEGORY**, A ROUTINE MUST INCLUDE PERFORMERS THAT ARE NOT FULL-TIME CERTIFIED MEMBERS OF THE TEAM SUCH AS DADS, MOMS, MALES FROM A DANCE CLASS OR THE SCHOOL AT LARGE. FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD PLACE TROPHIES WILL BE PRESENTED FOR SPECIALTY ROUTINES AT ALL OF OUR CONTESTS. SPECIALTY ROUTINES MAY NOT BE COUNTED TOWARD SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS AT REGIONAL COMPETITIONS OR TOWARD THE JACKET COMPETITION AT NATIONALS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE MA OFFICE BY TELEPHONE AT 800-977-7933.

### TEAM SIZE AND PERFORMANCE RULE

VARSITY PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL DANCE TEAMS ARE CLASSIFIED AS SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE, AND SUPER ACCORDING TO THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS ON THEIR TEAM, AND NOT BY THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS COMPETING. VARSITY PUBLIC HS TEAMS MUST PERFORM A MINIMUM OF 70% OF THEIR ACTUAL MEMBERSHIP ON ALL TEAM ROUTINE EVENTS. THE PENALTY WILL BE A 5 POINT TOTAL DEDUCTION FOR EACH PERFORMANCE NOT ADHERING TO THIS RULE.

### PROPS AND BACKDROPS USAGE

CURTAINS, STAGING, AND OTHER PROPS FOR ROUTINES SHOULD BE CONSTRUCTED TO FIT THROUGH A 7 FOOT TALL DOUBLE DOOR FOUND IN MOST HS GYMNASIUMS. PROPS AND STAGING MAY BE ASSEMBLED ON THE FLOOR BUT SETUP & BREAK-DOWN TIME WILL BE ADDED TO THE ACTUAL ROUTINE PERFORMANCE TIME LENGTH TO PRODUCE TOTAL FLOOR TIME. TOTAL FLOOR TIME SHOULD NOT EXCEED 5 MINUTES FOR ALL DANCE CATEGORIES EXCEPT: PROP (6 MINUTES) AND SHOW PRODUCTION (12 MINUTES).

INCLUDING SET UP/ENTRANCES/BREAKDOWN/EXITS, TEAMS HAVE A TOTAL OF 5 MINUTES OF FLOOR TIME PER ROUTINE IN JAZZ, HIP HOP, MILITARY, HIGH KICK, POM, LYRICAL, MODERN, NOVELTY, SPECIALTY, AND OPEN. PROP ROUTINES WILL BE GIVEN 6 TOTAL MINUTES AND SHOW PRODUCTION WILL BE ALLOTTED 12 TOTAL MINUTES. ENTRANCES AND EXITS ARE NOT JUDGED. YOU MAY PETITION FOR ADDITIONAL TIME IF NEEDED, BUT ONLY IN ONE CATEGORY PER TEAM! A ONE POINT PENALTY PER JUDGE PER MINUTE WILL BE ASSESSED FOR EXCEEDING ROUTINE TIME LIMITS.

### LATE ENTRY PENALTIES

ENTRIES RECEIVED AFTER THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE (14 DAYS PRIOR TO CONTEST) WILL BE CHARGED A LATE FEE OF \$25 FOR EACH TEAM, OFFICER, ENSEMBLE, & SOLO ROUTINE ENTERED.



# NATIONAL DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

## DANCE CATEGORIES - TEAMS & OFFICERS

Jazz	Hip Hop	Novelty	Modern	Pom
Prop	Military	Lyrical	Specialty	Kick
Show Production	Open			

In addition to Jazz, Prop, High Kick, Military, Novelty, Lyrical, Modern, Pom, Hip Hop & Show Production, two more categories have been added for competition: **Open Routines and Specialty Routines**. Since COED has become a team classification, it will no longer be a dance category.

To enter the **Open Dance Category**, a routine must meet the following conditions: (1) it includes only full-time certified team members and (2) it is either a tap, ballet, light, or multi-cultural routine, or it incorporates at least two or more distinct styles of dance (such as half jazz, half high kick, or 1/3 prop, 1/3 military, and 1/3 high kick). Open Routines may be counted toward the Jacket Competition at Nationals. Tap routines require bringing your own tap boards to protect the gym floor.

To enter the **Specialty Routine Category**, a routine must include performers that are not full-time certified members of the team such as dads, moms, males from a dance class or the school at large. First, Second, and Third place Trophies will be presented for Specialty Routines at Nationals, but may not be counted toward the Jacket Competition. If you have any questions, please contact the MA Office by telephone at 800-977-7933.

## DANCE TEAM CLASSIFICATION

Public High School team size determines their competitive division at a MA Dance Nationals:

Small Team: 2-15	Medium Team: 16-29
Large Team: 30-49	Super Team: 50+
HS Junior Varsity*	HS Coed*
HS Pep Squad*	HS All Male*
HS Elite: 10-24*	

\*HS Pep Squad and HS Junior Varsity members cannot also be a member of their school's Varsity Dance Team. Junior High/Middle Schools, High School Elite, High School JV, Pep Squad. All Private High Schools, Coed, and All Male groups do not compete by team size.

In an effort to promote the male dancer in public schools and maintain fairness in competition, the following 4 team classifications have been established:

- \* Public High School All Male
- \* Public Jr. High/Middle School All Male
- \* Public High School COED
- \* Public Jr. High/Middle School COED

\*COED will only apply to public schools that contain 25% or more male performers who are school certified full-time members of the dance team. All other public school teams containing less than 25% male certified members should register as a regular jr. high school/middle school or (by team size) as a small, medium, large, or super team for high school. COED and ALL MALE public junior high/middle school and high school teams will not be subject to team size guidelines.

Since Junior High & High School overlap the freshman year, 9th grade students may compete in either of the two divisions. All Star/Studio Dance Teams' grade level of the oldest team member determines their competitive division. Neither team size or gender will apply to this classification. The following system will apply:

Pre Kindergarten - Kindergarten	Grades 1-3
Grades 4-6	Grades 7-9
HS Grad+ (group includes at least one HS Graduate)	Grades 9-12

Officer Lines will use the same division as their team.

\*HS Elite features the "premiere" performers in a separate division against other HS Elite teams. HS Elite squads may enter as many "team" routines as they wish and will be in competition with one another regardless of school or team size. Elite teams may not be composed entirely of officers, but they may participate as part of the team. HS Elite teams must be 10-24 members in size.

## DANCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Please complete the National Championship Registration Form enclosed and mail or fax to our Plano Office no later than **March 6, 2009**. You may also register for competition on line at [www.MADance.com](http://www.MADance.com). **Late entries must call to confirm space availability and each late entry will be charged an additional \$25 for each routine entered.** Confirmation packets and contest schedules will be e-mailed one week prior to Nationals. M.A. will post a preliminary schedule on our website **March 11, 2009** with a final update on the evening of **March 17, 2009**.

## NATIONAL DANCE COMPETITION ENTRY FEES:

Team Routines	\$275	Duets/Trios/Quartets	\$150
Officer Routines	\$200	Solo Entries	\$ 85
Large Ensembles	\$185		

## REFUND POLICY:

Refunds must be received in our office in writing no later than **March 6, 2009**. Teams, officers, ensembles, and individuals that cancel entries after that time will not receive any refund! All entry fees must be paid by the date of the competition.

## DANCE TEAM ROUTINE GUIDELINES

1. Including set up/entrances/breakdown/exits, teams have a total of 5 minutes of floor time per routine in Jazz, Hip Hop, Military, High Kick, Pom, Lyrical, Modern, Novelty, Specialty, and Open. Prop routines will be given 6 total minutes and Show Production will be allotted 12 total minutes. Entrances and exits are not judged. You may petition for additional time if needed, but only in ONE category per team!
2. Total routine time with set-up and breakdown of props and backdrops should not exceed time limits itemized above. A one point penalty per judge per minute will be assessed for exceeding routine time limits.
3. Music must be recorded on compact discs. Variable speed CD players will be available in all areas. Bring back up CDs to avoid technical problems.
4. Performance area is 96' x 50'. (Regulation basketball court)
5. Show Production should interpret a theme through the combination of various elements of dance. Highest scoring performances will be awarded separate 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Trophies and will count towards the jacket competition.

## DANCE ENSEMBLE GUIDELINES

1. Duets, Trios, Quartets, & Large Ensembles (5 or more) may compete.
2. Divisions are for grades Pre K-Kindergarten, 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 9-12, & HS Grad+ in all ensemble categories. Age Division for any ensemble is determined by the oldest performer.
3. Ensemble routines should be 1 minute and 30 seconds to 2 minutes and 30 seconds.
4. Three oral critiques and score sheets will be given for each ensemble.

## OUTSTANDING DANCER GUIDELINES

1. Seven grade divisions will be offered: PreK-K, 1-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, & HS Grad+.
2. Solo routines must be limited to 2 minutes. A 5 point penalty will be assessed if the performance is greater than 2 minutes and 15 seconds.
3. Oral critiques & score sheets will be given to soloists.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

Olympic Style judging will be used in the TEAM divisions. Five (5) highly qualified judges from across the country will adjudicate each performance. The high and low scores will be eliminated and the other three will be utilized to determine each team's total score. Three (3) judges will be used in the other divisions of Officer Lines, Dance Ensembles, and Dance Solo Events. Every judge will provide both a cassette critique tape and score sheet for all routines.

## NATIONAL AWARDS ELIGIBILITY

In order to qualify for the National Champion Jackets, Top Technique, and Winner's Circle, teams and officer lines must enter a minimum of 3 routine categories.

## 2009 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

Only M.A. Dance offers teams so many opportunities to win. No other competition spends more of your entry fees on awards than MA! Listed below are the 2009 MA Dance National Championship Awards:

- \* MA National Championship 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Trophies will be presented to teams with up to 10 entries in each routine category. 1st through 6th place trophies will be presented to teams with 11 or more entries in a category.
- \* National Winner Circle Trophies for the top 15-20 Public School Team and Officer Lines in the competition. Selection is based on total score for 3 routines entered.
- \* National Winner Circle Trophies for the top 5-10 All Star Team and Officer Lines in the competition. Selection is based on total score for 3 routines entered.
- \* 15 Top Technique High Scoring Public School Teams and 5 Public School Officer Lines will be awarded these special trophies.
- \* 10 Top Technique High Scoring All Star Teams & 5 All Star Officer Lines will be awarded these special trophies.
- \* National 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place Trophies will be awarded in all age divisions for Show Production & Specialty routines.
- \* One set of M.A. National Championship Jackets is guaranteed to the overall highest scoring team from the following divisions: All Star Pre K-6th Grade, All Star 7th-HS Grad+, HS Small, HS Medium, HS Large, and HS Super sized teams. Teams must enter at least three categories (excluding Specialty) to be eligible for Nationals jackets.

**Note: Jackets will also be presented in any additional divisions which have eight or more eligible teams.**

- \* MA National Championship Jackets are awarded to the overall highest scoring Officer Line. Officers must enter at least three categories to be eligible for Nationals jackets.
- \* National 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place Trophies are awarded for Pre K-K, 1st-3rd, 4th-6th, 7th-9th, 9th-12th, & HS Grad+ divisions in Duet, Trio, Quartet, and Large Ensemble competition. Medals will be awarded to all participants receiving a superior rating.
- \* M.A. National Outstanding Dancers will compete in grades PreK- K, 1st-3rd, 4th-6th, 7th-8th, 9th-10th, 11th-12th, & HS Grad+. Trophies will be awarded to at least the top 10 percent of each age division. All Superior rated soloists receive medals.
- \* The winner in each Solo age division will receive a National Championship Jacket.
- \* Solo Categories having at least 30 entries will participate in a finals competition. The Winner in divisions with less than 30 entries will have the opportunity to perform for the entire audience before the Saturday evening Award Ceremonies.
- \* The top ten percent of the Senior Soloists (9-10 and 11-12) will have an opportunity to perform for the entire audience before the Saturday evening Award Ceremonies. The top 5 Senior Soloists will earn Special National Championship Trophies and Cash Scholarships in the following amounts (if 100 entries are received): First Place \$500, Second Place \$400, Third Place \$300, Fourth Place \$200, and Fifth Place \$100.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Full Competition begins at 8 AM on Friday, March 20th. Junior High and High School Teams should be available to perform by 8 AM! All-Star/Studio Teams should be available to perform by 3 PM! This will allow awards to be completed by Midnight on Saturday evening, March 21st. Please plan according to this guideline.

*Call and Register Today! 800-977-7933  
or Register at [www.madance.com](http://www.madance.com)*

