



# TTDS COMPETITION POLICY & CONTRACT

A competitive dance team is designed for the serious dancer who is highly motivated in the performing arts and is able to commit to all practices and events required to be in the competition program.

## Those selected for company competition teams will possess the following:

- Be physically fit with emphasis on healthy mind and body
- Be self-motivated and able to self-evaluate
- Have solid technical and performance skills
- Strong desire to grow and develop as a dancer
- Have a sense of humor, bright smile, and positive attitude
- Have respect for the team and staff
- Show support for the studio, teachers and fellow dancers

## THE COMPETITION EXPERIENCE:

It is important to understand that the “competition” aspect of being a member of a Competitive Dance Team should be considered a “performance” opportunity. Competition results are strictly a subjective opinion, and each dancer’s growth should not be completely gauged by their scores or achievements at competitions. **It is important to keep competition experiences positive, and most importantly, be proud of the growth and development that takes place within your dancer.** Team members are not in competition with each other. Students are encouraged to strive to improve themselves and to work to their full capacity. Each dancer is uniquely different, each with their own strengths and their own weaknesses and each brings their own talent to the team as a whole.

## ATTENDANCE/TARDIES:

Attendance is mandatory for all dance classes. The studio tries its best to be flexible and accommodating with conflicts due to school and/or important family activities. **However, by becoming a member of a competition team, you have agreed that this is a priority in your schedule.** Missed classes for any reason other than illness must be approved in advance. Student absences will be recorded. If more than 4 unexcused absences have occurred, it is possible the dancer may not be able to compete in the competition, or they may be required to take additional private lessons at \$20 per 30 minute session to catch up, and they may also be taken out of sections and special parts. **Any time an absence occurs, students are responsible to learn what was missed before the next class, either with a private lesson or from a friend.** Students must arrive on time for class or earlier. Missing the first part of class causes the students to become behind on stretching and warming up which can lead to injuries. More than 4 tardies may result in additional classes assigned by the competition teachers to make up for the lost time. Also frequent tardies and absences may result in students to drop their solos, duets or trios regardless if they are prepaid or not.

TTDS has the right to pull students before any competition event if he/she has had too many absences without making the classes up or has missed mandatory practices hindering the students and the class routine. Being part of the competition program is a team effort and attendance is very important to the other dancers. Dance teachers do understand that they are dealing with busy children and socially active teens with many school demands; being a well-rounded individual is important, however, when it comes to participation on a competition team, skills are constantly being taught....students must be present!

## REQUIRED CLASSES:

Each dancer on the competition team is required to take 3 training classes such as tumbling/strengthening, ballet/core & technique/intro tap. Students must also attend all mandatory competition rehearsals and must also attend parade practices and participate in the parade. In addition, students may be asked to stay later after a class or come in early for a class as necessary and determined by the choreographers.

## **SOLOS/DUET/TRIOS:**

Private lessons can be scheduled at a rate of \$20 per 30 minute session. Our studio instructors are the only ones allowed to choreograph solos. Students should not seek out other choreographers from other studios for solo/duet/trios and your instructor is the only one allowed to make the decision on bringing in another choreographer once approved by the director/owner.

Students are allowed to participate in master classes here and there from other studios, but are not allowed to attend regular classes at another dance studio facility. Students should not miss any of their scheduled classes to attend at another studio's master class- unless approved by your class instructor and director/owner.

Parent/Guardians should not sit in during classes to give instructors and students the full ability to stay focused and for the best quality of class. This includes group classes, solo, duet or trio classes or private lessons. If you have a concern or specific request, those can be discussed on a per basis through out the season.

## **SUPER SOLOIST, MISS/MISTER, TITLE COMPETITION**

Students have the opportunity to be a super soloist ONCE they have placed in the top 3 in overalls at multiple competitions. A super soloist is a student who competes with more than 1 solo. For competitions that offer a "Super Solo category" - Students who are "super soloist" typically do not compete in the regular overalls and are placed in a separate "Super Soloist Category" instead. The highest two solo scores for each Super Solo are averaged to determine the Super Solo score for overall placement. Students performing only one solo per competition will be judged separately and will compete for the Top Soloist in every age division. Students who have also placed in the top 3 in overalls at multiple competitions also have the opportunity to compete for Miss/Mister or for Title and is typically an additional \$30 on average.

## **COMPETITION SCHEDULE:**

You will be given a competition schedule at the beginning of the season with the reserved dates for competitions. PLEASE mark your calendars as soon as you receive the dates as it is absolutely required and mandatory for competition students to attend all competition events. Students are not allowed to miss any competition events. Missing a competition event may result in dismissal from the competition program and competition routines. COMPETITION IS FOR THE SERIOUS DANCER AND REQUIRES COMMITMENT. The competition schedule is given out in plenty of time to make plans, vacations and out of town trips around the competition schedule.

Every effort is made to select competitions that will provide our dancers and their families with the best experience possible. TTDS is not held accountable for any cancelled competition events, however TTDS will refund you your Competition Entry Fees that were cancelled back to your account.

## **TRANSPORTATION / HOTELS:**

Transportation to and from competitions is not provided or arranged nor are any hotel fees for competitions too far away to commute.

## **COMPETITION SCORING**

### **Judging:**

Every competition has different criteria for judging routines. The four basic things that routines are ALWAYS judged on are:

### **TECHNIQUE:**

The reason for the extra ballet, technique and stretch/strength classes is TECHNIQUE!

This includes:

- pointed feet
- turn-out
- extensions
- proper execution of turns
- use of plié
- placement of hands

TECHNIQUE IS ALWAYS AT LEAST 50% OF A ROUTINE'S SCORE, SO GET TO THOSE BALLET & TECHNIQUE CLASSES!!

### **OVERALL PERFORMANCE QUALITY**

How well each student knows their routine and how well they entertain the judges and audience with it. Also in this area is the use of facial expression to convey the "feeling " of the routine.

### **CHOREOGRAPHY**

Here it is the TEACHER that is judged! Choreography scores are based on appropriate choice of music and costumes, use of stage, difficulty of routine and how well the movement in the dance relates to the music. *This is often the smallest portion of the overall score.*

### **APPEARANCE**

This pertains to costume fit, whether undergarments are showing, neatness of hair and make-up. Hats and hair pieces must be securely attached and, if performing in a group, consistently placed. Costumes will be tested BEFORE the first competition to determine if you need to pin or secure it. Double check that you have the proper bra/tights/shoes for each different dance. Wardrobe malfunctions can bring down a score very quickly.

### **AWARDS**

Awards Ceremonies are usually held a few times each day of competitions, and are one of the MOST FUN times of the weekend for students! Students are required to wear their team jacket and/or other TTDS attire on stage for all award ceremonies that they attend. They are required to attend all award ceremonies for the teams/routines that they are in and are welcome to go on stage for others as well (depending on current regulations). Dance Captains will be selected before each competition event. Dance captains are responsible for picking up awards at competition and for passing out any medals, pins, ribbons, etc to the group routine they are captain for at the end of the awards ceremony. Dance captains are also responsible for giving any trophies or plaques for group routines to the studio owner after award ceremony. Any cash prize awarded at a competition will go to the studio, with the exception of a cash prize for a Solo which will be given to the dancer or kept on the account for future competition entry fees

Awards are the time to:

- Hoot and holler (parents AND dancers),
- Take pictures
- Sit back and relax.

**The most important thing to remember about awards is that ALL scores are the opinions of 3 or 4 judges with different opinions. Scores & placements may vary from competition to competition.**

### **SOCIAL MEDIA AND STUDIO ETIQUETTE:**

Please do not take this personally or lightly. If you bully, negative gossip, post negative things on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, snapchat, etc, exhibit behavior reflecting negatively on our studio, or participate in drinking or smoking, we will consider this grounds for a strike, probation or suspension from the company. Some examples of bullying include, but not limited to threats, physical aggression, negative discourse on social media, etc. This includes the behavior of the parents. If we are in a public situation (competitions, performances, conventions, events, etc.) the expectation is that you will conduct your behavior responsibly. Remember you are a representative of Triple Threat Dance Studio. If there are situations that need to be addressed, please remember that we can handle those upon return to the studio. In a public forum, it is unacceptable. Our goal is to foster a healthy competitive team environment. With so many personalities, we realize that conflicts may arise, but we must be respectful of one another. Be kind to one another. There is no room for personal conflicts amongst the team. Do not bring them to the dance studio or to an event. It is hard to stop gossip among students and parents all together, but we do not want it to become destructive. If you have a problem with a parent, instructor, staff member or student, please contact Mrs. Alexis to discuss your concerns and make the proper corrections.

### **COVER UPS / ATTIRE AT COMPETITIONS & EVENTS**

Students should wear TTDS gear at all competitions and events. Students should always wear their team jacket or a TTDS top over costumes at events and on stage for awards. You are responsible for purchasing TTDS gear from our online store when the store is "open". There are dedicated weeks for when the store is open to purchase TTDS gear as well as parade uniforms and you must purchase TTDS during the time period offered. Gear is not available to purchase when the online store is "closed". Students should always represent the studio well when wearing attire at competitions and events. Students should never wear any clothing with any drugs, alcohol or other inappropriate stimulates while at competitions and studio events.

## **CLASS DRESS CODE**

### Competition *Ballet*

- Any solid black leotard \*Cover-ups are allowed, but may be asked to be removed while learning certain skills.
- Pink/Tan/White convertible, ankle or stirrup tights
- Shoes: Any split sole ballet shoe NO barefoot or half soles
- Hair in a Bun/Messy bun/pony
- Boys: black or white t-shirt & black ballet shoes

### Pre Pointe / Classical Ballet

- Solid navy blue leotard with pink ballet skirt
- Pink convertible tights
- Shoes: split sole pink ballet shoe NO barefoot or half soles
- Hair in a Bun with hair net

### All other classes:

- Leotards, sports bras or other fitted tops
- Dance pants, capris, or booty shorts
- Shoes - Color and style for each subject Determined at the end of September
- Hair in a clean Bun/Messy bun/pony
- Boys: athletic wear

## **NOT ACCEPTABLE**

- Flashy Jewelry, including earrings larger than a nickel.
- Jeans or pjs
- Fingernail polish or fake nails at competitions!

Please understand that students may be required to hold splits, do pushups& sit-ups, and more if student shows up to class not in the proper attire and shoes.

## **REFUNDS / SUSPENSION / DROP FROM PROGRAM:**

TTDS is not required to issue any refunds. TTDS has the right to suspend any student from the program for any reason. In the event that a student is suspended, parent/guardian on contract is still responsible for costume fees, all events fees and tuition fees due up to current. By signing our Policy & Contract you agree that you will not be withdrawing athlete listed on registration form and are signing up to participate the full season. You also agree to pay for the monthly tuition total listed on the registration form as well as all costume fees, competition fees and any other competition fees that may be required for the activity of dance or cheer. You also understand that all remaining balances on account will be sent to collections upon withdrawal, along with a \$250 drop fee, understanding that TTDS instructors will be required to make adjustment changes to all spacing and choreography that has affected the students and classes your athlete attended.

## **STRIKES:**

If a student or parents actions go against our studio or competition contract or policy then the consequence will result in a strike. Each student/parent together are allowed 1 warning and up to 3 strikes and may result to suspension of the competition program, events and/or practices. If a student is dropped or suspended from the competition program, he/she may choose to join recreational classes. If the same issues arise in the recreational program then student will then be suspended from all TTDS programs. Please see strike system below:

**WARNING** - only 1 warning will be given to the student/parent.

**STRIKE 1**- Student will be suspended for 1 week of practice

**STRIKE 2**-Student will be suspended for 2 weeks of practice with apology essay

**STRIKE 3**- Suspension from the competition team for the remainder of the season will be discussed with director and teachers

## **PLEASE UNDERSTAND THE FOLLOWING:**

Student will be responsible for making up any choreography missed through a private lesson (\$20 per 30 minutes) or through a friend. **If there are mandatory practices during time of suspension, or student has missed too many practices resulting in being unaware of changes, then TTDS has the right to pull student from competition event without refund. During suspension, TTDS also has the right to move students out of sections to off stage as well as any other necessary spacing changes and special part changes.** \*Please note that student is also responsible for parents behavior if the student received a strike due to the behavior of a parent/guardian.

# **REQUIRED FINICAL COMMITMENT:**

*Being in a program such as this requires a certain financial commitment. Below are the fees associate with being on the competition team. Additional fees have been divided up and are due through out the season. Please see next page for what fees are due in each month of the season.*

## **TTDS COMPETITION PROGRAM REGISTRATION FEE**

\$25 Per student

## **COMPETITION ENTRY FEE REGISTRATION**

\$5 Per group routine per event (per student)

## **MONTHLY COMPANY TUITION FOR A COMPETITION STUDENT:**

\$100 - \$180 per month. All depends on how many routines you are in and how many classes you take.

## **COST FOR SOLO & DUETS:**

\$20 per 30 minute session + costume & entry fees

## **END OF SEASON RECITAL**

\$107 and includes Recital Fee, Trophy Fee, Recital T-Shirt and Bottoms

## **COMPETITION COSTUMES**

\$80-\$150 per costume \*Cost varies depending on accessories, alterations, rhinestones, props, etc.. In addition to competition costumes, **you will be responsible for ordering your dancer's required competition shoes BY NOVEMBER.** Most of our dance shoes cost under \$40 (aside from any hiphop branded shoe that may be required). This season we will also be requiring a cosmetic bag fee that will include fake eye lashes, eye lash glue and all competition make up (aside from foundation) with the option to purchase new or additional earrings. We will be using the same 13mm Rivoli Button Earrings this season. Our goal is for all students to look the same on stage and to save time for parents on hunting needed cosmetic items.

**\*\*\*If you are dismissed from a team or have to withdraw for any reason, you are required to leave your costumes at the studio for another person to fill your spot. This is not negotiable. Your costume will be returned to you at the end of the season. If you do not leave your costumes, for each costume needed, your account will be charged a replacement cost.**

## **PARADE**

\$30 parade fee + parade uniform. We Will be using the same parade uniform that we have used the previous two seasons. All competition students are required to participate in the parades and must purchase the parade uniform from the online team store when the store is set to be open. Students can also wear the parade uniform at competition events to act as a cover up over costumes and on stage for awards.

## **AVERAGE COMPETITION ENTRY FEES PER EVENT:**

Solos→ \$100-\$150 average per student

Duet→ \$80-\$100 average per student

Trio→ \$70-\$90 average per student

Group→ \$60-\$80 average per student per group routine

Competition Entry Fees are due 45-90 days before each competition event. Due dates will be posted on calendars that can be found on the info wall located in the lobby. Reminders will also go out on Team Reach and via email. Students will not be allowed to participate in classes if competition entry fee are not paid within 15 days of due date or if tuition is 1 month past due. Tuition and competition fees **must** stay up to current in order to participate in competition classes and competition events. Entry Fee deadlines will be clearly defined on an invoice given out at the beginning of the season and must be paid timely! If you do not pay on time, a \$25 late charge will be added with the possibility of the dancer not allowed to compete.

# ***DUE DATE SCHEDULE THAT SHOWS WHAT ADDITIONAL FEES ARE DUE EACH MONTH OF THE SEASON!!***

*This season we have made a new fee schedule so that no additional fees are due in the months November & December to help families during the Christmas buying season. :)*

*AUGUST:* *New Season Registration Fee, Competition Entry Registration Fees & Costume Deposit*

*SEPTEMBER:* *Parade Fee & Parade Gear*

*OCTOBER:* *Costumes, Cosmetic bag(NEW)*

*NOVEMBER:* *No additional fees due, but students should have all required competition shoes ordered*

*DECEMBER:* *No additional fees due*

*JANUARY:* *1st Competition Fee Due*

*FEBRUARY:* *2nd Competition Fee Due*

*MARCH:* *3rd Competition Fee Due (& possibly 4th competition fee)*

*APRIL:* *Recital Package Due as well as Recital Picture Orders & Recital Program Ads*

*MAY:* *Nationals Fees Due*

*JUNE:* *Recital tickets*

**2023 RECITAL = SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH**

**COMPETITION SCHEDULE WILL BE GIVEN IN AUGUST AFTER COMPETITION SURVEY HAS BEEN COMPLETED & REVIEWED.**

# Triple Threat

**Dance Studio**

**Please sign and return this page. Keep the Company contract for your reference.**

Both dancer and parent/guardian have read and understood all that is expected as a member of Triple Threat Dance Studio's Competition Team. We understand that these policies are created to ensure the absolute best training and most positive and rewarding experience for everyone. Both dancer and parent/guardian understand that failure to meet the conditions set forth in this contract could result in the dancer's dismissal from the team.

Dancer's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dancer's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_