

Please read carefully. Failure to comply with these rules could result in disqualification.

REGISTRATION

Entries must be mailed, emailed or submitted through our website. No phone entries will be accepted.

All Entry Fees must be paid by check or money order. Entries can be paid by credit card but will incur a 3% fee.

Entries are NON-REFUNDABLE.

Payment must be received in the RDF office 30 days prior to the event date.

Any entries received after the 30 day deadline will be assessed a 10% late fee. Please be certain to enter the proper performance and age division. There will be a fee of **\$5.00 per change** for all changes made less than 10 days prior to the competition. This fee must be paid by credit card at the time the change(s) is made.

NO CHANGES WILL BE PERMITTED LESS THAN 7 DAYS PRIOR TO THE COMPETITION.

No changes will be permitted at the competition.

Entries will be accepted on a first come, first served basis and will be limited to the amount of performance time available.

Reaction Dance Force reserves the right to add additional competition days or move the competition location due to unforeseen circumstances.

GENERAL DIVISIONS / ENTRY FEES

SOLO (single performer)	\$50 per performer
DUET (2 performers)	\$80 per entry
TEAM LEADER (2-5 performers)	\$100 per entry
TEAM (5 or more performers)	\$45 per performer (includes 2 categories)
ADDITIONAL TEAM ROUTINES	\$25 per performer

Performers are limited to entering a maximum of one (1) solo and one (1) duet (*same combination of dancers*).

TIME LIMITS

Solo – 1 min 30 sec

Duet – 1 min 40 sec

Team Leaders (2-5 performers) – 1 min 40 sec

Team Routines (5 or more performers) – 2 min 15 sec. *Exception: Spirit Category - 3 min, 30 sec*

Overtime will result in automatic point deduction of .5 for every 10 seconds overtime.

AGE/GRADE DIVISIONS

TEAMS will compete in the following age/grade divisions:

Tiny All-Star - 6 yrs & younger

Mini All-Star - 9 yrs & younger

Elem/Youth All-Star - 12 yrs & younger

JR High/JR All-Star - 15 yrs & younger

SR All-Star - 18 yrs & younger

Junior Varsity (JV) - 9th -12th grade

Varsity - 9th-12th grade

College - 15 yrs & older

TEAM LEADERS will compete in the following age/grade divisions:

Elem/JR High - 15 yrs & younger

Junior Varsity (JV) - 9th -12th grade

Varsity - 9th-12th grade

SOLOS & DUETS* will compete in the following age/grade divisions:

Mini - 3rd grade & younger (not eligible for Title)

Elem - 6th grade & younger

JR/Teen - 7th-9th grade

SR - 10th-12th grade

**Division is determined by Duet's oldest member.*

The age of the competitor as of **8/31/26** will be the age used for competition purposes throughout the 2026-2027 season for all divisions. Names, ages, and birthdates of all contestants must appear on the official entry form or it will not be accepted. The same combination of performers in a duet or solo may never compete against themselves in the same age division in the same performance category. Dancers may compete in both School and All-Star divisions except in the Elem and Jr. High/Jr. All-Star Division, as no dancer can compete against themselves in the same division and performance category.

DANCE PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

Pom - A routine with strong emphasis on synchronization and visual effect, clean/precise motions, and strong motion technique. Poms must be used 80% of the routine.

Jazz - A routine incorporating stylized dance movements and combinations with an emphasis on proper technical execution, extension, control and body placement.

Hip Hop - Routine composed of street style movements with an emphasis on execution, style, creativity, body isolations and control, rhythm, uniformity and musical interpretation.

Open - This category is for any style of dance or combination thereof, including but not limited to the styles listed in this section, as well as any of the following:

- ✦ **Contemporary** - A style that combines both lyrical and modern movements.
- ✦ **Lyrical** - A fusion of ballet and jazz, a routine encompassing the use of balance, flexibility and control while utilizing the lyrics or mood of the music.
- ✦ **Modern** - Interpretive Dance using balance and control that rejects the limitations of classical ballet and favors movement deriving from the expression of inner feeling.

Spirit - Similar to a pep rally, this category is composed of 3 components: a Fight Song (*with or without music*), a Spirit Routine, and a Style Routine (Pom, Jazz, Kick, or Hip Hop). Teams must show a clear separation between elements.

NON-PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

Photogenic - Contestants must submit a recent 5x7 or 8x10 (color or black & white) headshot to be judged. Photos can be picked up when the coach picks up score sheets. **Photogenic entry fee is \$25.**

Title - All Soloists will be automatically entered in the Title competition at School & All-Star Challenges. The following Titles will be used:

- ✦ **Elem:** *"Mini Miss Dance Force"* **"Mini Mr. Dance Force"**
- ✦ **Jr/Teen:** *"Miss Teen Dance Force"* **"Mr. Teen Dance Force"**
- ✦ **Sr:** *"Miss Dance Force"* **"Mr. Dance Force"**

The winning title routine in each division will receive an award and a certificate for a free registration at a future event.

MUSIC

Our Challenges require audio files emailed to info@reactiondanceforce.com or the director of the event. Directors/Coaches are advised to also bring a copy for back-up. A confirmation packet will be emailed upon registering for each event and will contain further details.

SCHEDULE

A time schedule will be e-mailed to all entrants, one week prior to the competition date. Every regional schedule is set up based solely on the breakdown of entries by solos, duets, team leader groups and team routines for that particular city. We will not have this breakdown until all of the entries have been processed.

All entries are expected to compete during the time assigned. Entries which do not compete at their assigned time will be scored only and will not be eligible for place trophies. You may be asked to compete out of sequence in order to avoid a delay, due to costume changes. Please be prepared to compete when you are called, even though it may be a few numbers earlier than anticipated. A .5 deduction may be assessed if contestants do not perform in scheduled sequence, without prior permission from the competition director. Any team that delays the event because they are rehearsing, will be assessed a .5 deduction from their total score.

AWARDS

Place trophies will be awarded to every TEAM in every category and division.

A Platinum, Gold & Silver medallion will be awarded to the top three dancers in each SOLO division.

Place plaques will be awarded to the top three routines in each DUET division.

Place trophies will be awarded to the top three groups in each TEAM LEADER division.

SCORES

Use the following breakdown to understand each section of your scoresheet:

- 9.0-10.0** - Superior execution
- 8.0-8.9** - Above average execution
- 7.0-7.9** - Average execution
- 6.0-6.9** - Below average execution
- 5.0 and below** - Poor execution

Additional “Judges’ Choice” Awards will be given out specific to each Challenge, as well as plaques recognizing participants in the areas of choreography, sportsmanship and performance.

Contestants will be judged by a panel of judges, and all decisions are FINAL.

SAFETY GUIDELINES

Dance divisions may contain acrobatic/gymnastics tricks but they should not exceed 20% of the routine, as executed in unison. (Exception: Hip Hop is unlimited.) Tumbling passes may have no more than 3 connected skills. Hip over head rotation skills with hand support are not allowed while holding poms/props in supporting hand. (Exception: Forward Rolls and Backward Rolls are allowed.) Dance lifts are permissible with proper spotting. Only handheld props may be used for groups and no dangerous props such as fire, swords, knives or live animals may be used. (Exception: additional props may be used for solos or Open divisions, with prior approval from the director.) No form of liquids, gels, aerosols, glitter, or confetti, etc. which may affect the performance surface, may be used during a routine. No additional sound equipment or microphones may be used or connected to the sound system. Violation of these rules will result in automatic point deduction of .5 for each violation.

INTERRUPTION OF PERFORMANCE

In the event a technical error causes a routine’s music to be interrupted, the coach will have the opportunity to stop the performance and begin again immediately. Judging and timing will resume from the point at which the malfunction occurred as determined by the Judges. In the event that an injury causes a routine to be interrupted the dancers will have 30 minutes to regroup before performing their routine again from the beginning. Judging will resume from the point at which the injury/interruption occurred, as determined by the Judges. If an entry prefers not to re-work the routine, they may take the score they have received up to that point. Routines will NOT be stopped to accommodate costume malfunctions. Each performer is required to take the necessary steps to avoid inappropriate exposure prior to the performance. If a performer leaves the floor to adjust a costume, the routine may continue but a penalty may result. Any SOLO routine which is not completed the first time, and is attempted a second time, will be scored only and will not be eligible for a Platinum, Gold or Silver Medallion or Title. *(Exception: if it was stopped due to a technical error. See above.)*

INAPPROPRIATE CHOREOGRAPHY/COSTUMING

Suggestive, offensive, or vulgar choreography and/or music is inappropriate for family audiences and therefore lacks audience appeal. 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. In addition, use of themes such as rape, suicide, murder, sex, domestic violence, anorexia, and dark undertones chosen and/or presented to competition audiences with a lack of “artistic discretion” is considered inappropriate. Inappropriate choreography and costuming affects the judges’ overall impression of the routine. Please make sure that all choreography and costuming is age appropriate. Inappropriate choreography and/or costuming will be at the sole discretion of the RDF judges and officials. An entry that is ultimately deemed inappropriate will be adjudicated only.

RDF RELEASE

All contestants grant permission to Reaction Dance Force to use their photographs and/or video for advertising and promotional purposes. Reaction Dance Force, LLC and the hosting facility are not responsible for personal injury or property loss. Formal video taping is strictly prohibited unless given prior permission from the competition Director. (RDF reserves the right to take the video being used and disqualification could result.) It is the school’s responsibility to relay this information to their participants and spectators.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Sportsmanlike behavior is expected at all times from participants, parents, studio directors and teaching staff. Failure to comply could result in immediate disqualification.

QUESTIONS and DISPUTES

At an event, questions or concerns regarding score sheets, legalities and other issues should be addressed exclusively by the coach or director. Please direct such inquiries to the Event Registration Table. The appropriate competition official will be contacted to discuss any questions or concerns. RDF has the authority to make a decision on any issue, protest, and penalty or rule that is unclear or not specifically addressed in these guidelines. The RDF rules will be evaluated and enforced on an individual basis, taking into account what is best for all parties.