

COMPETITION TEAM POLICIES/CONTRACT

1. Dancers must audition to join the TSOD Competition Team. These auditions are typically held after recital. Dancers are required to attend the audition to be eligible for team unless circumstances deem the student eligible for a makeup audition. Team will be chosen based on scores achieved from the panel of judges and with the consent of the director. Workshops and auditions are a chance for the director/choreographer to evaluate a dancers' "readiness" for competition team. The adjudication process will determine if a dancer is eligible to compete a group or a solo or both (at discretion of director).

2. Attendance is of utmost importance on the TSOD Competition Team. You may not have more than 5 unexcused absences within our "team" year. Excused absences include illness/injury with a doctor's note, death in the family, a religious holiday, or a covid quarantine. If a dancer is in violation of the attendance policy, the situation will be discussed with parents, director, and students to decide if that student will be asked to step down from his/her spot on the team. Dancers will not be permitted to miss any extra practices prior to a competition; otherwise the dancer may not be allowed to perform in said competition and will not be issued a refund for any expenses. Any student that misses a rehearsal due to another sport's game or match is required to gather any missed information and choreography and know it before returning for the following class. If the student does not know the missed material, that absence will be unexcused and count toward his/her total 5 unexcused absences.

3. Dancers are required to participate in technique classes each week to remain on the Competition Team. Dancers will be required to attend a weekly ballet class and conditioning class. Each soloist and student in a duet or trio will also be required to participate in a tricks class for the season. Some students (based on scoring, age, and discretion of artistic director) will also be required to include a stretching class. Additional technique classes are encouraged which may include, but are not limited to, ballet, contemporary/jazz, specialized technique, tap, or a combination of 2 or more. Absences are limited in these classes as well, as this is the root and very important to your Competition Team performance.

4. Payments for Competition Team are a monthly fee determined by the number of routines a dancer is in. One routine for the month is \$45.00, and increases per dance. However, solos are a set fee of \$30.00 per month in addition to regular team fees and a double solo is \$45.00 per month in addition to regular team fees. These are set fees, regardless of how many practices we may have in a month. Payments are due the first week of each month and a \$5.00 late fee per week thereafter will be included. Competition entry fees are due at least 6 weeks prior to competition (due dates will be specified). Any late or unpaid fees will deem the dancer ineligible to perform. Competition Team can get expensive, so please plan your budget and know your limitations. Other fees include travel expenses, programs, videos, warm ups, makeup, costumes, etc.

5. At the beginning of each competition year, parents and team dancers are required to let the director know exactly how many routines maximum each child can perform in for the year. This is necessary to begin planning routines, choreography, and groups. We certainly do not want to find out halfway through the year that a dancer is unable to continue in a routine. That is too tough on fellow dancers, choreographer, etc. This DOES NOT mean that your student will receive the maximum number of routines, but that the director will not exceed that number.

6. Attitude is very important on the TSOD Competition Team. Bad behavior or bad sportsmanship will not be tolerated! We want to set a great example for other teams and other students considering joining team. Dancers are expected to be respectful to teachers, staff, fellow students, and other teams and competition staff we encounter. If unsportsmanlike conduct is seen, action will be taken and a dancer may be asked to step down from his/her spot on team. This not only includes dancers, but also parents and family. "Drama" or negative behavior from parents will also not be tolerated. Repercussions may include termination from Competition Team in said year and perhaps years to follow. Please be respectful and kind to everyone you meet!

7. Warm ups must be purchased when you join the TSOD Competition Team. Dancers are required to wear their jackets (zipped) and pants on stage for award ceremonies. If a dancer is sitting in the audience or anywhere else in the venue before or after dancing, the warm up jackets must be worn over costumes.

8. All dancers are expected to be present for award ceremonies at competitions. We danced as a team and we need to accept our award as a team. Absence is only excusable if notice is given in advance to the director and the reason is legitimate (at discretion of director). Be sure to applaud other dancers and teams during award ceremonies and practice good sportsmanship regardless of award received.

9. Specific hairstyle, makeup, costume, shoes, etc. is required for TSOD Competition Team dancers. This will all be at discretion of director and will be discussed with the team each year. The director will always consider the best value for each and will make the final decision. Dancers are expected to comply. Unity is important on team.

10. Parents and dancers must decide prior to auditioning whether or not they will attend our national competition, without knowing the specified location (typically out of state). The decision made regarding nationals will determine the child's placement in routines throughout the year. Once you make a commitment to attend nationals, you are expected to uphold that, and if for any reason that contract is broken, that child may be dismissed from his/her spot on competition team that year and consecutive years.

11. Students are expected to attend EACH required regional competition. These dates are decided at the beginning of the season and absences will not be tolerated. Family emergencies, such as a death in the family, would represent an excusable absence, but the selection of other activities, scholastic or otherwise, will be unexcused. An unexcused absence from a competition would result in termination from the team. These sorts of conflicts directly impact the other students' performance and execution.

12. Some competitions do award cash prizes to different routines. All cash prizes and gift certificates MUST be given to the studio director who will then disperse them appropriately. Cash awards will be split between the dancer and studio with a 60/40 split. Sixty percent of the earnings will remain with the studio and 40% will be divided amongst the dancers. Award monies will not go to the individual choreographer/teacher, but to the studio. All awards for duets, trios, and groups must be given to the studio director for display at the studio. Solo awards, excluding cash and gift certificates, can be taken home by that soloist.

12. By auditioning for team, you are agreeing to complete the entire season. If for any reason, after you have been accepted, you break your contract to be a part of the team, you may forfeit your privilege to audition again in the near future and will be responsible for paying a \$100 fee to the studio in addition to your monthly fees for the remainder of the season.

13. Other events may arise during our competition season, such as workshops, classes, performances, etc., where the competition team will be required to attend and represent TSOD. You will be given plenty of notice for said events, but please plan to be flexible and available for events outside of competition and rehearsal.

Competition Team may seem like a lot of work, and it does require a good bit of dedication, but it is so rewarding and so much fun! The dancers get to meet so many other wonderful dancers and be exposed to different personalities and styles of dance. Many different awards and scholarships are achievable and the environment is always very positive and encouraging! I urge you to audition and come see what it's all about!

Please sign below (both parent and student/s) that you have read and agree to abide by the above rules.

Dancer Name: _____

Date: _____

Parent Name: _____

Date: _____