

WPAS Competition Team Policy

The focus of our competition program is positive sportsmanship, team unity, and the opportunity to learn and grow. Our competition students are held to higher expectations than our recreational students, but don't worry- our competition team is always having fun! Our competition program is pre-professional and we want our performers to get as much out of routines as they possibly can! Serving as ambassadors of our studio at competitions and local performances, competition performers must be dedicated and passionate. Below are the guidelines expected to be upheld as a WPAS competitive student.

Attendance Policy:

- Team members are expected to maintain good attendance in all of their classes. Proper attendance is an essential component of the performer's education and progress. A student who misses technique class, other group classes, extra practice and/or rehearsal will hold back the progress of the entire team. Students should only be absent if it is absolutely necessary.
- Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class. For a dancer to do a solo or duet, they also must have good attendance. WPAS staff expects any dancer/parent to notify them immediately if an absence is expected. A student who has three unexcused absences for the year must schedule additional private lesson(s) at the owner's discretion.
- If a dancer has missed too many classes, the studio director is to discuss a resolution and will contact the family. Too many absences from classes and/or rehearsals could result in removal from competitive routines.
- Weekly class attendance is vital to our students' development as dancers, singers, and performers. As a competition student, we believe their successfulness as a team member stems from training. Class is where that training happens.

Class Requirements:

- Team members will be required to take a technique class in addition to their regular classes. Technique/Production class provides students the opportunity to work as a team, on technical aspects as dancers and performers. Team members will also need to wear appropriate form-fitting dance attire and dance shoes to all of their classes, with their hair pulled away from their face.

Competition Team Code of Conduct:

- We spend a great amount of time stressing the importance of the team. We have good days and bad days as a team. It takes the whole team to do well or not so well. We spend time bonding as a team from our six year olds mixing with our teens. We are one team that works together.
- All competition teams students and parents are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous and respectable manner at all times.

- Gossiping by a student or a parent about other students, parents, staff members or other studio is not tolerated.
- Students must attend class ready to work.
- Students should socialize before and after class only.
- Students should be respectful to their instructors. Instructors will alert the owners and parents if any issues persist that aren't manageable in class.
- Students should always be kind to one another as well as other dance teams at competitions.
- WPAS have a zero tolerance policy for any bullying or mean girl activity on the team.
- Competitive dancers should be positive representatives for the studio at all times.
- Disrespecting a faculty member or another student or being discourteous to a fellow student is grounds for disciplinary action that may result in suspension from the team.

Competition Attendance and Participation:

- We expect to attend between 2-3 regionals in the season (nationals may or may not occur yearly).
- Individual competition schedules are determined by each competition. Please understand studios have no control over competition schedules. Plan on having commitments for two-three days of each competition weekend. It can mean early mornings, long days and late nights for all team members.
- Team members should attend all team performances on the days they compete for every competition (if they are in attendance). This is a TEAM sport and it is important to be in attendance cheering our teammates on.
- We will make an effort to release these dates several months in advance. Participation in all regionals is required. If a student is unable to attend a regional competition due to an emergency, the studio must be informed immediately and time will be taken during class to re-choreograph routine or routine will be forfeited from participating in regional.

Dress Code:

- For both safety reasons and to receive proper training, students should be dressed appropriately in dancewear and ready to dance for every class. Hair should be pulled back and away from the face.

*Policy is subject to be updated as needed by director and owners of WPAS.