

2022-2023 Competition season regulations and contract.

Class requirements In order for a dancer to be in competition, dancers must take 3 required classes.

Ballet and Tech are mandatory. Dancers can pick a third class of their choosing. Regular classes run from September through June. Minis (3 to 5 years old) are required to take 2 regular classes per week plus choreography classes.

***Conventions-** There will be 2 mandatory conventions. 1 will be an in- house at the studio and we will attend Celebrity Dance convention in Lake Washington Nov. 18—20th

Minis are only required to do ½ conventions due to age and ability.

***Competitions-** We will be participating in 4 or 5 mandatory regionals. Locations are mostly local- Seattle, Tacoma, Arlington, Auburn, and Portland.

We attend Nationals every other year. 2023 is our Nationals year. I will have a parent meeting to discuss this further. Meeting will be at end of August.

All Competition dates will be set by September with the possibility of changes. Some competitions may cancel if they do not get enough entries. If that happens I will try and find an alternate.

Missing a mandatory competition may result in being asked to leave the competition team. All competition fees are non-refundable.

There will be a list of ALL competitions and conventions that dancers can take part in on their own. These are considered **optional** competitions. This means that your teacher is not required to attend this particular competition for their student. Please remember any time you compete you are representing Eatonville Dance Studio. So I expect everyone to be on their best behavior.

Competitions usually post their schedule 1 to 2 weeks prior to the competition so you need to keep schedules open for the entire weekend as we don't always know what day each dance will be on. Must arrive 2 hours prior to scheduled dance time.

It is strongly recommended that dancers do not just show up for their scheduled time but also support fellow dancers by coming and cheering on solos, duos, and all dancers from our studio. Show support for your studio.

If people do not show their support this may become MANDATORY.

I understand we cannot commit to watching our studio dancers all weekend long, however best effort needs to be made to show your support. If you as a parent cannot attend, coordinate to send your dancer with another dance mom/teammate. Team members that offer support throughout the competition season will have 1st choice on solo time slots the following season.

Financial obligation- Dance is costly so please be aware there are many more costs than just lessons and entry fees. There may be hotel and travel expenses if a venue is out of town. Competitions fees, shoes, tights, costumes, accessories, food, gas, misc.

Fees for competition range in price-

Solos \$100 to \$160 per entry fee

Duos/ Trio \$65 to \$80 per dancer

Groups \$55 to \$75 per dancer

These fees must be paid in advance so that registration and entry fees can be submitted in a timely manner. Notice will be given as far in advance as possible with the due dates and amounts of these fees. If you are unable to pay the funds by the date requested, this may result in your child being removed from the competition. A lot of these competitions fill up fast. If money isn't in, that would result in not being able to participate. Once fees are paid to the competition, there will be no refunds, meaning if you have paid a fee for registration for a convention or competition, and that money has already been sent to the event and your dancer needs to be removed due to illness, etc... there will be no refunds given by the competition/convention.

Costumes - \$50.00 to \$100.00 per costume.

Convention fees- In house price range for full convention 130.00- 175.00 ½ in house minis 75.00

Celebrity dance convention— 280.00 full weekend 135.00 minis for 1/2 days Sat. and Sun.(approximates).

Nationals— will discuss more at the parent meeting

Funds—Money will start being due as early as August— Many of the competitions offer discounts for registering early, paying a deposit etc and we try to take advantage of all of these discounts as much as possible to try to save a little bit on costs.

A \$100 non refundable deposit will be required and due no later than September 1st . This will be credited to individual dancers' account. Monthly payments towards expenses are strongly recommended so that funds are in the account and available when needed for registration fees and deadlines.

The average cost of your expenses divided out by 7 or 8 months is the amount that ideally would be paid into the account each month to cover expenses

You can now also use PayPal or Venmo to send money – TBA

Fundraising can be done at any time to help offset costs. We will discuss some group fundraising opportunities at the parent meetings. If you do not think you can financially afford to do this, or do not want to have fundraisers on your own please consider this before you make the commitment to the team. Any dance account that is 60 days past due will be put on probation and not permitted to participate in classes, conventions, or competitions until the account is paid. If any dancer has an unpaid balance for tuition they are not eligible to take part in extra activities such as optional competitions/ conventions.

***Dance Jackets** are required for all team members and will need to be paid and ordered no later than Oct. 15th. Team jackets must be worn at all competitions and on stage to receive awards.

***Theater etiquette** Parents are not permitted backstage unless approved by Justine. Dancers that are not scheduled to dance are not permitted backstage. Only dancers who are scheduled to take the stage are permitted to be backstage. I understand dancers want to support friends. This can be done in the dressing area. Cheer friends on from the audience. If you are at the competition and a fellow studio member is scheduled to take the stage I expect dancers to watch and support. Not be in the dressing room getting ready, unless they have quick changes. Dancers need to conduct themselves with good manners and be professional. Running around the venue being a distraction to others is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. I will also have class meetings with all students before we take part in our 1st mandatory competition to review and discuss what is expected.

Before committing ask yourself and your dancer: Can I commit to the financial obligation? Can my dancer(s) meet the strict time commitment? Is my dancer willing to practice at home, be at all required practices, devote some weekends to travel, have a respectful attitude, be a team player, treat other dancers and competitors with respect and always give 100 percent?

*** Withdrawing / quitting** There will be a 500.00 fee for anyone who decides to pull their dancer after the contract has been agreed upon. Unless otherwise agreed upon by Justine Reed. This is to ensure when people make a commitment they all follow through with that commitment.

What is expected- Dances will start to be choreographed Aug. (Dates TBA), there will be a 7-day Boot camp. Boot camp will be run more as a workshop. I will teach some classes, but also bring in some guest teachers. Routines will start being performed in December at fairs, local events, and senior centers, if the events are allowing performances again. This gives dancers stage time to work on their performance skills and perfect routines. There may be performances during summer , but I know we all have summer activities that limit our availability through the summer months. Summer performances are not mandatory. They will be asked who is available to participate.

Competitions start in Jan/ Feb and go through May. As you know , when committing to being part of a group you must fulfill your commitment for the whole dance season. When a child drops out for any reason it makes more work for dancers and myself to re-choreograph dances.

Music and Chorography. The style of dance and music for each dance will be determined by instructor. Justine has to approve all songs, style of dance and costumes. Parents maybe asked for input , but ultimately the final decision must be approved by Director Justine.

Parents/ dancers **MUST BE COMMITTED!** Justine has the right to ask anyone at any time to leave the competition team. The reason for expulsion may be for not putting in practice or effort, poor attitude, too many missed practices, nonpayment, parents or dancers not getting along with team members, director, or instructors.

If Justine determines that a dancer or dance is NOT ready for competition, she may pull a dance or require the dancer to complete additional/extra practices. Because we have to register and pay for events far in advance this will be a case-by-case discussion with Justine.

Starting drama within the dance family will not be tolerated and will be dealt with swiftly to assure a positive safe dance environment for all.

***Appearance** In competition- it is important to all look the same. Therefore, permission must be asked before cutting hair short, wild hair colors, piercing of face, or any other drastic change in appearance. Every dancer will be required to have the same shade of lipstick, fake eyelashes, same shade, and types of shoes and tights. A list will be provided and/or funds will be collected to place group orders.

***Communication** Events will be scheduled and added to the app called Band. I will add all new members at end of June. This is very important because this is 99 percent of how I communicate with a large group. It will be kept updated and has a calendar built-in. I understand there were some complaints about there being too many people commenting and phone notifications going off a lot. Turning the notifications off completely is also not beneficial and you will miss important announcements and alerts. It is the dancer/parent's responsibility to be aware of the times/dates and keep up on changes.

***Continued education** -I encourage dancers to take part in workshops and extra dance conventions throughout the season. However, team dancers are not permitted to take classes at other competing studios during competition season. This is a conflict of interest and can cause many unwanted problems. This can result in the termination of the dancer being on the team. If you need any clarification or ideas on keeping your dancer growing please reach out to Justine for recommended continued education options. Examples of continuing education that are acceptable would be Gymnastics center, Ballet studio that does not compete in competitions, Pilates or yoga classes, Ballroom, Etc.. Any extra classes taken during summer need to be approved by Justine.

Let's make this an amazing year. I am excited to see the dancers learn and grow this season. Please remember this is about the kids. I understand that parents also invest a lot of time and money into dance. I have been running my studio for over 20 years now. I ask you to trust me as a teacher, choreographer, and studio director. You are paying me to do what is right for your dancer and that will always be my top goal and priority. Let your kids dance and have fun. None of us are perfect. That is ok. There might be issues that arise throughout the year. Sometimes I may need to have a 10 min. meeting with a dancer or parent to work through things. Hopefully, we can have a conversation to address any issues and move forward. I will be as transparent as I can. Please trust me and let me do my job.

There are no refunds for any convention or competition. Once you pay in full No refunds.

Competition Contract 2022-2023 Season

- I have received and read a copy of the Competition Team Information and Requirements
- I and my dancer agree that we are willing and able to meet the requirements stated and that all rules will be followed.
- I understand that if we are not able to meet these requirements or rules that it may result in removal from the Competition team.
- I understand that Justine reserves the right to determine if a dancer/dance is or is not ready for a competition and that a dance may not be allowed to be entered for a competition if it is not ready by the registration deadline/timeframe
- I understand that there is a \$100 nonrefundable deposit due by the 1st day of September classes
- I understand that once my dancer commits to the season I will be financially responsible for class tuition from July 2022 until nationals 2023. .

Parent- _____ Date- _____
Dancer- _____ Date- _____