



Magic City's Dance World

Competition Handbook 2025–2026

Official Rules, Regulations, and Policies
Magic City's Dance World, LLC

Registration:

- Entries must be registered through DanceBug. Texts, fax, or emails are not accepted.
- Names, ages, and levels of all contestants must be entered correctly.
- A dancer may not compete as independent if their studio is registered.
- Dancers competing with their school as well as their studio must have written permission from both and submit it to competition management no later than 30 days prior to any event.
- All reservations require a deposit. If not submitted within 15 days, the system will automatically delete the reservation. One courtesy reminder will be sent via email.
- After the registration hard deadline, entries not paid in full will not be processed. The last day to submit finalized routine information is 30 days before the event.
- Competition Age/Level Disclaimer: Due to open registration, we cannot guarantee entries in every age division or level. No refunds or credits will be issued due to a lack of competition.

Payments and Fees:

- Payments may be made through DanceBug, Venmo, or Zelle. Checks must be received 30 days prior to the event.
- No cash refunds for any reason other than a competition cancellation.
- Dancers may not transfer registration to another dancer.
- Late payment fee: \$30.00 per routine not paid by the deadline.
- Changes after deadline: \$25 fee. No changes accepted 15 days prior.
- No entries accepted on the day of competition.

Schedules:

- The final schedule will be sent seven (7) days prior to the event.
- Scheduling is based on entries (solos, duets/trios, small/large groups, lines/productions).
- All entries must compete on their assigned day/time unless approved by competition management. Such entries will only receive adjudication, not High Score Awards.
- Dancers must be ready when called. Delays result in point deductions or disqualification.
- Dancers must check in backstage one hour before performance time.
- Competition management may adjust days/times as needed.
- The competition reserves the right to add/remove days or move locations due to unforeseen circumstances.

Music:

- All music must be uploaded at least 15 days before the event. A backup flash drive is required.
- If profanity or racial slurs are heard, the sound will be turned off immediately and the dancer removed from stage.
- Music must be recorded at the correct level and speed. The competition is not responsible for low or distorted sound.

Time Limits:

- Solos/Duets/Trios: 3:00 minutes
- Small Groups: 3:30 minutes
- Large Groups: 4:00 minutes
- Productions/Lines: 6:00 minutes
- Extended time may be purchased at \$4 per performer per 40 seconds. Unpaid overtime: 2-point deduction.

Age Divisions:

- Age is determined as of December 31, 2025.
- Average age of group members determines age division (no rounding).
- Birth certificates may be requested.
- Divisions: 5 & Under, 6–8, 9–11, 12–14, 15–17.

Competitive Levels:

- Level changes cannot be made on site.

Recreational: Low technical ability. May perform 1 solo + 2 routines + productions/lines.

Competitive: Moderate technical ability. Up to 3 solos + 15 routines. Eligible for scholarships.

Pre-Professional: High technical ability. Eligible for High Star Awards & Scholarships.

- Advanced dancers cannot compete in novice routines.
- Groups follow the 1/3 rule for leveling.

Awards:

- Each routine receives adjudicated pins based on a scoring system.
- Overalls ranked by level, genre, and age division.
- A soloist cannot compete or place against themselves in overalls.
- Judges' decisions are final.
- Special awards and scholarships given at each event.

Title:

- Title is not based solely on technicality. High score ≠ Title Winner.
- Dancers may add Title for up to 3 solos (1 for recreational).
- Titles judged during performance. One win per age division.

Photogenic:

- Dancers must be registered in a routine at the event.
- Must be pre-registered online. No on-site registration.
- Top 3 overall presented: 11 & Under / 12 & Over.

Costume:

- Pre-register online before performance.
- Scoring: Solo & Group Top 3 based on age divisions.

Protests:

- Only Studio Directors may protest in writing to belkispuns@magiccitysdanceworld.org within 30 minutes of the incident.

Props & Backstage Rules:

- 2 minutes allowed to build/remove props. Overtime fees apply.
- Props must be fireproof, labeled, and safe (no liquids, glitter, live animals, etc.).
- Clean up required; \$500 fee for violations.
- Props must be loaded in/out during same session.
- Performers arrive 90 minutes prior; check in 5 routines before performance.
- Stay backstage once checked in. No parents backstage, period.
- Directors must monitor timing; events may run early or late.

Regulations on Registration:

1. Company may add days or move locations.
2. Photos/videos may be used for promotion.
3. Staff and affiliates released from liability.
4. Judges' decisions are final.
5. Photography/video prohibited.
6. No alcohol, tobacco, vaping, or drugs.
7. No student recruiting.
8. Poor sportsmanship = disqualification.
9. No outside food.
10. Maintain dressing rooms.
11. No walking during performances.
12. Firearms/weapons prohibited.