



## **I. DANCE (SCHOOL and ALLSTAR) DIVISION GUIDELINES**

### **A. SCHOOL DANCE DIVISIONS: No team member limit.**

1. Jazz
  - a.) Division I- Elementary, Grades: 6<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - b.) Division II- Junior High, Grades: 8<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - c.) Division III- Senior High, Grades: 12<sup>th</sup> grade and below
2. Funk
  - a.) Division I- Elementary, Grades: 6<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - b.) Division II- Junior High, Grades: 8<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - c.) Division III- Senior High, Grades: 12<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
3. Pom
  - a.) Division I- Elementary, Grades: 6<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - b.) Division II- Junior High, Grades: 8<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - c.) Division III- Senior High, Grades: 12<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
4. Kick
  - a.) Division I- Elementary, Grades: 6<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - b.) Division II- Junior High, Grades: 8<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - c.) Division III- Senior High, Grades: 12<sup>th</sup> grade and below
5. Lyrical
  - a.) Division I- Elementary, Grades: 6<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - b.) Division II- Junior High, Grades: 8<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - c.) Division III- Senior High, Grades: 12<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
6. Step
  - a.) Division I- Elementary, Grades: 6<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - b.) Division II- Junior High, Grades: 8<sup>th</sup> grade and below.
  - c.) Division III- Senior High, Grades: 12<sup>th</sup> grade and below

### **B. ALL STAR DANCE DIVISIONS: All divisions are based on the 2018-2019 USASF age grid. No team member limit.**

1. Jazz- Tiny, Mini, Youth, Junior, Senior
2. Funk- Tiny, Mini, Youth, Junior, Senior
3. Pom- Tiny, Mini, Youth, Junior, Senior
4. Kick- Tiny, Mini, Youth, Junior, Senior
5. Lyrical- Tiny, Mini, Youth, Junior, Senior
6. Step- Tiny, Mini, Youth, Junior, Senior

## **II. JUDGING CRITERIA-**

Please see sample score sheets for complete judging criteria.

## **III. JUDGING PROCEDURES**

The judges for the event will be appointed at the sole discretion of The Team Spirit Shop, Inc. As the teams make their presentations, the judges will score the teams and the judges scores will be totaled together to determine the overall team score.

## **IV. SCORES AND RANKINGS**

Individual score sheets are for the exclusive use of each particular judge. Each judge has the responsibility and authority to review and submit his or her final scores and rankings prior to the final tally of the scores for all teams. Scores and rankings will be available only to coaches or captains at the conclusion of the competition. No scores or rankings will be given over the telephone. After the competition, teams will receive the judges' score sheets as well as their score and the top score in the group.

## **V. HOW TO HANDLE PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS**

- A. RULES & PROCEDURES – Any questions concerning the rules or procedures of the competition will be handled exclusively by the advisor or coach of the team and will be directed to the Competition Director. Such questions should be made prior to the team's competition performance.
- B. PERFORMANCE – Any questions concerning the team's performance should be made to the Competition Director immediately after the team's performance and/or following the outcome of the competition.

## **VI. SPORTSMANSHIP**

All participants agree to conduct themselves in a manner displaying good sportsmanship throughout the competition with positive presentation upon entry and exit from the performance area as well as throughout the routine. The advisor and coach of each team is responsible for seeing that team members, coaches, parents and other persons affiliated with the team conduct themselves accordingly. Severe cases of unsportsmanlike conduct are grounds for disqualification.

## **VII. INTERRUPTION OF PERFORMANCE**

### **A. UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES**

1. If, in the opinion of the competition officials, a team's routine is interrupted because of failure of the competition equipment, facilities, or other factors attributable to the competition rather than the team, the team affected should STOP the routine.
2. The team will perform the routine again in its entirety, but will be evaluated ONLY from the point where the interruption occurred. The degree and effect of the interruption will be determined by the competition officials.

### **B. FAULT OF TEAM**

1. In the event a team's routine is interrupted because of failure of the team's own equipment, the team must either continue the routine or withdraw from the competition.
2. The competition officials will determine if the team will be allowed to perform at a later time. If decided by officials, the team will perform the routine again in its entirety, but will be evaluated ONLY from the point where the interruption occurred.

### **C. INJURY**

1. The only persons that may stop a routine for injury are:
  - a. Competition officials
  - b. The advisor / coach from the team performing
  - c. An injured individual.
2. The competition officials will determine if the team will be allowed to perform at a later time. If the competition officials allow a routine to be performed at a later time, the spot in the schedule where the re-performance is to take place is at the sole discretion of competition officials. The team may perform the routine again in its entirety, but will be evaluated ONLY from the point where the interruption occurred.
3. The injured participant that wishes to perform may not return to the competition floor unless:
  - a. The competition officials receive clearance from, first, the medical personnel attending to that participant, second the parent (if present) AND THEN the head coach/advisor of the competing team.
  - b. If the medical personnel does not clear the participant, the participant can only return to the competition if a parent or legal guardian in attendance signs a return to participation waiver. In the event of a suspected concussion, the participant cannot return to perform without clearance from a licensed medical professional that has training related to head injuries, even with a waiver from a parent or legal guardian.

## **VIII. INTERPRETATIONS AND / OR RULINGS**

Any interpretation of any aspect of these Rules and Regulations or any decision involving any other aspect of the competition will be rendered by the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee will render a judgment in an effort to ensure that the competition proceeds in a manner consistent with the general spirit and goals of the competition. The Rules Committee will consist of the Competition Director, Head Judge, and a designated competition official.

## **IX. DISQUALIFICATION**

Any team that does not adhere to the terms and procedures of these "Rules and Regulations" will be subject to disqualification from the competition, will automatically forfeit any right to any prizes or awards presented by the competition.

## **X. FINALITY OF DECISIONS**

By participating in this competition, each team agrees that all decisions by the judges will be final and will not be subject for review. Each team acknowledges the necessity for the judges to make prompt and fair decisions in this competition and each team therefore expressly waives any legal, equitable, administrative or procedural review of such decisions.

## **XI. TOURNAMENT FACILITY**

The tournament officials shall have the right to alter the time and location of the competition in the event changes become necessary due to inclement weather, facility problems, television production requirements, or any other situation deemed by the tournament officials to be essential to the successful execution of the championship.

## **XII. PENALTIES**

A five (5) point per judge penalty will be assessed to any team violating any of the specific rules as stated. This deduction does not apply to violations mentioned above that are designated a lesser point value. If you have any questions concerning the legality of a trick or move, please email a video of it to [dperkins@teamspiritcheer.com](mailto:dperkins@teamspiritcheer.com). Include your team name, your name, and a contact phone number. It must be received no later than two (2) weeks prior to competition.

## **XIII. TIME LIMIT/MUSIC/ENTRANCES**

1. School teams will have a maximum of (2) two minutes to demonstrate their style and expertise.
2. Timing will begin with the first choreographed movement or note of the music. Timing will end with the last choreographed movement or note of music, whichever is last.
3. If a team exceeds the time limit, a penalty will be assessed for each violation. Three (3) point deduction for 3-5 seconds over, five (5) point deduction for 6-10 seconds over, and a seven (7) point deduction for 11 seconds and over.
4. Acknowledging the potential variance caused by human reaction speed and sound system time variations, judges will not issue a deduction until their stopwatch shows a time of 2:03 for School Teams.
5. Each team must have a coach/representative to play their music. This person is responsible for bringing the music to the music table and pushing "play" and "stop" for the team.
6. All music must be on a CD. The Team Spirit Shop, Inc. recommends that you bring two copies in case sound systems have trouble reading your CD. iPod's and MP3 players are permitted. In addition, all music must comply with all music copyright laws.
7. In order to keep the competition on time, all team rituals and traditions need to take place prior to entering the performance floor. Teams should enter the floor and immediately start their routine. Teams with excessive entrances will be assessed a one (1) point penalty.

#### **XIV. CHOREOGRAPHY AND COSTUMING**

1. Suggestive, offensive, or vulgar choreography, and/or music is inappropriate for family audiences and therefore lacks audience appeal.
2. Routine choreography should be appropriate and entertaining for all audience members. Vulgar or suggestive material is defined as any movement or choreography implying something improper or indecent, appearing offensive or sexual in content, and/or relaying lewd or profane gestures or implications.
3. Inappropriate choreography, costuming, and/or music may affect the judges' overall impression and / or score of the routine.
4. Please make sure that all choreography is age appropriate.
5. All routine choreography must begin and end on the performance floor.
6. The use of powder, glitter, or any other airborne substance that lingers in the competition area shall be strictly prohibited.
7. All costuming and makeup should be age appropriate and acceptable for family viewing.
8. All costume malfunctions resulting in team members being exposed are grounds for disqualification. Please make sure that you have several dress rehearsals prior to competition to work out any costume problems.
9. School teams: Shoes, on both feet, must be worn during the competition. Dance paws are acceptable. Shoes with wheels are not allowed (Example: roller skates, roller blades, heelys, etc.) Wearing socks and/or footed tights only is prohibited.
10. Jewelry as a part of a costume is allowed.
11. It is suggested that any hot pants or excessively short shorts have tights underneath.
12. When dancers are standing at attention, all costumes/uniforms must cover the midriff area completely. The midriff includes the entire midriff section from the bra line down all the way around the body. Nude body liners are acceptable. All male dancers' costumes must include a shirt that is fastened, however it can be sleeveless.

#### **XV. PROPS**

1. School teams: Props are not allowed. A prop is defined as anything that you dance with that is not attached to your costume. Articles of clothing may be taken off; however you may not dance with them. If taken off and danced with, it becomes a prop.
2. All Star teams: Wearable and handheld items are allowed in all categories and can be removed and discarded from the body. Standing props are not allowed. Any item that bears the weight of the participant is considered a standing prop. (Examples: chairs, stools, benches, ladders, boxes, stairs, etc.)

#### **XVI. SCHOOL TEAMS: ROUTINE RULES**

Rules subject to National Federation of State High School Association and are subject to change. Please visit [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org) for a complete list of rules.

#### **XVII. ALL STAR TEAMS: ROUTINE RULES**

Rules subject to USASF and are subject to change. Please visit [www.usasfdance.net](http://www.usasfdance.net) for a complete list of rules.