

2018-2019 DFDC COMPETITION INFO

**ATTENTION: PLEASE MAKE SURE BOTH PARENT AND DANCER READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOLLOWING PRIOR TO COMMITTING TO JOINING A COMPETITIVE TEAM. ALL POLICIES WERE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED AND ARE IN PLACE TO PROMOTE THE SUCCESS OF OUR DANCERS.**

Our Philosophy

Dance competitions can be a wonderful experience for dancers who strive to do their best. Our goal as competitors is not solely to receive the highest score or biggest trophy, but to gain performance opportunities, challenge ourselves, and grow as dancers. All prospective competition team members are expected to work hard, maintain a positive attitude, be respectful, and to act as positive ambassadors for DFDC. They must be the leadership example in every class they take and demonstrate good sportsmanship at competitions. The Performance Team requires the highest level of commitment and has the most requirements. Team Members are expected to be experienced dancers with a high work ethic, desire to learn, and willingness to be a part of a team. All team members will be expected to work hard on their technique, choreography, and showmanship.

Applicant Selection and Placement

Any dancers, ages 7 and up, can make the decision to join a team. No dancers will be excluded, but we reserve the right to audition for team placement. Teams will be based on ability, attitude, motivation, and strength. Please note that neither age nor friendships will be the main determinate of placement. We will be looking for dance technique and ability level, knowledge of dance terminology, flexibility, and properly executed leaps, turns, and tricks.

While we can advise you what specific weekends you must be available for competition events, we will not know the exact day and time until approximately 5 days prior to the weekend in question. As such, the dancer must be available the whole weekend. If you cannot make this commitment, please do not join a competition team. Please Note: any dancer who “drops out” of a competition event less than 8 week prior to the event will be immediately suspended from the Team, unless a serious medical/physical issue is the cause. They will also be fined $100 per dance and all competition fees will be forfeited.

Registration

Performance Team:

Your application to become a Team Member is due no later than **July 15th** and you must be registered for the required Summer Intensives. You must absolutely commit to the Competition Weekends and all the other requirements listed below at the time of application. If you cannot do this, you may want to consider the Recreational Team.

Recreational/Mini Team:

Your application to become a Team Member is due no later than **July 15th** and you must be registered for the required Summer Intensives. You are also strongly encouraged to attend additional summer intensives. You must absolutely commit to the Competition Weekends and all the other requirements listed below at the time of application. If you cannot do this, then competition dance is not for you.

Attendance Policies and Class Requirements

Rehearsals for the styles of dance being competed by the student are mandatory for all Team Members unless the director advises otherwise. No Team member may miss more than (4) Rehearsals throughout the competitive season (Sept-Apr). NO absences are EXCUSED unless the studio cancels the class or practice. Any missed classes must be made up within the month they are missed. We will also schedule extra practices (beyond the normal weekly class) as needed to work on choreography or cleaning for an upcoming event and we expect all team members to be there. We will try to schedule the extra practices around dancer availability, to the extent possible. Any student who exceeds the absence limit is subject to removal from the team at the discretion of the director. Dancers must be able to commit to the entire competitive season without over-committing themselves in other areas (work, sports, school activities, etc.). A dancer who is tardy or who leaves early will have 25% of an absence charged to them.

No Dancer may miss Team Rehearsals in the two weeks leading up to a competition event (including extra rehearsals), unless the Director has approved. Any non-medical/physical violation of the policy may result in immediate suspension from the Team, a $100 fine, and forfeiture of all competition fees.

Dancers must give the Director one week advanced notice if they plan to use one of their four allowed absences.

Performance Team Class Requirements: Members of the Performance Team are required to take the below. Any absences from these required classes must be made-up within the same month that the absence occurs. Dancers may “bank” classes in anticipation of future absences. Failure to make-up required classes may result in dismissal from the Team.

At least (1) Ballet Class per week; at least (1) Class per week in each style of dance they are competing in

For purposes of class, Modern=Lyrical=Contemporary and vice versa.

Recommended Fall Class Schedule for all teams will be released as soon as possible.

**Performance Team Summer Intensives**:

Members of the Performance Team are required to attend:

A minimum of one ballet and one jazz intensive or 16 hours of ballet and 16 hours of leaps/turns classes (or some combination of the above)

Choreography Week: $300 OR $100 per group routine

Junior Rec Team Class Requirements:

Members of the Recreational Team are required to take the below. Any absences from these required classes must be made-up within the same month that the absence occurs. Dancers may “bank” classes in anticipation of future absences. Failure to make-up required classes may result in dismissal from the Team.

At least (1) Ballet Class per week; at least (1) Class per week in each style of dance they are competing in.

For purposes of class, Modern=Lyrical=Contemporary and vice versa.

**Recreational Team Summer Intensives:**

Members of the Recreational Team are required to attend:

A minimum of one Intensive or 16 hours of classes (or some combination of the two).

Choreography Week: August 22-26 (times TBD); Fee: $100/group routine

Mini Team Class Requirements:

Mini Team Classes/Rehearsals will be on Mondays 5:30-7:00.

Members of the Mini Team are required to take the below. Any absences from these required classes must be made up within the same month that they occur. Dancers may “bank” classes in anticipation of future absences. Failure to make-up required classes may result in dismissal from the Team.

At least (1) Ballet Class per week; at least (1) Class per week in each style of dance they are competing in.

Mini Competition Team Members are required to participate in summer choreography and are encouraged to participate in summer classes.

Choreography Week: August 22-26 (times TBD); Fee: $100/group routine

**Decorum**

All competition team dancers are to be considered "role models" of the studio and will, therefore, be held to a higher standard of behavior, participation, and dedication. We expect all team members to be supportive of each other and to exercise extreme good sportsmanship at competitive events, being respectful of the rules, other dancers, judges, etc. We also expect a higher level of responsibility in regard to care of costumes and preparation for performances. All team members are expected to wear Dancing Feats Team Jackets or other Logo items to competitions, to arrive 2 hours before their first scheduled dance time, and to stay through the applicable Awards ceremony. The team will elect a spokesperson who will represent the team in accepting rewards.

Any team member exhibiting inappropriate behavior or a bad attitude in the studio or at a competition event may be dropped from the team. This includes, but is not limited to, opinions/comments regarding music, costumes, dances, teammates, events; lack of respect shown to teachers/teammates/parents; and inability to control emotions and behave in a sportsmanlike manner.

**Costs**

Classes: Competition Team Members may take unlimited classes for a set fee of $200 per month. You may also choose to pay per the normal fee schedule as specified in our Payment Policy. The Early Pay discounts may be applied to the $200 set fee. For those not on the unlimited program, rehearsal classes are $30/month.

Costumes: Members of the Team will learn a competition routine for each genre of dance they choose. A costume will be required for each routine. We will try (where possible) to re-use old costumes or to combine costumes. Assume an average cost of $55 for each new costume. As always, we will strive to maintain reasonable costume costs. Team Members are required to have matching shoe styles, so you may have to purchase additional shoes. Jewelry kits are also a mandatory purchase for new team members – approximate cost is $30. Please note: sometimes the competition dance will also be the recital dance for a particular class.

Note: Team members may be taught a non-competition dance in each of the weekly classes they take. These dances will be performed at recital. Performance team members may opt out of performing these dances in the recital. However, if they do not opt out, additional costume purchases may be required.

Hair and Makeup: All dancers will be expected to follow class guidelines for performance hair and makeup. Unless otherwise specified by the choreographer this will include: A low pony tail with hair slicked back, a smoky eye, winged eyeliner, false eyelashes, stage appropriate blush, and red lipstick.

Fees: Competition fees are generally $50 per routine per competition. Duets run around $65 each and solos are around $110 each. We plan to take the Rec team to two Regional (local) competitions; Performance team will do three Regional (local) competitions. One of the competitions may include a Dance Convention with additional cost of approximately $250 for convention participation (Perf Team). All competitions are mandatory. If you cannot commit to all, please do not join a team.

Fundraising: Dance Parents have established a fund raising program to earn money toward competition fees and/or costumes. Only those who participate in the fund raisers will reap the benefits. All fundraising efforts are to be led by the parents of the team members. The Studio will support those efforts but will not supply ideas/woman-power.

Solos/Duets/Trios/Small Groups

Any interested Team members will have to meet specific criteria (see below). Students may request a specific choreographer. You must advise us no later than July 15th if you wish to be considered. All choreography must be set during the summer.

Costs: Choreography $150 (includes 2.5 hours of private class). If more time is required, the cost is $30 per ½ hour. Subsequent Privates during the Dance Season to “clean” the choreography: $15 per ½ hour. We strongly suggest that dancers schedule a “cleaning” private once a month (Oct-Feb), but it is not mandatory. Just like group dances the more you practice and rehearse your solo the more confidence you will exude on stage.

All solos, duets/trios are required to videotape the completed choreography and practice on their own time outside of their private classes. It is not the teacher’s responsibility to make sure the dancer retains the work. That responsibility is on the dancer(s) involved.

Criteria: To be considered for a solo/duet/trio/small group dancer must participate in at least one group dance. Participation in a solo/duet/trio/small group dance routine is a privilege and a great challenge. To be successful, the dancer(s) must have a high degree of skill and commitment and understand that they are representatives on stage as the best of DFDC. We want all of our dancers to be successful by dancing within their capabilities. Not everyone is a good candidate for a “non-group” routine. There is also significant cost. The competition fees run approximately $110/dance/event for solos and $65/dance/event for duets/trios. A separate costume may also need to be purchased. The Studio also cannot guarantee that competition solos/duets/trios will be included in the recital performance. It will depend on how many of these we have and our time constraints. The one exception is that any “Senior” Solo will definitely perform in the recital. Also required is good attendance record in weekly classes, strong work ethic, positive and respectful behavior in class and with teachers, motivated self-starter, commitment to practice independently, showmanship

Skills (JUNIORS AND SENIORS ONLY):

Hip Hop Specific: Able to hold at least (1) stall/freeze for 16 counts, demonstrate good physical stamina.

Jazz Specific: A CLEAN double pirouette, a right, left or center split, at least (1) turning leap (grand jete, double stag, calypso, etc.).

Lyrical/Contemporary Specific: Minimum of 2 consecutive years of ballet with Miss Sue, strong ballet technique, a CLEAN double pirouette in coupe and passe, a right, left or center split, at least (1) turning leap (grand jete, double stag, calypso, etc.).

Modern: Proper use of pelvis, neutral spine and contraction. Must be able to connect movements together and travel in a grounded way against breath and suspension out the top.

Ballet: Must be able to hold technique/anatomical posture on flat and in releve. Must be able to maintain turn-out and have stretched feet and legs when required.

Tap: Must demonstrate an ability to tap cleanly in general and also cleanly execute wings, pullbacks, toestands, pickups. Must have musicality (ability to dance in time with the music).



# DFDC COMPETITION TEAM CONTRACT

DANCE SEASON: 2018-2019 Today’s Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DANCER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DANCER BIRTH DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you apply to this team, you MUST be committed to participate in the competition events (and be available for the entire weekends involved). We will compete in three events (Perf Team), two events (Rec Team/Mini Team). The events/weekends will be chosen by November 1. Exact Days and Times will not be known until 5 days prior. If you and your family do not have the flexibility to commit, regardless of other activities/events, then please do not join.

We are planning on attending the following conventions/competitions: Tremaine (Convention/Competition), Hall of Fame (competition), and Platinum (competition) there will be one more regional competition competition to be chosen by November 1.

## Performance Team Level: Senior Junior

Dance Style(s): (circle the styles you want to compete in)

Tap Jazz Hip Hop Lyrical Ballet Modern Contemporary Solo Duet Trio

For Solos/Duets/Small Groups, indicate style of dance and requested Choreographer:

Style:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Choreographer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Recreational Team Level: Senior Junior

Dance Style(s): (circle the styles you want to compete in)

Lyrical Tap Ballet Jazz Solo Duet Trio

For Solos/Duets/Small Groups, indicate style of dance and requested Choreographer:

Style:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Choreographer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Estimated Comp Fees: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

($50/group routine/event; $65/duet/event; $110/solo/event)

Mini Team

Dance Style(s): (circle the styles you want to compete in)

Lyrical Tap Jazz Hip Hop

Payment enclosed: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Check #\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Credit \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: A deposit of $50 per group routine, $65/duet-trio and $110/solo is required with this application. Starting in September, each team member must pay $50/month toward fees/costumes until such time as these costs are paid in full or you have enough credit in your fund-raising account to pay off the balance.

WAIVER of LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF FULL RESPONSIBILTY:

Competitors are understood to recognize the risks of physical injury inherent in dance and dance performances and be willing to assume those risks. It is agreed that participants will not hold Dancing Feats Dance Centre, nor any Dance Competition Organization, or their directors or employees liable for injuries sustained or illnesses contracted by them while in attendance and/or performing in any activity at a Dance competition.

We understand that videotaping and/or photography is strictly prohibited at competition venues, and that any violation of this policy may disqualify our studio from the competition.

I consent to the use of my dancer's image in photographs and/or video footage for promotional purposes.

Dancer Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Agreed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Parent/Guardian of above Dancer

## COMPETITION TEAM COMMITMENT

We have read the Competition Team Contract and agree to participate on the Team indicated above. We understand and agree to abide by all the rules, stipulations, and policies of the selected team. We are firmly committed to the

Competition Weekends indicated and will be available as required.

We understand the competition fees we are submitting with this contract are non-refundable. We agree that any failure on our part to abide by the contract may result in dismissal from the Competition Team. We understand that following the rules is vital to the success of the Team.

We commit to be motivated, to work full-out in our classes and rehearsals, and to take and implement corrections from our teachers without complaint. We commit to always representing our Team and Dancing Feats in a positive manner.

Dancer Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Agreed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature Dancer Signature



COST EXAMPLE FOR A PERFORMANCE TEAM MEMBER WHO CHOOSES TO DANCE IN 3 GROUP ROUTINES:

(1) Ballet Classes/week, plus (3) additional classes, plus Team Rehearsal class = $200/month; Annual cost = 200x9=$1800.

Summer Intensives: $300; Choreography Week: $300. Total $600

Costumes for Competition Dances = 55x3 = $165. Costumes for Recital Dances = 4x50 = $200 -- (assumes all new costumes). Other Costs could include shoes/jewelry, etc.

Competition Fees: 3 dances at $50 each, three events = 150x3 = $450.

Overall Total: up to $3215, more if solos/duets, etc.

COST EXAMPLE FOR A RECREATIONAL TEAM MEMBER WHO CHOOSES TO DANCE IN 2 GROUP ROUTINES:

(1) Ballet Classes/week, plus (2) additional classes, plus Team Rehearsal class = $150/month (assumes no class exceeds 1-hour). Annual cost = 150x9=$1350.

Summer Intensives: (1) Jr Ballet $150; Choreography $200 (or $100/dance). Total $350

Costumes for Competition = 55x3 = $165. -- assumes all new costumes.

Other Costs could include shoes/jewelry, etc.

Competition Fees: 2 dances at $50 each, two events = 100x2 = $200.

Overall Total: up to $2230, more if solos/duets, unlimited classes, etc.