



AMERICAN DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS – RULES

The following rules are meant as guidelines for all ADC events. Owners of ADC may invoke additional rules not covered herein at their discretion when an on site issue or question arises.

AWARDS

Dancers will be judged and scored by a panel of judges hand selected by American Dance Championships.

Routines will be awarded based on the combined score of the judges as outlined in the Regional Program for the event. All Regional Events will have the same scoring structure/scale.

Awards will be given as **Diamond, Elite Platinum, Platinum, Elite Gold, Gold, Elite Silver** and **Silver**. Only competitive level routines will be eligible for Diamond awards.

ADC will also give an award to the highest scoring group (small, large and line) for ages eleven (11) and under and for ages twelve (12) and up, which can be from any level.

The Top Studio Award will be given at each event, in each level: Novice, Advanced and Competitive. This award will go to the studio in each division with the highest combined total of each studio's top five groups (small, large and line).

LEVELS

Each routine will compete in one of three levels. Since ADC cannot possibly know the schedule of each dancer, it is the duty of the Studio Owner to discern fairly and honestly that routines are in the correct division per the guidelines below.

Groups and duet/trios must go in the level of the highest dancer in the routine.

NOVICE – Novice level is for dancers with little competition experience and/or dancers who are in studio three (3) or fewer hours per week for class and rehearsals. Soloists in this level may only compete a maximum of one solo. If a dancer competes in more than four (4) routines, including solos and duet/trios, he/she cannot be in Novice level.

ADVANCED – Advanced level is for dancers with moderate competition experience and/or dancers who are in studio between three and six (3-6) hours per week for class and rehearsals. If a dancer competes in more than six (6) routines, including solos and duet/trios, he/she must be in Competitive level.

COMPETITIVE – Competitive level is for dancers with more competition experience and/or dancers who are in studio more than six (6) hours per week for class and rehearsals. Any dancer who competes in seven (7) or more routines, including solos and duet/trios, must go in Competitive level.

AGE DIVISIONS

To calculate the age of a dancer use his/her age as of January 1st of the competition year.

Age division for all duet/trios and groups will be the average age of the dancers in the routine. For any routine that averages a decimal place, you drop the decimal. (Example, 12.3 would compete as age 12, 14.8 would compete as age 14.)

A routine may not compete more than one age division below the oldest dancer in the routine. (i.e. if a 15 year old dancer is in a routine and it averages age 11, it must go in Teen division.)

MINI – ages 8 and under

JUNIOR – ages 9-11

TEEN – ages 12-14

SENIOR – ages 15-19

ADULT – 20 or older*

*Any routine that contains a dancer in adult division must compete in the adult age division, regardless of age average.

ADC reserves the right to request a birth certificate or other form of official identification as proof of age for any dancer where a protest or grievance is presented by another studio owner or competition director. Any such protests must be presented to the on site ADC staff the same day as the routine in question.

ROUTINE CLASSIFICATIONS

SOLO – 1 performer. Novice level dancers may only compete a maximum of one (1) solo. Advanced and Competitive level dancers may compete a maximum of two (2) solos at any one event. Solos must be in two different categories (i.e. a soloist may not compete two solos in lyrical, etc.)

DUET/TRIO – 2/3 performers

SMALL GROUP – 4-9 dancers

LARGE GROUP – 10-19 dancers

LINE – 20 or more dancers in a routine that does not contain a storyline

PRODUCTION – 16 or more dancers in a routine that utilizes more than one genre of dance to convey a storyline.

A duet, trio or group containing 50% or more of the same dancers may not compete against itself in the same age division and category.

ROUTINE CLASSIFICATIONS (continued)

Classifications are based on the number of dancers performing that routine at the event, regardless of the dancers registered. In the event of injury or illness where a registered dancer cannot compete at the event, ADC reserves the right to request proof of injury or illness. Any substitutions necessary must be submitted to the ADC staff prior to the routine performing on stage.

TIME LIMITS

SOLO/DUET/TRIO – 2 minutes 45 seconds (2:45)

SMALL GROUP – 3 minutes (3:00)

LARGE GROUP – 4 minutes (4:00)

LINE – 4 minutes (4:00)

PRODUCTION – 6 minutes (6:00)

*Extended time may be purchased at the time of registration for \$5 per dancer per 15 seconds, up to 30 seconds of extended time. Routines that do not purchase extended time at the time of registration, but exceed time limits will be penalized 1 point for each judge on the judging panel.

PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

ACROBATIC DANCE – A routine using four or more acrobatic or gymnastic tricks such as walkover, handspring, back tuck, handstand, etc. The routine must be at least 50% dance moves.

BALLET/POINTE – A routine consisting of predominantly classical ballet and/or pointe technique.

CHARACTER – A dance routine which portrays at least one (1) well known character throughout the routine. Dancers may lip-sync the words to the music. Characters portrayed must be from a play, movie, television show, Broadway, celebrity, etc. Must not contain more than three (3) acrobatic tricks.

CLOGGING – A dance routine utilizing clogging technique and footwork. Must not contain more than three (3) acrobatic tricks.

CONTEMPORARY/MODERN – A routine that utilizes lyrical, jazz, contemporary, and/or modern elements. Must not contain more than three (3) acrobatic tricks.

HIP HOP – A dance routine utilizing hip hop or funk movement. Must not contain more than three (3) acrobatic tricks.

JAZZ – A routine using primarily jazz technique (i.e. leaps, turns). Must not contain more than three (3) acrobatic tricks.

LYRICAL – A routine that utilizes lyrical and jazz movement to convey emotion of a song. Must not contain more than three (3) acrobatic tricks.

PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES (continued)

MUSICAL THEATRE – A dance routine to music from a musical or Broadway show that incorporates acting and the use of character portrayal. Dancers may lip-sync the words to the music.

OPEN – A dance routine that does not clearly fit into the guidelines of any other category listed herein, or a combination of more than one category. The routine may not contain more than 50% acrobatic tricks.

PRODUCTION – A dance routine consisting of sixteen (16) or more dancers that conveys a theme or storyline. Productions typically utilize more than one genre of dance. The routine may not contain more than 50% acrobatic tricks.

TAP – A dance routine utilizing tap technique and footwork. The music for a tap routine may not contain tap sounds. Must not contain more than three (3) acrobatic tricks.

**An acrobatic trick will be defined as one acrobatic stunt or continuous pass.*

PROPS

Use of props must be noted at the time of registration, to allow for proper scheduling.
All props must be free standing and not require power, rigging, support, etc. from ADC or the venue.

Prop set up and removal on stage may not exceed two (2) minutes total per routine. If set up or removal of a prop exceeds the combined time limit of two (2) minutes, the excess time will be taken off the routine's allotted time limit listed above. Productions will be allotted one (1) additional minute for set up and one (1) additional minute for tear down, for a total of four (4) minutes for both set up and tear down. If a routine exceeds the time limits allotted, points will be deducted from the routine's score at a rate of one (1) point per judge.

A dancer is not allowed to stand on a prop that exceeds 5'10" in height.

The use of fire, pyrotechnics, aerosols, weapons or other harmful materials is strictly prohibited.
Routines may not use liquids, baby powder, glitter, paint or any other substance that comes in contact with the dance surface that could damage the surface or make it slick.

ADDITIONAL RULES

Photography and video taping of routines on stage is not allowed. Anyone caught videotaping may be asked to leave the venue.

Any person affiliated with an attending studio caught engaging in unsportsmanlike or unprofessional activity will be asked to leave, and the studio may have one or more routines disqualified as a result. Studio Owners and staff are responsible for the sportsmanlike behavior of their parents and students at the event. Failure to exemplify sportsmanlike/ respectful behavior may result in studio disqualification.

Air horns, clappers and other noise makers are prohibited.

Routines are expected to perform in the order in which they are scheduled. Studios will not be allowed to hold or rearrange the order of their routines unless given prior written consent from ADC staff and for valid reason.

Any routine which is deemed inappropriate (movement, costume, music, etc.) may be disqualified by ADC and/or the judges.

Routines that are deemed by the judges to have been obviously placed in the wrong level may be scored for adjudication purposes only.

Routines that are not performed within a reasonable time limit from their scheduled time, and before their category awards will be scored for adjudication only.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

By registering at an **American Dance Championships** event the Studio Owner and staff assume all responsibility and agree to release from liability and hold harmless American Dance Championships, its owners, directors, staff, agents, affiliates and the venue for loss, injury or theft in any form. Studio Owner and its staff assume liability for the release of all videos, photographs and media taken at the event to American Dance Championships and give permission on behalf of their staff and students for their use by ADC. Studio Owners and staff also understand that all routines must report to the competition venue ready to perform no less than one hour and thirty minutes prior to the scheduled perform time, in the event the competition is running early. Further, Studio Owner and staff understand that the decisions of the judges and ADC are final.

ENTRY

Entries are only accepted from established studios. No independent entries accepted.

All entries must be submitted via the ADC entry portal. Entries will not be accepted via mail, phone, email, fax or otherwise.

Payment for entries will be accepted up to thirty (30) days prior to the competition date in the form of a studio check, cashier's check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, or cash. No personal checks accepted. Entries paid less than thirty (30) days prior to the event must be in the form of certified funds (cashier's check or money order), Visa, MasterCard or cash.

Any entries not paid within thirty (30) days prior to the event will be subject to a late fee of 5%, and special discounts or promotions will not be applicable for any entries not paid in full at least thirty (3) days prior to the event. All entries must be paid in full at least seven (7) days prior to the event start date. Payment will not be accepted at any event.

Any changes to entries must be made fourteen (14) days prior to the event, or each change will be subject to a \$5 administration fee.

ADC and its staff will not make exceptions to our payment policies for any reason. And, entries not paid via the methods listed herein will be forfeited, and any non-refundable deposits will be forfeited.

A return payment processing fee of \$25 will be accessed on any returned checks, and if applicable the studio will be required to pay any future fees with certified funds.

There will be no refunds for entry fees once paid for any reason.