



DANCE TEAM UNION
UNITE. CREATE. SUCCEED

SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) &
STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2020-2021

SECTION V: CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

Dance Team Union encourages creativity in all categories. There is no particular style or “formula” required in any category. Dance team is about more than just imitation of previous award-winning routines - we want to inspire your dancers to showcase their own unique style. Our judges will strive to provide you with the most valuable feedback you will receive all season.

Full category descriptions may be found in the following pages.



SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) &
STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2020-2021

Duos/Trios

Duos/trios may perform any style of dance. The emphasis should be on artistry, musicality and proper technical execution of the style(s) selected by the soloist. There are no required movements. Turns, leaps, jumps, kicks, or tricks are not required but may be performed at the dancers' discretion. The dancers should also display an ability to connect with the audience and provoke an emotional response (i.e., excitement, laughter, joy, and/or sense of drama) appropriate to the style presented.

ARTISTRY (40 points)

Uniqueness of Concept/Movement	20
Musical and Technical Demand	20

TECHNIQUE AND EXECUTION (40 points)

Proper Technique Displayed in Selected Genre (Jazz, Lyrical, Hip Hop, etc.)	20
Uniformity and Musicality of Execution	20

SHOWMANSHIP (20 points)

Communication and Projection by Dancers	20
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TOTAL (100 points): ____



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**SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) &
STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2020-2021**

High Kick

30 kicks of at least waist height performed by at least 50% of the team must be included in each routine. Any style of dance may be used to accomplish this and there are no required movements. Turns, leaps, jumps, lifts or tricks are not required. The team should demonstrate difficulty through the incorporation of the number and structure of kick sequences and the height and pace of kicks. Movements should complement the music and teams will be judged on both musicality and unison. Teams should also display an ability to connect with the audience and provoke an emotional response (i.e., excitement, laughter, joy, and/or sense of drama) appropriate to the style presented.

**DANCE TEAM UNION
KICK SCORING CATEGORIES**

ARTISTRY (30 points)

Uniqueness of Concept and Movement	10
Visual Effect	10
Musicality of Choreography	10

TECHNIQUE (30 points)

Kick Technique	10
Technique Displayed in Other Movement*	10
Technical Difficulty of Kicks	10

EXECUTION OF ROUTINE (30 points)

Uniformity of Movement	10
Execution of Spacing and Transitions	10
Musicality of Execution	10

SHOWMANSHIP (10 points)

Communication and Projection by Dancers	10
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TOTAL (100 points): ____

*** This is NOT intended to require your team to include any specific technical jazz, pom or hip hop movements (including leaps, turns, lifts, or other tricks) in the routine. Emphasis of the routine should be on the kicks.**

Whatever choreographed movements you choose, in your creative discretion, to do in between your kicks will be judged here. Teams will not receive credit for technical difficulty of non-kick movements.



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**SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) &
STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2020-2021**

Hip-Hop

There is no one definition to describe hip-hop dance. Hip-hop dance is continuously transforming and redefining itself with each new generation of dancers. Any general street or hip-hop style (or combination of styles) is acceptable in this category. Movements should complement the music and teams will be judged on both musicality and uniformity. Teams should also display an ability to connect with the audience and provoke an emotional response (i.e., excitement, laughter, joy, sadness and/or sense of drama) appropriate to the style presented.

**DANCE TEAM UNION
HIP-HOP SCORING CATEGORIES**

ARTISTRY (30 points)

Uniqueness of Concept and Movement	10
Visual Effect	10
Musicality of Choreography	10

TECHNIQUE (30 points)

Hip-Hop Technique	10
Difficulty of Movement	10
Musical Demand	10

EXECUTION OF ROUTINE (30 points)

Uniformity of Movement	10
Execution of Spacing and Transitions	10
Musicality of Execution	10

SHOWMANSHIP (10 points)

Communication and Projection by Dancers	10
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TOTAL (100 points): ____



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**SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) &
STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2020-2021**

Jazz

Any jazz style (or combination of styles) is acceptable including styles commonly referred to as jazz, Broadway, contemporary, lyrical or modern. Combinations of these styles may also be used. The team should demonstrate difficulty through the use of advanced dance skills (e.g., turns, leaps, extensions). Movements should complement the music and teams will be judged on both musicality and uniformity. Teams should also display an ability to connect with the audience and provoke an emotional response (i.e., excitement, laughter, joy, sadness and/or sense of drama) appropriate to the style presented.

**DANCE TEAM UNION
JAZZ SCORING CATEGORIES**

ARTISTRY (30 points)

Uniqueness of Concept and Movement	10
Visual Effect	10
Musicality of Choreography	10

TECHNIQUE (30 points)

Jazz Technique (Leaps, Turns, Jumps)	10
Technique Displayed in Other Movement	10
Overall Difficulty	10

EXECUTION OF ROUTINE (30 points)

Uniformity of Movement	10
Execution of Spacing and Transitions	10
Musicality of Execution	10

SHOWMANSHIP (10 points)

Communication and Projection by Dancers	10
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TOTAL (100 points): ____



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**SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) &
STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2020-2021**

Lyrical (All Star)

Any general lyrical style (or combination of styles) is acceptable including styles commonly referred to as lyrical, contemporary, or modern. Combinations of these styles may also be used. The team should demonstrate difficulty through the incorporation of advanced dance skills (e.g., turns, leaps, extensions). Movements should complement the music and teams will be judged on both musicality and uniformity. Teams should also display an ability to connect with the audience and provoke an emotional response (i.e., excitement, laughter, joy, sadness and/or sense of drama) appropriate to the style presented.

**DANCE TEAM UNION
LYRICAL SCORING CATEGORIES**

ARTISTRY (30 points)

Uniqueness of Concept and Movement	10
Visual Effect	10
Musicality of Choreography	10

TECHNIQUE (30 points)

Jazz Technique (Leaps, Turns, Jumps) and Technical Difficulty	10
Technique Displayed in Other Movement and Difficulty	10
Musical Demand	10

EXECUTION OF ROUTINE (30 points)

Uniformity of Movement	10
Execution of Spacing and Transitions	10
Musicality of Execution	10

SHOWMANSHIP (10 points)

Communication and Projection by Dancers	10
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TOTAL (100 points): ____



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**SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) &
STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2020-2021**

Pom

Any style of dance may be used to accomplish this and there are no required movements. Turns, leaps, jumps, kicks, lifts or tricks are not required. The team should demonstrate difficulty through the incorporation of intricate pom motions. Movements should complement the music and teams will be judged on both musicality and uniformity. Teams will also be judged on the creative use of poms for visual effect. Teams should also display an ability to connect with the audience and provoke an emotional response (i.e., excitement, laughter, joy, and/or sense of drama) appropriate to the style presented.

**DANCE TEAM UNION
POM SCORING CATEGORIES**

ARTISTRY (30 points)

Uniqueness of Concept and Movement	10
Visual Effect	10
Musicality of Choreography	10

TECHNIQUE (30 points)

Pom Motion Technique	10
Technique Displayed in Other Movement	10
Difficulty of Pom Motions	10

EXECUTION OF ROUTINE (30 points)

Uniformity of Movement	10
Execution of Spacing and Transitions	10
Musicality of Execution	10

SHOWMANSHIP (10 points)

Communication and Projection by Dancers	10
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TOTAL (100 points): ____



SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) & STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2020-2021

Military

A Military routine should contain but not be limited to clean, crisp movements with visual formation changes and visually complex arm, hand and/or leg lines. Movements should complement the music and teams will be judged on both musicality and unison. Teams should also display an ability to connect with the audience and provoke an emotional response (i.e., intensity, excitement, laughter, joy, and/or sense of drama) appropriate to the military style presented.

DANCE TEAM UNION MILITARY SCORING CATEGORIES

ARTISTRY (30 points)

Uniqueness of Concept and Movement	10
Visual Effect	10
Musicality of Choreography	10

TECHNIQUE (30 points)

Military Technique	10
Strength and Articulation of Movement	10
Overall Difficulty	10

EXECUTION OF ROUTINE (30 points)

Uniformity of Movement	10
Execution of Spacing and Transitions	10
Musicality of Execution	10

SHOWMANSHIP (10 points)

Communication and Projection by Dancers	10
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TOTAL (100 points): ____



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**SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) &
STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2020-2021**

Solos

A soloist may perform any style of dance. The emphasis should be on artistry, musicality and proper technical execution of the style(s) selected by the soloist. There are no required movements. Turns, leaps, jumps, kicks, or tricks are not required but may be performed at the soloist's discretion. The soloist should also display an ability to connect with the audience and provoke an emotional response (i.e., excitement, laughter, joy, and/or sense of drama) appropriate to the style presented.

**DANCE TEAM UNION
SOLO SCORING CATEGORIES**

ARTISTRY (40 points)

Uniqueness of Concept/Movement	20
Musical and Technical Demand	20

TECHNIQUE AND EXECUTION (40 points)

Proper Technique Displayed in Selected Genre (Jazz, Lyrical, Hip Hop, etc.)	20
Musicality of Execution	20

SHOWMANSHIP (20 points)

Communication and Projection by Dancer	20
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TOTAL (100 points): ____



SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) & STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2020-2021

Spirit Showdown

The DTU Spirit Showdown is a chance for teams to perform a dance showcasing their hometown, school or team in a unique way. There are no required movements. Props are permitted, and any style or combination of styles of dance may be used. Turns, leaps, jumps, kicks, or tricks are not required. The team and dancers should display an ability to connect with the audience and provoke an emotional response (i.e., excitement, laughter, joy, and/or sense of drama) consistent with the spirit of this category.

The Spirit Showdown is not a cheerleading or songleading competition and teams should not feel bound whatsoever to a “traditional school spirit” model in deciding upon choreography, costuming or music. This category is an additional opportunity for teams to show the audience something that is entertaining, fresh, new and unique to their program. It also allows teams to take creative risks with very few rules and to have fun!

Note that DTU will announce a general theme for all 2021 National Championship Spirit Showdown performances, and incorporation of that theme will be part of the scoring of Spirit Showdown routines at nationals. There will be no theme for any Spirit Showdown routine category DTU elects to have at Regional Championships.

DANCE TEAM UNION SPIRIT SHOWDOWN SCORING CATEGORIES

ARTISTRY (40 points)

Entertainment Value of Routine (Movement and Overall Concept) [and Incorporation of Theme - NATIONALS ONLY]	20
Showcase of Hometown/School/Team’s Unique Style and/or Traditions	20

EXECUTION (40 points)

Quality of Team Movement (Technique, Uniformity and Spacing)	20
Musicality of Execution	20

SHOWMANSHIP (20 points)

Communication and Projection by Dancers	20
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TOTAL (100 points): ____



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Team Performance

Team Performance is a combination of pom, jazz, hip-hop and high kick styles. Please see the descriptions of those individual styles for more information. Teams should demonstrate proficiency in each style to maximize their score; it is recommended that teams have **well-defined sections devoted to each of these four styles of at least 20-25 seconds in length**. In order to assist with judging, teams may be asked to submit an outline prior to the competition that lists the sequence in which they will perform each style. Movements should complement the music and teams also will be judged on both musicality and unison. Teams should also display an ability to connect with the audience and provoke an emotional response (i.e., excitement, laughter, joy, sadness and/or sense of drama) appropriate to each style presented.

**DANCE TEAM UNION
TEAM PERFORMANCE SCORING CATEGORIES**

ARTISTRY (30 points)

Uniqueness of Concept and Movement	10
Visual Effect	10
Musicality of Choreography	10

TECHNIQUE (40 points)

Pom Technique and Technical Difficulty	10
Jazz Technique and Technical Difficulty	10
Hip Hop Technique and Technical Difficulty	10
Kick Technique and Technical Difficulty	10

EXECUTION OF ROUTINE (20 points)

Uniformity of Movement and Spacing	10
Musicality of Execution	10

SHOWMANSHIP (10 points)

Communication and Projection by Dancers	10
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TOTAL (100 points): ____