

HOW WE ROLL

We're realistic that not everyone will read our Competition Rules & Terms, so here's a summary of the really important bits. If you would like to read the full Terms, crack on!

- ✂ Registrations only from dance schools/clubs. No independent entries.
- ✂ Performance Categories, Age Divisions and Time Limits are below and on our website.
- ✂ Entry not confirmed until full payment made.
- ✂ Note the Closing Date: you've got to pay and finalise entries by then. Any changes after this date will incur an administration charge.
- ✂ Music must be uploaded no less than 2 weeks before the competition.
- ✂ The name of a routine may NOT be the same name as the dance school.
- ✂ Ages based on the dancers' age on 1st September of the competition season (1st September – 31st August). Duets, Trios & Groups is average age.
- ✂ If competitions run for more than one day, dancers must be prepared to compete on which ever day they have been assigned.
- ✂ Chaperones: bring enough to supervise backstage and must be DBS checked or hold a chaperone license (we may require proof).

ON THE DAY

- ✂ Performers **MUST** be checked in with Reception 1 HOUR prior to scheduled performance time.
- ✂ Report to stage five numbers before due to perform.
- ✂ Bring back up music on an iPod, iPhone, iPad or computer to competition in case of emergencies.
- ✂ Please ensure your dancers behave well and support each other, as well as the wider dance community.
- ✂ **PHOTOGRAPHY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED** - it is your responsibility to inform your dancers and parents of this rule!
- ✂ All decisions of the judges are final.

BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE

1. ENTRIES

- 1.1. All entries are accepted on a 'first come first served' basis, only through our website and online registration portal, and will be limited to the amount of performance time available.
- 1.2. Your entry is not confirmed until full payment has been received.
- 1.3. Closing Dates are set at approximately 6 weeks prior to the first day of competition. You can enter information/make changes up to the Closing Date however any changes will incur an administration fee.
- 1.4. Do not complete your registration until you are sure you do not want to make any more changes.
- 1.5. Do not enter any routine on to the system which you do not intend to compete. If you cancel or delete a routine that has been entered on to the system, you will be charged a £5 administration fee.
- 1.6. All entries **must** be paid in full before they are processed.
- 1.7. Ensure song titles, dancers' names, ages and routines are entered correctly by the Closing Date.
- 1.8. The name of a routine may NOT be the same name as the dance school.
- 1.9. It is strictly prohibited to use any protected original choreographies, unless the dance teacher sends XCITE Dance the written permission from the organisation who owns the copyright before the event.
- 1.10. Dancers can enter any category in more than one genre.
- 1.11. If a dancer would like to compete at an event with two separate studios, that dancer must have written permission from BOTH studios prior to the event.

2. PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

Ballet: A routine with classical steps and ballet technique. Any method of ballet which uses an academic ballet technique is acceptable. Both soft ballet shoes and pointe shoes are permitted.

***Contemporary:** A modern style combining modern and lyrical movements, incorporating balance, control and musical interpretation. Combining a range of movements that may not adhere to the lines of classical ballet. Please note: Contemporary dance is not to be confused with Lyrical dance. The elements required for the Contemporary dance must be visible within the creative dance and the technique of the dancer performing.

***Street:** An urban/commercial dance style that combines a variety of techniques, including hip hop, jazz, contemporary. Can include breaking, locking, freezes etc.

***Jazz:** Consisting of jazz technique with strong accents and characterisation. Can include kicks, leaps, turns, isolations etc. Other dance forms and styles must not override the Jazz dance elements and techniques required specifically for Jazz.

Please note: Acro dance and gymnastic tricks do not substitute for Jazz technique or choreography. If the choreography is using acrobatic elements, the acro movements must be integral to the main delivery of Jazz choreography and have a real relevance to the dance narrative and construction of the piece.

***Lyrical:** Performed to slow music, incorporating emotion, storytelling, jazz and ballet techniques. Using movements to express strong emotions and performing to music with lyrics, as this serves as inspiration for the dancer's movements and expressions. Movements are characterised by fluidity and grace, with the dancer flowing seamlessly from one movement to another.

Please Note: Lyrical dance is not to be confused with Contemporary dance. The elements required for the Lyrical dance must be visible within the creative dance and technique of the dancer performing.

Musical Theatre: Interpretation of a number from a Broadway musical or movie musical, featuring any style of dance and a vocal performance.

Tap: Consisting of tap technique and performed to any style of music, using tap shoes to create beats and rhythms throughout the dance. No tap sounds are permitted on the music track.

***Open:** Any routine that does not fall into the categories above.

Novice level is available for Solo entries with less than 1 year's experience competing. 3 highest scoring novice Solos from each age division will be awarded the XCITE Rising Star Award.

No more than 3 acro dance or gymnastic tricks are permitted in ANY dance, unless it is an acro routine within the Open category.

** Group categories*

3. AGE DIVISIONS

3.1. Ages are determined based on the dancers' age on 1st September of the competition season (1st September – 31st August).

3.2. We have 4 age divisions for dancers in all categories.

- ✂ **Mini** – Age 5 to under 9 years of age
- ✂ **Junior** – Age 9 to under 13 years of age
- ✂ **Teen** – Age 13 to under 16 years of age
- ✂ **Senior** – Age 16 to 21 years of age

3.3. Duet, Trio and Group's age will be determined by the average age of the dancers and will compete in that category age division. We do not use decimals or round up. For example: If the average comes to 11.7, they will compete in the division for 11-year-olds.

4. PROOF OF AGE

4.1. All performers are required to have proof of ages on hand at every competition. Failure to provide a birth certificate, passport or driver's license if an age division is challenged will result in disqualification of that routine.

5. ENTRY TYPES

ENTRY TYPE	TIME LIMIT	EXTENDED TIME
Solo	2.00 min	3.00 min - £2pp
Duet/Trio	2.30 min	3.30 min - £2pp
Small Group (4-9)	3.00 min	4.00 min - £2pp
Large Group (10+)	3.30 min	4.30 min - £2pp

5.1. One Solo entry per performer per category.

5.2. No Duet/Trio/Group may compete against themselves in the same performance category with the same performers. There must be at least 1 different performer, to be entered in the same age group of the same category.

5.3. Any person who is actively participating in a routine for ANY amount of time is regarded as a performer and must be registered as such. This includes any person who is seen by the judges for any amount of time and any person who is in a costume that covers their face.

6. EXTENDED TIMES

6.1. Extra time may be purchased, at a rate of £2 per person per routine – times are rounded up to the nearest minute

6.2. A performance running over the allocated time will result in the music being stopped at the maximum time. There is a grace period of 10 seconds then the music will be cut off.

7. MUSIC

7.1. Music can be uploaded through our registration system. You will find the link to upload your music in your registration account dashboard. We will accept no other means.

7.2. All music must be entered into our competition booking software **no less than 2 weeks before the Competition**. Failure to do so may result in the act not being able to perform.

7.3. WE DO NOT ACCEPT MUSIC ON THE DAY OF COMPETITION!

7.4. Please ensure all music is appropriate and does not contain swearing or explicit content. Violation will result in point deductions. Teachers can email hello@xcitedance.com for guidance if in doubt.

8. PAYMENTS

8.1. XCITE Dance only accepts payments via BACS transfer.

8.2. Balance must be paid **in full** by the Closing Date. All entries that are not paid for in full by the Closing Date will not be allowed to compete. Late fees may be incurred if your registration is not confirmed within the deadlines.

- 8.3. Payment instructions can be found in your online registration account.
- 8.4. Early Bird prices will only be applied to entries processed and paid for within the Early Bird timeframe.
- 8.5. After payment is made, you will receive a summary via email of all routines registered. It is imperative that you review this information (particularly birth date and age division) and respond **immediately** with any corrections. CHANGES AFTER THE CLOSING DATE.WILL INCUR AN ADMINISTRATION FEE.

AFTER THE CLOSING DATE

9. TIME SCHEDULES

- 9.1. Schedules are subject to change but will be confirmed no less than 2 weeks before the competition date. Dancers are required to perform in their allocated slot.
- 9.2. If competitions run for more than one day, dancers must be prepared to compete on which ever day they have been assigned.
- 9.3. We reserve the right to merge or remove age groups or genres, to best suit the level of entries for the event.
- 9.4. **If you determine that you do not have enough time between numbers to change costumes, it is imperative that you advise the XCITE Dance office by emailing hello@xcitedance.com. If you have not notified us prior to the event and you are not ready to compete when called, your routine may be disqualified.**

10.CHAPERONES

- 10.1. Each dance school must provide enough chaperones for dancers at the event, in-line with child performance licensing regulations. Chaperones will be provided with a backstage pass at each event.
- 10.2. It is the Principal's responsibility to determine the number of chaperones required in relation to the number and age of performers attending the event.
- 10.3. Chaperones must hold a valid DBS certificate or chaperone license. XCITE Dance and the competition venue reserve the right to request to view a DBS certificate or chaperone license at any point throughout the competition.
- 10.4. Chaperones are solely responsible for the behaviour of their dancers backstage.
- 10.5. Parents have no access to the dressing rooms or backstage unless they are chaperones provided by the dance school.

ON THE DAY

11.CHECK-IN

- 11.1. Performers **MUST** be checked in with the Stage Manager 1 HOUR prior to their scheduled performance time. Failure to do so may result in your routine being disqualified.
- 11.2. All entries must compete on the day and time assigned. We understand that there are sometimes unforeseen events that arise. Any entry which is not able to compete at their assigned day and time may request an alteration to the routine's performance time. Approval will be subject to the Stage Manager's agreement.

12.ATTIRE

- 12.1. It is the Principal's responsibility to choose appropriate attire and footwear for their performances.
- 12.2. Pointe shoes are only permitted in the Teen and Senior Age Divisions.

13.RUNNING ORDER

- 13.1. The number in which each routine is assigned is for reference and identification purposes. Routines will perform in numerical order. If the Stage Manager sees potential delays due to costume changes, you may be asked to compete out of sequence in order. Please be prepared to compete when we call your number, even though it may be a few numbers earlier than you anticipated.
- 13.2. Please report to stage five numbers before you are due to perform.

14.MUSIC

- 14.1. We do not allow any additional equipment to be hooked into the sound system (i.e., personal microphones, headsets etc.) however please bring back up music on an iPod, iPhone, iPad or computer to the competition in case of emergencies.
- 14.2. If your music stops due to a technicality in the theatre, you will be allowed to dance again. You will not be allowed to dance again if you forget your dance. There is a chance that Minis in the Novice category may be able to dance again but this will be at the judges' discretion.

15. PROPS

- 15.1. Props must be loaded in and out of the venue on the same day they are used.
- 15.2. Please alert the Stage Manager of any props that will be used before your performance time.
- 15.3. Props are limited to the size that can be handled onto stage by 1-2 people from the dance school.
- 15.4. Storing props in the wings or backstage is not permitted.
- 15.5. Props must be set up and removed from the stage within 20 seconds of start and finish of a dance. A 5 point deduction will be made for running over this time.
- 15.6. Props must be labeled with the dance school name for identification purposes.
- 15.7. All props are used at the risk of the dancer.
- 15.8. All props must be fire-proof.
- 15.9. No dangerous props may be used on stage (such as fire, swords or knives). Live animals are also prohibited on stage.
- 15.10. If confetti or any item that requires the stage to be cleaned or swept during a dance is used, prior consent must be sought from XCITE Dance Ltd, no less than 2 weeks prior to the event.

16. BEHAVIOUR

- 16.1. The Principal is responsible for students whilst on the premises.
- 16.2. Appropriate behaviour is expected from all dancers, Principals, teachers and families/carers at all times. Failure to display proper decorum could result in immediate disqualification. This includes attempting to recruit students from other dance schools to attend yours.

17. VENUE

- 17.1. NO SMOKING is permitted in any of our venues.
- 17.2. Bespoke stage or house lighting will NOT be provided or changed by XCITE Dance for any performance.
- 17.3. Please note that every venue is unique and has its own set of rules concerning outside food & beverage, etc. For specifics, please contact the venue directly.

18. PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOS

- 18.1. PHOTOGRAPHY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
Teachers: it is your responsibility to inform your contestants and parents of this rule. Failure to abide by this rule can result in disqualification for the dance studio. If anyone is found photographing in the competition auditorium, we reserve the right to delete the footage.
- 18.2. By registering for an XCITE Dance event, all contestants grant permission to XCITE Dance to use their photographs and/or videos for promotional purposes.

19. JUDGES

- 19.1. A panel of well-qualified judges will score contestants. **All decisions of the judges are final.**
- 19.2. Communication with the judges at any time will result in disqualification of a performer and/or the dance school. Any concerns or feedback on the day **MUST** be via the Event Manager.

20. CRITIQUES

- 20.1. All judges' critiques will be recorded on an audio critique system. The school will be able to access score sheets and critiques through their online registration account after the event.

21. HOW WE AWARD DANCERS

- 21.1. All routines have a maximum of 300 points, awarded by 3 judges, allocating a maximum of 25 points to each of the following 4 categories:

- ✂ Overall Performance
- ✂ Technique
- ✂ Musicality
- ✂ Choreography

21.2. Total scores will be added together to give the score and corresponding award for that routine based on the following number of points:

COMPETITIVE

- ✂ Platinum – 270 points+
- ✂ Gold – 220-269 points
- ✂ Silver – 170- 219 points
- ✂ Bronze – 120-169 points

NOVICE

- ✂ Platinum – 250 points+
- ✂ Gold – 210-269 points
- ✂ Silver – 150- 209 points
- ✂ Bronze – 120-149 points

21.3. Trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each general category, broken down by style and age division. Medals will be awarded throughout so everyone can leave with a memento of their day.

21.4. In the event of a tiebreak, the dancer with the highest score for performance will be the overall winner. If the dancers have the same score for performance, the scores from technicality, musicality, and choreography will be compared, in that order.

22. XCITE STAR TITLE AWARDS

22.1. XCITE Dance hosts a title competition at each event, which will be incorporated into the solo competition.

22.2. All entries will be judged for the Title during the performance of their chosen routine(s).

22.3. The Title Competition is judged more on overall presentation and everything is weighed equally (talent, overall presentation, etc.)

22.4. You may enter as many solos as you wish to be judged for Title.

22.5. Please check the appropriate box while registering the solo online.

22.6. Title categories are as follows:

- ✂ **Mini XCITE Star** – Age 5 to under 9 years of age
- ✂ **Junior XCITE Star** – Age 9 to under 13 years of age
- ✂ **Teen XCITE Star** – Age 13 to under 16 years of age
- ✂ **Senior XCITE Star** – Age 16 to 21 years of age

23. XCITE DANCE STUDIO AWARD

23.1. The XCITE Dance Studio Award is awarded to the dance school with the highest number of points per competition.

23.2. Totals will be an average of the top 10 entry scores per dance school.

23.3. Schools must have 10 or more entries to be eligible.

24. GIVEAWAYS

24.1. Sponsor giveaways and additional awards will be given to deserving dancers selected throughout the competition. Decisions are final.

25. SPECTATORS

25.1. All dancers entered in the competition receive FREE entry to the session they are competing in.

25.2. Dance schools receive at least one FREE Teacher entry ticket for the sessions their dance school is competing in (the number of free tickets given per dance school will be dependent upon seating capacity at each event venue).

25.3. Tickets can be purchased should dancers/teachers wish to watch an additional session they are not competing in.

26. XCITE Dance is not responsible for any lost or stolen items at any event.

BORING LEGAL STUFF

26. RULES

26.1. By attending an XCITE Dance competition, all attendees agree to be bound by the Rules and Terms contained herein.

27. COMPETITION REGISTRATION

27.1. Registrations are subject to:

- ✂ availability;
- ✂ acceptance by XCITE Dance Ltd;
- ✂ these terms and conditions; and
- ✂ any special conditions and/or restrictions which may be displayed on our website.

28. PAYMENTS

28.1. Bookings are made online through the XCITE Dance website via our registration portal, made by BACS.

28.2. Payment will be processed automatically at the time of registration. Your booking is not confirmed until full payment has been received.

28.3. If payment fails, you will receive an error message and registration will not be completed.

29. CONFIRMATION

29.1. Automatic acknowledgement of a confirmed registration will be sent via email to the email address entered for the dance school. Please keep this email to quote the unique Registration Number if you need to contact XCITE Dance.

30. CHANGES TO COMPETITION

30.1. XCITE Dance Ltd. reserves the right to add or remove additional days to the competition and/or merge or remove age groups or genres, to best suit the level of entries for that event. We reserve the right to move the competition location if it becomes necessary due to circumstances beyond our control.

31. CANCELLATION OF AN EVENT

31.1. Events may be cancelled by XCITE Dance if they fail to attract a viable number of entries. In such circumstances, attendees will be notified as soon as possible and full refunds will be given.

31.2. If a competition is cancelled due to the sickness of a judge, a health epidemic, pandemic, infectious disease or any other unforeseen event, then we will try to reschedule the competition. This may be on a different day and time from when originally scheduled. If you are unable to attend the rescheduled date, a full refund will be given.

31.3. If XCITE Dance is unable to reschedule the competition, full refunds will be made.

31.4. Personal arrangements including travel, subsistence and accommodation relating to the event which have been arranged by you are at your own risk.

32. WITHDRAWALS & REFUNDS

32.1. ANY REFUNDS AFTER CLOSING DATE WILL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF XCITE DANCE.

32.2. Participants who withdraw voluntarily may have their **Solo entry** competition fees refunded, subject to the valid reasons below: (refunds incur a 10% administration charge) are:

- ✂ injury or illness (a medical certificate **must** be produced)
- ✂ a positive COVID-19 PCR test result (proof required)
- ✂ local lockdown and government enforced quarantine.

32.3. Notice of withdrawal:

- ✂ must be emailed to XCITE Dance hello@xcitedance.com and an acknowledgement received by you;
- ✂ any refunds will be based on the date of receipt of withdrawal notification, that being on which the email or letter is received by the team. XCITE Dance takes no responsibility for non-receipt of email or postage notifications.
- ✂ After processing, refunds may take up to 14 days to be credited to your Dance Schools Bank Account.

33. AMENDMENTS AFTER CLOSING DATE

33.1. Any amendments to registration entries made after the Closing Date are subject to approval by XCITE Dance and may incur an administration charge.

34. INJURY

34.1. Attendees with an existing injury or medical condition attend at their own risk.

35. WAIVER

35.1. XCITE Dance and the hosting venue are not responsible for personal injury or property loss.

35.2. In the event of an injury or medical emergency during the activity, a qualified First Aider from XCITE Dance will provide necessary treatment and assistance to the participant, as agreed by the Principal/Dance School representative upon booking. The Principal will be notified of the incident. An accident report form will be completed, copies of which are held by XCITE Dance.

36. CONTENT

36.1. XCITE Dance reserves the right to alter the advertised programme without prior notice and no refunds will be given. The information presented on our online registration portal, the XCITE Dance website and in other printed or electronic notices is correct at the time of publication. Buyers will be notified of any alterations as soon as reasonably possible.

37. ENTRY ELIGIBILITY

37.1. Dance Schools must strictly adhere to the age guidelines for the competition.

37.2. We reserve the right to refuse entry to anyone who is, or appears to be, under/over the applicable age.

37.3. We reserve the right to refuse entry to anyone who is, or appears to be, under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

37.4. If we suspect that your ticket has been purchased fraudulently, we may cancel your booking.

38. VIDEO/PHOTOGRAPHS

38.1. By booking, you agree that we can use any video or photograph taken at the event for promotional purposes, unless otherwise agreed with XCITE Dance.

39. DATA PROTECTION STATEMENT

39.1. XCITE Dance holds information and contact details requested at the time of your booking that enable them to provide you with information relating to a registration. We will not disclose your information to a third party except where legally required to do so. For further details, please refer to the XCITE Dance Data Protection Policy, accessible online via the website. In addition, XCITE Dance reserves the right to communicate with you using the email provided in the registration system.

40. AGREEMENT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

40.1. Dance schools acknowledge their acceptance of these Rules by checking the relevant box during the online application via our online registration portal.

41. CHANGES TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

41.1. XCITE Dance reserves the right to change these terms and conditions at any time for the benefit of the business, staff or event participants.