



## WELCOME TO EVOLVE – St. John’s Newest Dance Team

### **OUTLINE**

This document is meant to outline the expectations, commitment & cost associated with being on EVOLVE competition team, so that parents can make an informed decision regarding involvement. There is also a short contract at the end to be signed and returned, if you chose to accept your team placement.

Being a part of a competition team is a lot of fun and a very rewarding experience. Dancers absolutely love competition and they honestly grow immensely as individuals, as performers, as friends and as teammates throughout the season. The Dancers will cherish their time spent together, cheering each other on, as the most valuable part of being on a competition team.

We are looking for loyal, fully committed team players. We expect EVOLVE dancers to represent us, therefore EVOLVE competition team members cannot compete with any other competition teams or groups.

### **WHAT IS EVOLVE?**

EVOLVE is St. John’s newest dance team. We had an excellent inaugural season with much success. EVOLVE is run by a team of experienced, talented & qualified choreographers & teachers who love to see dancers EVOLVE and succeed! EVOLVE is not meant to replace your dance school training, but rather enhance your dance experience. We are not a dance school, but you will still need to continue technical training in order to be a competitive dancer. We aim to be more inclusive of all dancers who may want to compete on a team, but continue to dance with their own studios. Our goal is to expose more dancers to the world of competitive dance and provide more opportunity for dancers to grow in skills, confidence, & performance quality. If you are looking for change and a new chance to grow, come EVOLVE with us!

### **COMMITMENT**

Your commitment to EVOLVE will include one group choreography class per week. You are expected to train outside of that, and we strongly recommend that competitive dancers take a minimum of 3 classes per week and that one discipline should be ballet or modern based. Those dancers who train in all disciplines (Ballet/Tap/Jazz/Modern/Hip Hop) are better equipped to learn all types of competitive choreography quickly and effectively. Depending on your team and level, your choreography class with EVOLVE will be one hour, one hour 15 min, one hour 30 min, or two hours each week. We expect EVOLVE to run on the weekend – during Saturday afternoon or Sunday afternoon/evening time slots. Again, the exact time/day slot will depend on which team you are placed on. We are building our teams based on age, experience and skill level and hope to find a good fit for everyone, however, if your age and level does not match a large enough group of similar individuals, it won’t be to your advantage to place you on a team that doesn’t serve you well.

Dancers who have a successful audition for the EVOLVE competition team and accept their team placement, will need to commit fully to the team and all of its performances, competitions, and rehearsals. Few exceptions for absences will be considered on an individual basis. The most important thing to remember is that this is a TEAM and every dancer matters equally to the group.

## **WHY CHOOSE EVOLVE?**

We have an incredible, experienced team of choreographers. We aren't new to the competition world, we're just new to you!

Opportunities to do solos/duos/trios exist. The best part, is that costumes for these extras can be borrowed FREE of charge, or you can choose to use something that you already own. Of course, if you prefer to order something new, we will do that for you upon request.

Diverse teams - we will build our teams based on the level & experience we see at auditions. The more dancers we have try out, the easier it will be to include everyone.

You do need to take formal dance lessons outside of EVOLVE to ensure your technique is of a high standard in order to execute the choreography you will be expected to perform in competition.

There's no reason to switch dance schools. You can continue to train at your current studio if you wish. We want to give you the extra opportunity to compete and train competitively.

Guest teachers & multiple choreographers will bring you unique exposure & more opportunities to learn new things throughout the season with us.

## **WEEKLY COMPETITION CHOREOGRAPHY CLASS - REQUIRED**

During the 2022-2023 Dance Season (Sept-May) EVOLVE Competition Team dancers will be required to register for a once-a-week choreography class. Periwinkle & Royal 1hour, Aqua & Indigo 1.25 hours, Turquoise 1.5 hours, Cobalt & Sapphire 2 hours,

We plan to expose the team to many different teachers and choreographers throughout the year to provide variety and opportunity. Therefore, they will not necessarily have the same teacher every lesson. Competition class fees will be due on the first of each month.

## **SUMMER TECHNIQUE TRAINING – \* highly recommended and encouraged**

During the summer we will offer EVOLVE classes to promote a high standard of technique and skills-based training for competitive dancers. While it is not mandatory, it is highly recommended that our team members register, as it will give us a strong base to begin choreography with in the Fall. Classes will be specific to age groups and open to all dancers who wish to train competitively with Evolve. Summer schedule to follow shortly. Some teams may begin choreography blocks during this summer session if choreographer and dancers are available. For our younger groups, we will pick one weekday evening for each team and run classes throughout the summer once a week for an hour (6 weeks total), on that given day. For our older groups, we will likely run a 3-day intensive for a week or two (2 hours per day – Tues/Wed/Thurs) over the summer (total 6 hours), so that we can get a head start on some choreography. Schedule to be determined and distributed shortly.

## **OTHER OPTIONAL EXTRAS**

The opportunity to be involved in extra choreography exists, but would require additional cost. The teaching team of EVOLVE will make recommendations directly to parents regarding solos/duos/trios/small groups so that financial decisions can be made before ideas are presented to dancers. We will also be open to requests for solos/duos/trios (from parents, not dancers), however, ultimately the final decision will lie in the hands of the teachers/choreographers. We want to present our best work on the best dancers for a particular style, so we all need to work together in everyone's best interest. Choreographer requests will be carefully monitored, as we have a full team of talented teachers capable of sharing the responsibility. All requests must be made in writing to [info@evolvedance.ca](mailto:info@evolvedance.ca). Individual teachers/choreographers should not be contacted directly.

Additional Charges for additional choreography done outside of class time

Expect 3-5 lessons per dance. Regardless of how quickly or slowly the work is accomplished, your fee remains the same. Extra Choreography fees will be due in full before choreography commences. This additional choreography is COMPLETELY OPTIONAL. Students DO NOT have to do solos, duos, etc. They can just be on the team and learn the group numbers taught during class time.

## **COMPETITION ENTRANCE FEES**

These are the registration fees paid to the outside companies who host the competitions. Group entries are APPROXIMATELY \$35-\$50 per dancer, per team dance. Solos are approximately \$80 per entry, Duos/Trios – approx. \$40-\$60 per dancer, per entry. Some competitions have mandatory conventions/registration fees attached to them which range from \$40-\$150 approximately. (I say approximately, because none of them have released their pricing for the upcoming season yet, and because they are all slightly different from one another. Example: Those with conventions attached to them charge less for their actual dance registration fees)

Last season, our teams (depending on age/level) performed 3-4 dances each plus a production number with all EVOLVE dancers. This is the expectation of regular team members. Any additional dances are not mandatory.

Competition Entrance Fees will be calculated on individual student spread sheets (once fees per competition are confirmed) and the total expense per dancer will be divided into 4 equal payments over a 4-month period. (Nov 15, Dec 15, Jan 15, Feb 15).

This upcoming season, we have no plans to travel to compete. We will only be participating in competitions which come to us here in Newfoundland. There are normally about 4-5 local competitions available to choose from each year. Not all of our teams will compete in all of the competitions. These decisions will be made in consultation with the parents, based on dates & pricing.

The following competitions are scheduled to come to Newfoundland in 2023:

5678Showtime

Elite Dance

Wanna Dance

Dance Quest

The View Dance Challenge

Competition Season normally begins in March and finishes by May. More info will follow as it becomes available to us.

## **COSTUME FEES**

Some additional COSTUME FEES will apply. We have acquired a fairly extensive costume bank and plan to do a lot of borrowing and reusing wherever possible. This will be very helpful financially to our team families. We will certainly make every attempt to avail of what we already have however, we also have to ensure that our costumes suit the choreography and the vision of the piece we are performing. We feel it is safest to plan for 2-4 new costumes for the team dances and if we end up needing less, it's a bonus. Each team member will be required to pay a Competition team COSTUME DEPOSIT in September so that costumes can be ordered. The exact costume amount will vary depending on the team level. Expect a \$200 deposit in September, with Balance due in 2023 before we compete.

## **CONCLUSION**

We trust you have found this information to be straightforward and helpful in making your decision as to whether or not involvement in competition team dance is right for you and your family. If you have any further questions, please contact EVOLVE at [info@evolvedance.ca](mailto:info@evolvedance.ca)



## EVOLVE TEAM CONTRACT

- I have read and understand the expectations, commitment & cost associated with being on EVOLVE competition team.
- I agree to be fully committed to EVOLVE and will not compete on any other dance team or similar type team or group.
- I accept my team placement and agree to commit fully to the team and all of its performances, competitions, and rehearsals.
- I agree to register for a once-a-week technique/choreography class, for the amount of time required for the team I have been selected to be a part of.
- I agree to pay my monthly fee in advance on the first of each month as required.
- I understand that solos/duos/trios/small group numbers are optional, and I should contact EVOLVE should I wish to avail of such opportunity. I also agree that final decisions regarding solos/duos/trios/small groups are at the discretion of the EVOLVE teaching team and I will respect their advice and recommendations.
- I agree to pay the competition entrance fees as required, according to the 4-month payment schedule outlined in the Welcome to EVOLVE document. (15<sup>th</sup> of Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb)
- I agree to pay the costume deposit and balance due for any costumes required for EVOLVE group numbers. I also understand that every effort will be made to reduce this cost and reuse/borrow where possible.

Dancer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dancer's Team Placement: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_