

# Ulster Fusion 2026

## Producers Information Pack

*#theUlsters*





# Ulster Fusion Championships 2026

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February

Ulster Fusion, formerly known as Ulster Fitness and Dance Championships, are planning for their 19<sup>th</sup> annual competition in 2026 as we continue to provide a performance platform for performers of all ages and abilities.

Our event will be held in the ancient capital of Ulster, in Armagh City Hotel, Armagh.

- The Secondary Schools and Universities/Colleges Competition will take place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February
- The Primary Schools Competition will take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February
- The Open Competition will take place from Friday 6<sup>th</sup> (PM) – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February

## Competitive Categories

<b>Acrobatic Arts</b>	<b>Ballet</b>	<b>Contemporary</b>
<b>Dance Your Style</b>	<b>Fitness (Aerobics)</b>	<b>Hip Hop Commercial</b>
<b>Hip Hop Street</b>	<b>Jazz</b>	<b>Lyrical</b>
<b>Musical Theatre Dance</b>	<b>National</b>	<b>SEN Dance</b>
<b>Showdance</b>	<b>Song &amp; Dance</b>	<b>Tap</b>

## Age Sections (Age as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026)

- Pre-Primary: Ages 2 – 4 – Pre School-Age
- Primary: P1 – P4
- Primary Plus: P5 – P7
- Minor: Year 8
- Junior: Years 9 & 10
- Intermediate: Years 11 & 12
- Senior: Years 13 & 14
- Adult: Age 18 plus
- Mixed Age: This is for teams only, across a minimum of 3 age groups.



## Entries Available for

- Solos
- Duets
- Trios
- Quads
- Standard Group: 5 – 12 performers
- Large Groups: 13 – 30 performers
- Mega Groups: 30 + performers

## Time Limits

- Solos: Up to 2 minutes
- Duets/Trios/Quads: Up to 2 minutes and 30 seconds
- Groups: Up to 3 minutes
- All fitness (Aerobics) routines have a maximum timing of 2 minutes and are only available for duets, trios, and teams for performers in P5 upwards.
- All 'Song and Dance' performances using a song from any Musical Theatre production will have a max time limit of 5 minutes

## **Competition Guidelines**

We're so excited to welcome you to our upcoming event! Please take a moment to read through the following guidelines to ensure everything runs smoothly for everyone taking part.

### **Entries & Payments**

- All entries and payments must be received by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026.
- Entry fees are non-refundable.
- For Educational Schools: Any changes made after submitting entries will incur a £5 admin fee.
- For Dance Schools: Routines will not be scheduled until full payment has been processed.

### **Routines & Music**

- All routines must be original creations.
- Teachers are responsible for holding valid PPL and PRS licenses.
- Music will be played via DanceComp Genie; please be aware of the strict time guidelines when uploading music.
- Directional coaching during performances is not permitted.
- All music, costumes, and choreography must be appropriate for family audiences.

### **Competitors**

- All competitors must be current pupils of the school or company they represent.
- Dancers may compete in an older age category, but not a younger one (you can “dance up,” but not “dance down”).

- The Novice category is for dancers who have not competed before or who are still developing their skills. Teachers may decide if this applies to their pupils.

### **Performance Area & Apparatus**

- Any apparatus used must be safe and suitable.
- Items discarded during the routine must not obstruct the performance area.
- Teachers are responsible for ensuring the area is cleared after each routine.

### **Judging & Scoring**

- Judges will be looking for: Safety, suitability of routine, technique, precision, teamwork, use of music, originality, performance quality, and movement content.
- Judges' decisions are final, and communication with them before, during, or after the competition is not allowed.
- Judges reserve the right to adjust placement if a competitor is entered into an incorrect category or ability level.
- Sections may be merged or divided depending on entry numbers and age groups to ensure fair participation for everyone.
- Awards will be given as follows: Bronze – 60–69%, Silver – 70–79%, Gold – 80% and above. This does not apply to any Novice sections.
- The highest overall scoring item must reach 85% or higher.

### **Awards & Spirit**

- Medals will be presented to 1st–3rd place winners.
- We encourage positive praise and applause for all competitors—let's celebrate every performance!

## Competitive Category Information

- Dance Your Style: *Any style of dance not listed e.g. cheer*
- Fitness (Aerobics): *This must include: 4 press ups, 4 abdominal crunches, 4 high kicks, 4 jumping jacks*
- National: *This includes Bollywood, Highland, and Irish*
- Showdance: *Dancers tell a story or express a theme through movement. Routines blend diverse dance styles for dramatic effect and often include props to enhance storytelling and theatrical impact.*

**Thank you for helping us create a supportive, professional, and enjoyable event for everyone involved. We can't wait to see your creativity on stage!**

## Disclaimer

Ulster Fusion and the hosting venue are not liable for any injuries that may occur during the competition. All dancers participate at their own risk. They are all also not liable for loss or damage to any belongings or valuables.

All competitors who wish to compete in the Acro section do so at their own risk. It is advisable for all dance companies to have their own insurance when competing.