

Contest Guidelines

DANCE REGIONALS & CLASSICS

DANCE CATEGORIES - TEAMS & OFFICERS

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

Since COED has become a team classification, it will no longer be a dance category.

Complete **dance category descriptions** can be found at www.madance.com on or before November 15th. If you have any questions, please contact the MA Office at 800-977-7933.

DANCE TEAM SCORESHEETS

MA has added category specific shoresheets in team and officer competition for all 13 genres of dance. This will enable the judges to give a more complete and accurate critique. Sample scoresheets and category descriptions can be found at www.madance.com.

DANCE TEAM CLASSIFICATION

Public High School team size determines its competitive division at an MA Dance Regional or Classic Contest:

Small Team: 5-15	Medium Team: 16-25
Large Team: 26-35	Extra Large Team: 36-45
Super Team: 46+	HS Elite: 10-24*
HS Junior Varsity*	HS Coed*
HS Pep Squad*	HS All Male*
Junior High/Middle School Small: 3-24	
Junior High/Middle School Large: 25+	

70% Rule: Public HS Teams must dance at least 70% of their eligible members in each routine.

*HS Pep Squad and HS Junior Varsity members cannot also be a member of their school's Varsity Dance Team, High School Elite, High School JV, Pep Squad, All Private High Schools, Coed, and All Male teams as well as All Star/Studio 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 HS All Male
- ★ Public HS COED
- ★ Public Jr. High/Middle School All Male
- ★ 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, extra 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 these two divisions.

All Star/Studio Dance Teams' age of the **oldest** team member determines their competitive division.

Neither team size nor gender will apply to this classification. Dancers division is based on their age as of Aug. 31 of the current school year.

Tot	3 & younger	Junior Prep	15 & younger
Tiny	6 & younger	Junior	15 & younger
Mini Prep	9 & younger	Senior	18 & younger
Mini	9 & younger	Open	19 & younger
Youth Prep	12 & younger		
Youth	12 & younger		

Junior High International (Non USA teams)
High School International (Non USA teams)

Officer Lines will use the same division as their team. To qualify for a Sweepstakes Award at a Regional or Classic, the same set of officers must participate in each routine.

DANCE TEAM CLASSIFICATION

*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 are eligible for all awards given at a Regional or Classic. HS Elite groups 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 Regional & Classic Competition Registration Form enclosed and mail or fax it to our Plano Office to be received at least **14 days prior** to the contest date. You may also register for competition on line at www.MADance.com. For the convenience of scheduling, please register as early as possible even if you do not know the specific names of your soloists or ensembles. You must submit your solo and ensemble names and grade levels 14 days before the competition you are attending.

Late entries must call to confirm space availability and each late entry may be subject to an additional \$25 for each routine entered. Confirmation packets & contest schedules will be emailed one week prior to the competition. MA will post a preliminary schedule on our website the weekend before each event with a final update on the Wednesday evening prior to the contest.

DANCE COMPETITION ENTRY FEES

Regional, Classic, & State Championship fees are detailed in charts on the inside of the brochure or online under Regional Competition. These must be consulted to fill out the Regional/Classic Registration Form.

REFUND POLICY

Refunds must be requested in writing and received in our office at least 14 days prior to competition date. Phone calls are not acceptable. 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 or performers may not be allowed to participate in the contest! **NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN DUE TO WEATHER UNLESS THE CONTEST IS CANCELLED, SO MAKE PLANS ACCORDINGLY.**

DANCE TEAM ROUTINE GUIDELINES

- 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, Contemporary, 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!
- 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.
- Music must be recorded on compact discs or MP3 players. Bring back up CDs to avoid technical problems.
- Performance area is 96' x 50'. (Regulation basketball court)
- All props and backdrops should be taped to avoid damage to wooden floors, and should be constructed to fit through a gymnasium 7' double door with center cross bar removed. **ALL PROPS MUST BE APPROVED BY THE HOST SCHOOLS PRIOR TO PERFORMANCE!**

DANCE ENSEMBLE GUIDELINES

- Duets, Trios, Small Ensembles (4-8 Members), and Large Ensembles (9 or more) may compete.
- Dancers division is based on their age as of Aug. 31 of the current school year. Age divisions in all ensemble categories are determined by the oldest performer:
Tot 3 & younger, Tiny 4-6, Mini 7-9, Youth 10-12, Junior 13-14, Senior 15-16, Senior 17-18, Open 19+.
- Ensemble routines should be 1 minute and 30 seconds to 2 minutes and 30 seconds.
- Three digital audio critiques on flash drives and score sheets will be given for each ensemble.

OUTSTANDING DANCER GUIDELINES

- Dancers division is based on their age as of Aug. 31 of the current school year. Age divisions are:
Tot 3 & younger, Tiny 4-6, Mini 7-9, Youth 10-12, Junior 13-14, Senior 15-16, Senior 17-18, Open 19+.
- Solo routines must be limited to 2 minutes in length. A 5 point penalty will be assessed if the performance is greater than 2 minutes and 15 seconds.
- Soloists will receive a free video of their performance on flash drive along with 3 audio digital critiques & scoresheets.

JUDGING CRITERIA

A panel of professional judges will provide oral digital critiques on all Team, Officer Line, Ensemble, and Solo Performances at M.A. Regional & Classic Contests. Score sheets indicating the numeric scores for each caption will accompany the critiques.

At all M.A. Dance Competitions, judges will be encouraged to deduct points if appropriate costuming, movement, and/or music is not utilized in all routine performances.

REGIONAL & CLASSIC AWARDS

- ★ Superior Trophies for all Division I rated team and officer routines.
- ★ Sweepstakes Trophies for teams & officers entering at least 3 eligible routines and receiving a superior on all 3.
- ★ Super Sweepstakes Trophies for teams & officers receiving a 90 or more by all judges on at least 3 routines entered.
- ★ Best in Class Awards for teams and officers with the highest overall score in their division. At least 3 eligible routines must be entered to qualify.
- ★ High Point Plaques for all contest categories.
- ★ Choreography Awards for the most innovative team and officer line routines in all contest categories.
- ★ Outstanding Dance Technique Awards to teams and officer lines with the highest cumulative technique scores for three routines.
- ★ Outstanding Dancer Trophies to the top three to five dancers in each age division. All Superior rated soloists receive medals in their scoring packets.
- ★ Winner Circle Trophies for the top 3-15 Teams and Officer Lines in the competition. Selection is based on total score for three routines entered.
- ★ 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Trophies for all age divisions in Duet, Trio, Small and Large Ensemble competition. Medals will be awarded to all participants receiving a superior rating in their scoring packets.
- ★ 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Trophies for Show Production and Specialty routines. Only Show Production may count toward a Sweepstakes Trophy, but Specialty will not count toward Sweepstakes Awards.



the competition to win!