

SODA COMPANY CONTRACT 2023-2024

In order to make dance company both successful and fun, we have put together these guidelines to try to address some of the most common issues and questions. Please email any dance questions you may have to steppinoutdanceacademy@yahoo.com. If you have billing questions please email us at steppinoutdance@comcast.net.

COMPETITION FEES/COSTUMES

Dance Company Costumes must be paid in full by October 10th. Costumes will range in price from \$60-\$120 per costume. Charges will be applied by class on October 1st. If you would like to make payments toward costumes before they are charged they may be applied to your account as a credit. Company fees are separate and will include :

Dance Team, Mini Company & Jazz Hop Team: Students will have 1 entry fee per dance (1 competition).

Junior & Senior Companies: Students will have 2 entry fees per dance (2 competitions).

Elite Company (as well as solo/duo/trios): Students will have 3 Entry fees per dance (3 competitions).

Company Fee Payment 1: Due no later than October 1st - \$80 per dance (This will be the only fee owed for Dance Team, Mini Level, & Jazz Hop Team students)

Company Fee Payment 2: Due no later than November 1st - \$80 per dance (This will be the balance of company fees for all Junior & Senior Companies).

Company Fee Payment 3: Due no later than December 1st - \$80 per dance (This will be the balance for all elite company dances).

***Production Tap Fee:** There will be an additional 1 time fee of \$50 for all production tap students. This fee will cover the extra entry fee money (since we need to pay more for extended time at competition), extra rehearsal time, and props. This fee is due at registration.

***PLEASE SEE SOLO/DUO/TRIO ENTRY FEE INFO. ON SOLO/DUO/TRIO REGISTRATION FORM.** Solo entry fees are \$145 per dance X 3 competitions. Duo/Trio Entry fees are \$95 per dance X 3 competitions. Solo/Duo/Trio Fees are due October 1st, November 1st, and December 1st.

BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING

Bullying at the studio, or on social media, will not be tolerated. We ask that students/parents please let us know if this is going on. The past 2 years we have had to speak with a few students, so we have decided to take an even stronger stance. Any student who is caught bullying on social media or at the studio will no longer be a part of SODA. This rule will be STRICTLY enforced.

COMPETITION ETIQUETTE

Please attend all competitions with a friendly and positive attitude towards all dancers and supporters from our own studio as well as other studios. Please remain quiet while backstage, change costumes quickly, and be sure to arrive at your call time with hair and make up done. Please do not venture into other areas of the school/theatre, and please do not touch or move things that are the property of the venue. Not only is it important to respect the venue, but this could result in disqualification. Please be sure to pick up all of your trash, hair pins, safety pins, etc.... Most importantly, enjoy your time on stage and have fun!

ABSENCES

Attendance is vitally important not only for the individual student but for the entire group. If a student misses more than 4 of the same classes (for example...if a student misses their ballet company class more than 4 times) they may be removed from the choreography. Students who come in to class more than 10 minutes late will be counted as a half absence (if students are continually coming into class late). If a dancer is injured, but is watching class and taking choreography notes, it will not be counted as an absence. However, if a dancer is injured or sick for an extended period of time, we may need to remove them from choreography until they are safely able to perform. Many times a dancer may be cleared to dance just 1-2 weeks prior to competition after being out for 6-8 weeks. Dancers are not always ready to perform at this time, and it is not always safe for the dancer. It will be at the discretion of the instructor, to decide when they are ready to perform. In the event that a dancer must be pulled from a routine, it is possible that fees cannot be refunded, as the competitions have a no refund policy. In the case of an injury, we will do our best to try to obtain a refund from the competition. If Students miss company classes due to school sports or other after school activities, this will also be counted as an absence. *This season our competitions are close together. It is HIGHLY recommended to attend the 2 classes between competitions.

DRESS CODE:

Ballet: Black leotard, ballet pink tights, ballet shoes (hair in bun) *check with instructor for style and color of shoes

Tap: Any dance attire students can move and stretch in with black tap shoes. (please see instructor for style of tap shoe). *Tap 6 & elite tap will need Miller & Ben Jazz Tap Masters. We will be placing a group order in the fall so students will receive discount pricing.

*For all other dance companies please make sure students are wearing dance clothing that they can stretch and move in (no baggy t-shirts or sweatshirts). Hair should be up in pony tail or a bun. Please see instructor for the style of shoe. If students wear dance shorts we ask that they please wear tights underneath.

AUDITS

Some teachers may choose to allow audits in their company classes (providing there is space, and audit is close to the level of the class). An audit will not normally participate in the recital or competition, and will not need to order a costume. Audits are a very important understudy, and should practice & learn the choreography in the event the teacher asks them to fill in.

COMPANY REQUIREMENTS

Mini Ballet & Tap: All Mini level students are required to take a 2nd class. Jazz is a great option for intro students, since jazz company is offered when they are ready to move up to Junior level.

Dance Team & Jazz Hop Team: No additional classes are required. If Dance Team students are looking to move into a company class in the future, a ballet class is highly recommended as a 2nd class.

Junior Ballet: Students must take 2 additional classes per week (any style).

Senior Ballet: Students must take an additional 3 classes per week (any style). Senior 2 & elite ballet must take a ballet technique class.

Elite Ballet: Students must take 4 additional classes per week (any style).

Pointe Company: Students must take 3 additional classes per week, to include a ballet company, as well as pointe technique or 2nd pointe class.

Jazz & Musical Theatre Companies: Junior 2 level and up must take an additional 2 classes per week. Students must take a ballet company. Students in Musical Theatre must take a jazz company.

Lyrical & Contemporary Companies: Junior 2 level and up must take an additional 2 classes per week. Students must take a ballet company.

Tap & Hip Hop Companies: Junior 1 & 2 level must take an additional class each week. Senior 1 level and up must take an additional 2 classes per week. Elite tap company members must take Senior 2 tap in addition to elite tap.

Production Tap Company: Students must take their required tap company (or tap companies if enrolled in elite tap). Production will have some extra rehearsals on Sundays as we get closer to competition.

Pro-Am Companies: Additional classes are not required.

Acro Company: Students are not required to take an additional class, however, it is recommended that students take a ballet or lyrical class. Acro company will compete in both group competitions.

RECITAL

All company students are expected to participate in dress rehearsals and recitals. If you cannot participate in dress rehearsal or a recital, please notify the instructor as soon as possible so they can make adjustments, or get a fill-in for the performance (at least 2-3 months in advance).

Any students missing rehearsal or recital without notice (unless due to sickness etc.) will not be able to participate in company the following year.

COMPETITION DRESS REHEARSAL & COMPETITION DATES

COMPANY DRESS REHEARSAL: Sunday, March 10th, 10am - 4pm

DANCE OVATIONS - FEBRUARY 16th - 18th

(Elite companies & Solos/Duos/Trios) ***Does not include multi-level elite companies**
Stratham, NH

DIAMOND DANCE AWARDS - MARCH 23rd & 24th

(All companies except for Dance Team, Mini company, & Jazz Hop team)

Double Tree Hilton (2 Somerset Pkwy)

Nashua, NH

DANCE TO INSPIRE - APRIL 6th & 7th

(All companies, Dance Team, & Jazz Hop Team)

Pinkerton Academy, Stockbridge Theatre (5 Pinkerton Street)

Derry, NH

***Please be sure to set aside the entire weekend for all competitions.** We will not have exact performance days and times until 1 week prior to competition.