



SCHOOL (VARSITY, JV, JH, ELEM.) &
STUDIO/ALL-STAR RULES 2019-2020

SECTION III: ENTRY GUIDELINES AND AWARDS

TEAM ENTRY GUIDELINES

1. School teams may compete in the following styles: Pom, Jazz, Hip Hop, Kick, Team Performance and Military. All Star teams may compete in the following styles: Pom, Jazz, Lyrical, Hip Hop, Kick, Team Performance, Open and Military. Additionally, at our Regional Competitions, members of teams may compete in solos, duos/trios, or (at Regional Competitions where an officer division is offered) as a group of officers.
2. At our National competition, we will have a solo competition and a Spirit Showdown. Regional Competitions may have a Spirit Showdown division at DTU's discretion. If DTU does not have a Spirit Showdown division at a Regional Competition, then teams at that event may compete their Spirit Showdown routine in the Open division. At any event, DTU may choose to combine categories (such as jazz and lyrical or All-Star and school divisions) or add additional categories in order to increase competitiveness or for any other reason in its discretion.
3. Teams may enter one routine in each style (maximum of 7 routines total). There is no limit to how many solo, duo/trio, or officer routines a team may enter at our Regional Competitions. If a school or All-Star program wishes to enter multiple routines in a single style they must designate different teams (e.g. West HS Blue Team and West HS Gold Team).
4. The following team size guidelines will apply:
 - (a) Team size will be determined as of the registration date.
 - (b) At least 5 dancers must be registered to perform in each team routine. A team will still be allowed to compete if they drop to fewer than 5 dancers at performance time, but at least 5 dancers must be registered for the routine.
 - (c) At least 4 dancers must be registered to perform in each officer routine. An officer group will still be allowed to compete if they drop to fewer than 4 dancers at performance time, but at least 4 dancers must be registered for the routine.
 - (d) Teams may use a different number of dancers in each routine subject to the minimums above required to be registered.

ELIGIBLE TEAMS

1. REGIONAL COMPETITIONS: College, Varsity, JV, Middle School, Elementary, and Studio/All-Star dance teams may compete.



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2. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: Varsity, JV, Middle School, Elementary and Studio/All-Star dance teams may compete.
3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOOL TEAMS
 - (a) Each team must be an official school dance team at the team's school, (or from the same cooperative school or group of schools if not disallowed by their state) either under athletics or as a club sport or fine arts program. Home school students may compete with a school team.
 - (b) A team is considered Varsity if the team's school recognizes the dancers as Varsity members, regardless of the ages of the dancers. A team is considered Junior Varsity if the team's school recognizes the dancers as Junior Varsity members or "B" Team members, regardless of the ages of the dancers. A team is considered to be a Middle School team as long as not more than 49% of the dancers on that team are in 9th grade and no dancers are in 10th grade or higher. If a team from a state-recognized middle school or junior high school has 50% or more 9th graders then they will compete in Junior Varsity or Varsity, depending on their preference.
 - (c) An All-Star team for which all performing dancers are from the same school (or from the same cooperative school or group of schools if not disallowed by their state) may choose to compete in either the All-Star division or a school division for any style of dance in which it enters.
 - (d) A dancer will be allowed to compete on different school teams (such as in both the Middle School and the Junior Varsity divisions or the Middle School and Varsity division), if that is how the dancer is allowed to compete within the rules of the team's applicable state association.
 - (e) A school team may elect to compete in the All Star division at any DTU competition, but must compete in the All Star division for all routines and all styles after making such election. (Exception: At Nationals a school team may compete in all school categories plus any All-Star category (such as Lyrical or Open) if that category is not offered in the school division at DTU Nationals)
 - (f) Teams from outside the United States may compete in Regional or National events in the division at or above the division they would compete if their team was from the United States.



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4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT SOLOS/DUOS/TRIOS/ALL-STAR/STUDIO
TEAMS

(a) Solos, duos and trios will compete in the following divisions based upon grade:

Senior (grades 11 and 12)
Junior (grades 9 and 10)
Youth (grades 6, 7 and 8)
Mini (grades 3, 4 and 5)
Tiny (2nd grade and under)

(b) All-Star/Studio teams will compete in the following divisions based upon age:

Open (age 14 and over)
Senior (age 18 and under)
Junior (age 15 and under)
Youth (age 12 and under)
Mini (age 9 and under)
Tiny (age 6 and under)

(c) The age/grade (as applicable) of the oldest dancer on the floor for a given duo, trio or group routine will determine which division the duo, trio or group competes in for that routine. Age/grade will be determined as of the date the competition takes place (for example, if the competition is on January 5, 2020, the age and grade of each dancer as of January 5, 2020 will be used to determine age and grade for the purpose of these rules).

(d) An All-Star team for which all performing dancers are from the same school (or from the same cooperative school or group of schools if not disallowed by their state) may choose to compete in either the All-Star division or the Varsity division for any style of dance in which it enters.

COMPETITION DIVISIONS

Teams may be grouped within each style into Small and Large Varsity, based on the number of dancers entered for each team competing in such style. The split between divisions will be determined by DTU based upon entries received for each competition. DTU may elect to have a semifinal round depending upon the number of entries.



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At any event, DTU may choose to combine categories (such as jazz and lyrical or All-Star and school divisions) or add additional categories in order to increase competitiveness or for any other reason in its discretion.

REGIONALS AWARDS

1. Trophies will be awarded to at least the top 50% of teams in each division for each style.
2. One Grand Champion award will be given to the most outstanding routine of the day, as determined by DTU in its discretion.
3. Additional specialty awards may be awarded at the discretion of DTU as follows: Best Costume, Outstanding Artistry and Best Showmanship (all but Best Costume based primarily on total points within those subcategories on the score sheet).

NATIONALS AWARDS

1. Including teams advancing from the Second Chance Round pursuant to the next sentence, at least 50% of teams that compete in the preliminary round will ultimately advance to finals. In the Second Chance Round, selected teams with the next highest scores not advancing directly to finals out of the preliminary round will compete again, and the top scoring team(s) from the Second Chance Round will advance to finals.
2. Finalists in categories with 4 or more finalists will compete figure skating-style (in sub-groupings with lowest scores competing first, based upon their scores from previous round, but within each sub-grouping, teams will draw for random order). Finalists in categories with 3 or fewer finalists will compete in reverse order of their preliminary scores.
3. All finalists will receive trophies. In addition, all national champions (**except for Spirit Showdown**) will receive banners, jackets, and rings. **The Spirit Showdown winner will receive a unique prize to be announced at the National Championship.** In recognition of the tremendous success of each national champion, no Grand Champion award(s) will be given at nationals, except that a Grand Champion award will be given in the Studio/All-Star division only. Cash prizes may be awarded in the Studio/All-Star divisions as determined by DTU.