



ELITE TEAM GUIDELINES

FOCUS: The focus of Elite Dance Company's dance team is to provide an opportunity outside of the studio for dancers ages 8 and up to showcase their talents in a competitive atmosphere. It is the next level of pushing forward through challenges, taking their dance training more seriously, and a responsibility to their overall progress as a dancer. Acceptance and participation on the team will encourage confidence as an individual, charisma as a performer, and commitment and dedication to a team of their peers.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

ATTENDANCE - Attendance is crucial for the individual dancer as well as the team as a whole. Absences can affect the whole group and is unfair to those who dedicate themselves daily/weekly. Dancers with consistently poor attendance or tardiness may be pulled from their routine(s) or asked to resign from the team with no refunds. Time commitment is the number one factor in keeping a cohesive group!

All team dancers must attend all mandatory scheduled rehearsals in order to perform. We understand that illnesses arrive and emergencies happen but absolutely no absences will be permitted the two weeks leading up to a scheduled comp/performance.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS - All team dancers will continue to study in their weekly placement classes but will have an additional team class *per routine* for team training, choreography and rehearsing.

Team dancers are required to be enrolled in the following 5 mandatory classes: Ballet, 1 Technique class, Jazz, the style of the routine they are competing in, and a style of their choice. Other styles are strongly encouraged to continue training as well-rounded dancers. This allows us the opportunity to enter more styles per group.

DRESS CODE - As is the dress code for all Elite classes, team dancers must arrive fully prepared in black leotard, tights, hair up and off the face, and proper footwear. Part of being dedicated to dance is always dressing the part.

ELITE COMPETITION POLICIES

COMPETITIONS - Comps will be selected according to location and available scheduling. We typically choose locations that are close to home to avoid time spent on travel and additional finances spent on overnight stays. We *do* attend one overnight competition which also includes a weekend long dance convention (more details below).

ROUTINES - Dancers will be cast according to technique, strength and abilities, and strongest suited style of dance. While group routines are a priority, any additional routines such as solos, duos, or trios may be assigned at the discretion of the director. These are not guaranteed to any dancers. No dancer will be given a solo/duo/trio without also participating in a group number.

SCHEDULING - Comp schedules are not released until the weekend before each event. Once I have received them, I will pass along the schedule to all families. Dancers must arrive *2 hours before* their allotted stage time for warming up, run-throughs, etc. Comps can run as early as 1 hour ahead of schedule.

AWARDS - Each age division will have its own awards ceremony. All dancers must be present for their award ceremony and take the stage as a team. Whether win or lose, dancers are expected to have a winning attitude and show good sportsmanship toward winning teams. We clap for everyone, we cheer for everyone, and we keep smiling!

DISMISSAL - All dancers are asked to regroup after awards with their instructors and will then be permitted to leave with an adult. **NO DANCER IS ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE VENUE WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF AN EDC FACULTY MEMBER.** This is for the safety of all our dancers.

If there is a large gap of time between performance time and awards, dancers are welcome to leave the venue with an adult to take a break and grab a bite to eat. Again, please notify our faculty before leaving the venue.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Being part of the team also requires a financial commitment which include the following fees listed below. These fees are bundled together and divided into 3 payments. Failure to pay these fees may result in removal from the team. Please note that all fees associated with being on the team are non refundable regardless of circumstances.

TEAM CLASSES - Each competing routine will have its own weekly scheduled class to learn, clean, and rehearse choreography. This will be an additional cost and *is* rolled into your team payments but not included in tuition.

TEAM FEES - The following fees are mandatory:

All routines will require a **choreography fee** split between the amount of dancers per routine. This fee *is not* rolled into your team payments and must be paid separately to the choreographer. These payments must go through the office to be recorded and will then be distributed to the choreographer.

Each routine also has its own **rehearsal fees**. This is similar to class tuition as this covers the cost of their weekly team class. This fee *is* rolled into your team payments.

Each comp has its own **competition fees** required per routine entry and is dependent upon the category. For example, a small group fee can range from \$75 - \$90 per dancer where a solo can range from \$100 - \$135. This fee varies between comps. A registration fee also applies *in addition to* the comp fee and both *will be* rolled into team payments.

*Please note that *all fees are per routine* therefore if you have a dancer in multiple routines, these fees will apply for each routine.

WEST COAST DANCE EXPLOSION

As a team, Elite attends the West Coast Dance Explosion each year which is a weekend long dance convention in Boston which also includes its own competition. Each day has a back to back schedule of classes in different styles with different instructors. Classes are categorized by age. Dancers are permitted to go into classes of a lower age group but are not permitted to enter classes of a higher age group. Families are encouraged to stay at the host hotel as these are long days & nights for the dancers. Hotels offer a block of rooms at a WC rate. *The convention and comp fees are rolled into your team payments but hotel rooms are to be booked and paid for by each family.* This year, all dancers are required to be vaccinated to enter the ballrooms and dine inside the hotel. Vaccination is not required to be a guest at the hotel or to order take out. Please email Elite with individual questions.

COSTUMES & MAKEUP - Each team routine will require an additional costume. This costume fee is *not* rolled into team payments and will be added to the required weekly class costumes deposits and balances.

Elite will select and purchase mandatory colors for comp makeup. This is a separate cost and *is not* rolled into team payments. Cash and check payments for makeup can be made to Elite Dance Company. This makeup will also be worn for the recital.

TEAM ATTIRE - As dancers representing Elite Dance Company, all team dancers are required to wear their team jackets during comps. Jackets are an additional cost whether you are purchasing for the first time or require a new one each year. This is a separate cost and *is not* rolled into team payments as it is not always required for all dancers each year. Cash and check payments for jackets can be made to Elite Dance Company.

TEAM MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

Being a team dancer is an honor and a privilege. As a team member you will also be a role model to your dance peers and must possess a positive attitude. Everyone is expected to work as a team player and help in the growth of their fellow students.

The dance team should consist of highly motivated, dedicated, and respectful dancers. No dancer should display a negative attitude such as eye rolling, talking during class/rehearsal, or complaining about material. Being disrespectful toward faculty or other dancers will not be tolerated.

While posting on social media is a priority for most young kids and teens, no inappropriate or rude posts by any team members will be tolerated and any posts deemed as such by EDC could be cause for immediate dismissal from the team. As mentioned above, our team dancers must always display the behavior of a role model to all students as well as the public as they are representatives of Elite Dance Company.

SPORTSMANSHIP & ETIQUETTE

POSITIVE VIBES ONLY! As Elite dancers, we must *always* be kind to other dancers who are also working hard to bring their best performance to the stage. We must show our manners at all times and support our fellow dancers. Friendly and polite is always the best behavior!

During down time between routines and awards, dancers are encouraged to watch other competing routines. Remember...we learn from each other!! While watching routines, we are expected to be respectful of all dancers on stage which means being quiet and nondisruptive. Also, negative talk about routines or a dancer's performance is unacceptable.

When possible, we encourage our dancers to be present in support of each other's routines that may be on a different day or time than our own. It's always nice to know that we have our peers in the audience cheering us on! If you'd like to stay to see our other numbers compete, you are not required to stay for their award ceremonies.

Family and friends are all welcome to attend these free events!