

**A. ATTENDANCE**

Good attendance is imperative for members of the competition team. Students who continually miss classes will be behind on classroom material. This is unfair to all members of the team. Attendance will be taken, and the following attendance policy will be enforced:

- A. For every three classes that are missed, a minimum of one hour of private lessons must be taken. If a student is still struggling with the choreography, more private time may be required. This will be at the teachers' discretion.
- B. When a student misses a class for any reason, she has two weeks from the day that was missed to learn any new choreography. This can be achieved by scheduling a private, or by making arrangements with a reliable class member. If two weeks have passed and no arrangements have been made, the student who does not know the choreography will only be permitted to observe.
- C. Tuition will remain the same regardless of absences. Private lessons will be an extra charge.
- D. Refer to "Competition Team Attendance Policy" for detailed attendance policy. (Rev. 7/18)

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**B. COMPETITION**

- A. One dance competition will be attended throughout each season. This will be held sometime in May in Columbus, providing there are no major schedule or location changes on behalf of the competition organization.
- B. A national competition will be attended every three years. The next national competition will be held in July 2019. (Rev 6/18)
- C. Dance competitions are mandatory for all members of the team. A definite schedule will be given at the beginning of each dance season.
- D. Locations of competitions will be chosen by me. No voting will take place, and requests and opinions will not be considered.
- E. Entrance fees are non-refundable.

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**C. CLASSES**

- A. Ballet is mandatory for all dancers on a competition team. The studio will NOT compete in ballet, but the class has to be taken. There will be no exceptions.
- B. Acro team members are required to take a technical class (jazz or lyrical).
- C. All competition dancers will participate in the opening number of each dance recital. This will require extra practices during the months of April through June. The opening number will be performed at competition only on the years we participate at nationals.

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 Initial
**D. FEES**

Extra fees are required to participate in dance competition. Everyone who wishes to be a part of the team needs to be aware of the fees that are involved.

- A. Monthly tuition for competitive and non-competitive dancers is the same, with the exception of costume fees.
- B. Annual registration fee for competition team members is \$30 per member/family. The increase in registration fee is to help offset the additional administrative costs associated with participation in competition. (Rev. 5/17)
- C. Costume fees are not added into monthly tuition. Competition team members will be billed for costumes in three installments. The first installment will be due in October, the second due in December, and the third due in February. Costumes range in price from \$65 to \$100, but usually average about \$70. YOU WILL PURCHASE A COSTUME FOR EVERY DANCE YOUR CHILD PERFORMS. (Rev 8/15)

**D. FEES (continued)**

- D. Competition entrance fees range from \$60 to \$75 per group dance for regional competition, and \$70 to \$85 for national competition. Entrance fees will be due approximately one and a half months before the date of the competitions. (Rev. 6/18)
- E. Late fees will be added to all competition and costume fees not submitted on time. Due dates for fees are given at the beginning of each dance season and are also available on the website. Payment is considered late if it is not received on or before the due date. It is your responsibility to make sure you submit your payments on time. Reminder invoices will be placed in the girls' folders in the studio office, as well as mailed to you. These are only reminders. (Rev. 5/17)
- F. If monthly tuition is not up-to-date, and no special arrangements have been made, payments made toward competitions, conventions, or costumes will be applied to tuition. **NO COSTUMES WILL BE ORDERED OR FEES SUBMITTED** without payment.
- G. Recurring late payments may result in dancers being removed from the competition team.
- H. Additional expenses may occur throughout the season. These expenses include accessories or props that may not be included in the costume bill.
- I. Every season the acro team will travel to one event, and every third season we will also travel out of state for nationals. Traveling expenses such as lodging, gas, and food costs should be considered.

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**E. REHEARSALS**

- A. Competition acro members will have regular classes once per week from September through May.
- B. From January through May, competition team members will have Saturday morning practices. These practices are mandatory. An extra fee will be assessed.
- C. The teachers will be as understanding as possible in regard to scheduling conflicts. We do realize that these dancers have other activities in which they are involved. It is imperative, however, that members of a competition team primarily reserve the months of April through the beginning of June for dance. Extra-curricular activities that take place in these months, including school sponsored and recreational sports, are not an excuse for a team member to miss either regularly scheduled dance classes or extra rehearsals. (Rev 8/15)
- D. Students who continually miss class during the months of April, May, or June will not be included in the missed choreography. If a student continually misses classes during this crucial time, she will not be permitted to compete the following year.

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 Initial
**F. SUMMER DANCE (added 8/15)**

- A. All members of a competition team are required to attend summer dance classes.
- B. Summer dance classes are mandatory for all competition team members.

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**G. PRIVATE LESSONS (added 5/17)**

- A. Payment for private lessons is due on or before the date of the lesson.
- B. If you cannot attend your scheduled private lesson, a 24-hour advance notice is required. If you do not show up and have not cancelled the lesson in advance, you will still be charged.

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**H. FUNDRAISING**

Fundraising may be available to help off-set the cost of national competition.

- A. Fundraising is optional.
- B. The availability of fundraising is subject to parent involvement.
- C. In order to receive an equal share of the profit, students must participate in 75% or more of the total number of fundraisers. Students who do not meet this requirement will only receive credit for those fundraisers in which they participate. If a student is not available on the days of the fundraiser, family members may participate in place of the student.
- D. All fundraisers must be approved by me, and must be available to all members of the team.
- E. If a student participates in fundraising and does not attend nationals, she will not receive any share of the profit.

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**I. SOCIAL MEDIA**

When the competition team was originally formed, social media was not as pervasive as it is now. Due to the increased use of social networks among students, I have included a new clause to the contract. Please read it carefully, and please make sure your child reads it.

As a representative of the studio and competition team, students will:

- A. Keep language clean.
- B. Refrain from negative comments regarding the studio.
- C. Refrain from posting harassing comments toward peers.
- D. Refrain from mentioning alcohol, smoking, drugs, sex, or anything related to the four.
- E. If students are unable to abide by these rules, they will be removed from the team.

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**J. MISCELLANEOUS**

Parent involvement is, at times, welcomed and appreciated. It is imperative, however, that all parents keep in mind that this is a business and not a parent-run organization.

- A. No studio decisions will be based on parent interaction. This includes scheduling, costumes, locations, group names, teachers, or any other choice regarding the studio.
- B. If a parent has a question or concern, it is best if she contact me directly, rather than rely on information given from another parent.
- C. Not everyone will agree with every choice that I make. I do try to make this a positive, fun experience for kids. Please try to keep all negative comments and opinions to yourself, as they ultimately affect the entire atmosphere.

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**K. OPENING (added 8/15)**

All members will participate in the opening number of the spring dance production.

- A. An extra fee of \$9 will be assessed in the regular monthly tuition.
- B. Extra practices will be scheduled from March through June. These practices are mandatory.
- C. An extra costume must be purchased.
- D. During our national's years, this number will be competed at both regionals and nationals. An entrance fee must be paid for each.

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