



## RULES & GUIDELINES

PLEASE READ ALL RULES CAREFULLY

(FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE RULES COULD RESULT IN ROUTINE DEDUCTION  
OR DISQUALIFICATION)

### REGISTRATION

Registration is done through BravO!'s Dance Comp Genie website. To create an account, please [click here](#). If you already have an account through Dance Comp Genie, simply log in and select BravO! from the list of available competitions. For help with your account, please contact the BravO! offices at 1 (877) 272-8641.

By selecting an event and entering estimated routine counts, you are creating a reservation for the event. Reservations are NOT a confirmed registration and not approved attendance for the event. BravO! reserves the right to contact studios to confirm attendance and may remove registrations that have not been confirmed by the account holder either via email or phone. Likewise, BravO! reserves the right to request a deposit once an event has reached capacity by estimated routine counts.

Registration closes and is final 45 days prior to the event's start date. Reserved spots must be filled in at this time and invoicing of the registered routines is finalized. Events may reach capacity before the 45-day point; therefore, it is highly recommended that studios start registrations as soon as possible to increase their chances of attending their desired event.

### **Early Bird Pricing and Certificates**

Completed routines registered in the DCG system at least 65 days prior to the start of competition will receive an early bird discount of 10% on routine fees. Any routine entered after this point and before registration closing at 45 days prior will be charged at normal fee structure. Any registration not paid in full at the 30-day payment deadline will forfeit any discounts applied and may be subject to applicable late fees. Title additions and extended time fees are not discounted.

Certificates from the previous season are applied by BravO! Office staff. Certificates do not auto apply and require email communication with the BravO! Office. Please provide a picture of the certificate along with your studio information to [krista@bravocompetition.com](mailto:krista@bravocompetition.com). Certificates must be applied before invoicing at 45 days and are not applicable for Summer Bash National Events!

## PAYMENT

Billing for BravO! may now be processed through Dance Comp Genie portal if paying by credit card 45 days prior to the start of the event. Please note that there is a 4.5% processing fee when selecting credit card as payment form. When you complete and finalize your entries online by accepting the terms of use, you are alerting the BravO! Office staff that you have completed your registration process. Final Invoicing will be emailed to the studio email account 45 days prior to the event and full payment is due at that time. The account holder is responsible for the full invoice amount and changes to the registration after invoicing is at the sole discretion of BravO! A copy of your invoice may always be obtained through your DCG Portal.

Payment is due no later than 30 days prior to the start of each event! Please note that the only methods of payment for entry fees accepted by BravO! are cash, check, certified bank check, credit card, or money order. There is a \$40.00 fee for returned checks. Checks sent to BravO! prior to the date of invoicing will be held until 45 days prior to the competition start date, regardless of when they are received unless required by a deposit.

No studio will be officially registered for any given competition until the full balance is paid. BravO! reserves the right to remove full or partial registrations from scheduling without payment.

**\*\*\*PAYMENT IS NOT ACCEPTED AT THE EVENT. NO EXCEPTIONS! \*\*\***

NO REFUNDS, NO EXCEPTIONS! If a change occurs due to the performer's illness or injury after your invoice has been issued, the studio will receive credit for the following season for any full routines that were unable to perform due to illness/injury. Please note, a doctor's note or confirmed test results will be required.

Additional entries that are requested after invoices have been published will be accepted on a case-by-case basis and will be charged at full amount with any late applicable fees, regardless of previously applied discounts. If these late entries are approved by BravO! staff, payment must be received before they are included in the scheduling. NO CHANGES, ADDITIONS, OR SCHEDULING REQUESTS will be accommodated after invoices are issued unless payment has been received in full.

## ROUTINE INFORMATION

### TYPES OF ENTRIES

**Solo:** 1 performer (\*Soloists cannot enter more than one routine within the same performance category. BravO! may limit the total number of solos per individual performer at larger events and/or based on time restraints.)

**Duo/Trio:** 2-3 performers (\*Duos and Trios compete against one another.)

**Small Group:** 4 to 9 performers

**Large Group:** 10-19 performers

**Line:** 20 or more performers

**Production:** Routine with 20 or more performers (See "Production Categories" for criteria of this entry type)

## TIME LIMITS

**Solo:** 2 minutes 45 seconds

**Duo/Trio:** 2 minutes 45 seconds

**Small Group:** 3 minutes (purchasing extended time allows for one additional minute.)

**Large Group:** 4 minutes (purchasing extended time allows for one additional minute.)

**Line:** 5 minutes (purchasing extended time allows for one additional minute.)

**Production:** 6 minutes (purchasing extended time allows for two additional minutes.)

## AGE DIVISIONS

BravO! has six age divisions: Mini, Petite, Junior, Teen, Senior, and Adult. These divisions have subsets used only in the instance of determining the Top Scoring Category Winner Medallion (when applicable).

The age divisions are as follows:

**Mini:** 0-5 Years (5 and under) \*Routines in the Mini Division will compete at the O!verture level regardless of level makeup of the routine.

**Petite:** 6-8 years (Category breakdown 6-7 years, 8 years)

**Junior:** 9-11 years (Category breakdown 9 years, 10 years, 11 years)

**Teen:** 12-14 years (Category breakdown 12 years, 13 years, 14 years)

**Senior:** 15-19 years (Category breakdown 15-16 years, 17-19 years)

**Adult:** 20+ years \*Routines in the Adult Division will compete at the BravO! Level and routines with an adult participant will default to adult regardless of the average age.

## Determining Age Divisions

Performer's age will be determined by their age as of January 1st of the current competition year. The average age of all performers in a Duo/Trio, Group, or Line determines the age division for that routine. BravO! figures the average by adding the ages of all performers in a routine divided by the number of performers and

DROPPING THE DECIMAL POINT. For example, if the average age is 12.9, the routine would compete in the 12 years (Teen) age division.

**\*\*\*Age bump up rule:** Any routine with a gap of two age categories between the youngest and oldest dancer will automatically bump the routine to the next higher age category. i.e. a senior is placed in a routine where the average age is petite, the routine will bump up to junior. Production is the only exception to this rule\*\*\*

Any routine containing a performer 20+ years old will automatically be placed in the Adult Division, regardless of the average age of all performers in that routine.

Please be aware, if a protest arises regarding age, all competitors must be prepared to present proof of age. All protests must be presented in writing to the BravO! Tour Director within one half-hour of the incident in question. All protests must be signed. EACH PERFORMER MUST BRING PROOF OF AGE. We will require this proof to be presented in the event of a protest.

## **EXPERIENCE LEVELS**

We at BravO! understand that levels are subjective and may vary from different locations and events. We view levels as a learning/teaching tool to inspire and challenge students to strive for the next level in their competition experience. Although we, in the office or at events, cannot make individual level choices for Studio Directors, our judges or Tour Directors may suggest that performers move up a level for their next competitive event. If these suggestions were provided in previous competitions, we kindly ask that you take these comments into consideration when creating or updating your season's roster.

*DISCLAIMER: The information provided regarding experience levels is meant as a guideline. The decision is made at the discretion of each studio owner and/or teacher based on these guidelines. PLEASE BE SURE TO REEVALUATE AND UPDATE YOUR PERFORMERS' EXPERIENCE LEVELS PRIOR TO REGISTRATION FOR A NEW SEASON.*

### **O!verture Level**

The O!verture level is designed for performers with limited to no competition experience and/or performers who take an "approximate" total of 0-2 hours of dance or acro rehearsal/lessons per week. O!verture routines are not eligible for any overall certificates of monetary value. Any dancer registered for more than 5 routines in a registration, including solos/duo/trios and excluding production, is ineligible to be listed as an O!verture dancer in your roster and will need to move into the Encore! level.

## Encore! Level

The Encore! level is designed for performers with minimal to moderate competition experience and/or performers who take a total of 2-5 hours of dance or acro rehearsal/lessons per week. Performers in this intermediate level understand and execute basic technical concepts in their style and are progressing in technique and performance. Any dancer registered for more than 8 routines in a registration, including solos/duos/trios and excluding productions, is ineligible to be listed as an Encore! dancer in your roster and will need to move into the BravO! level.

## BravO! Level

The BravO! level is designed for performers who display a higher level of technical abilities and skill and/or have moderate to significant competition experience. BravO! level performers generally take a total of 5 or more hours combined dance or acro rehearsal/lessons per week. In addition, any dancer performing in 9 or more routines, including solos/duos/trios and excluding productions, must be listed as BravO! in your roster. Performers in any of the Talent Categories will automatically be placed in the BravO! level for their talent routines regardless of their level in the roster.

\*Please keep in mind, no competition can know how many hours a week a performer is in the studio or how much competition experience each student has. We trust that directors/teachers will use sound judgment when entering levels for performers and will take previous judges' comments into consideration at the start of each season. Any questions or exceptions must be approved by BravO! office staff prior to final scheduling.

## Determining Experience Levels

Each dancer in an act is assigned a point value based on his or her level entered in the studio roster: O!verture = 1 point, Encore! = 2 points, BravO! = 3 points. The level with the highest total points is established for that routine. Any ties in the sum of points defaults to the higher level. Manual overrides are possible if requested and approved by BravO! staff at tentative scheduling (approximately 3 weeks prior to the event). No changes are permitted at the event!

In addition, no routine with one or more BravO! level dancers will be able to compete at the O!verture level. In the event O!verture is the highest point value with the presence of a BravO! dancer, the routine will bump up to Encore!.

## DANCE CATEGORIES

**Acrobatic Dance:** Routine using controlled moves such as walkovers, limbers, handstands, chest rolls, etc. Can contain gymnastic passes. The majority of the routine must be acrobatic moves. Routine may contain flexibility or contortionist moves. Must contain dance moves, steps, and choreography.

**Ballet:** The routine must consist of ballet technique. Must include classical steps and movements. No gymnastic/acrobatic tricks allowed. Pointe shoes are not allowed.

**Character:** Routine portraying an easily recognizable character from a play, movie, television, or Broadway show; or a stereotype such as a farmer, policeman, etc. Can incorporate dance and/or acrobatic techniques.

**Clogging:** Routine utilizing either traditional or contemporary clogging technique and style. Only 3 gymnastic/acrobatic tricks are allowed. No tosses. Over the back lifts, drops, and partnering moves are permitted.

**Contemporary:** Interpretive dance using balance, extension, isolation, and control extending beyond jazz and lyrical. Only 3 gymnastic/acrobatic tricks are allowed.

**Hip-Hop:** The routine must consist primarily of hip-hop technique. May include street dance, freestyle, funk, 'pop-n-lock', break dancing, and acrobatic tricks.

**Jazz:** The routine must consist primarily of jazz technique. Only 3 gymnastic/acrobatic tricks are allowed.

**Lyrical:** The routine should demonstrate balance, extension, and control using lyrical moves set to the mood and/or lyrics of the music. Only 3 gymnastic/acrobatic tricks are allowed.

**Modern:** The routine must consist of modern technique and movement demonstrating balance, control, and extension. No gymnastic/acrobatic tricks allowed.

**Musical Theatre:** Routine featuring any style of dance interpreting a song from a Broadway show or movie musical.

**Novelty:** Any style of dance or tumbling that makes ample use of a prop as a part of the choreography throughout the routine.

**Open:** Any of our listed categories or combination of listed category styles.

**Pointe:** The routine must consist of Pointe technique. No gymnastic/acrobatic tricks allowed.

**Tap:** The routine must contain primarily tap technique and tap work. Only 3 gymnastic/acrobatic tricks are allowed.

**Variety:** Any style of dance or tumbling that does not easily fit into our other listed categories.

### **Gymnastic/Acrobatic Tricks**

BravO! defines a 'trick' as any movement that passes through or stops at a fully inverted (upside-down) position with both feet off the floor (the torso passing or stopping directly over the top of one's head/shoulders). BravO! will allow ONLY the following exceptions to the above trick definition: Handstands, chin stands, headstands, walkovers (non-aerial), shoulder rolls, cartwheels, and lifts. These listed movements can be performed in any category without deduction and will not be counted as a trick. A gymnastic pass is considered one trick.

The following categories cannot contain any gymnastic/acrobatic tricks: Ballet, Pointe, and Modern

The following categories can only contain up to three gymnastic/acrobatic tricks: Jazz, Tap, Clogging, Lyrical, and Contemporary

PLEASE NOTE: a point deduction may be made for any routine that does not follow these specific rules.

## **PRODUCTION CATEGORIES**

A Production Routine is a routine with 20+ performers, incorporating any style of dance or acrobatics with a specific theme and/or storyline. Talent Productions will incorporate any combination of talent forms such as song, dance and acting. A production encompasses the full use of the stage, multiple entrances/exits/crossovers, and multiple focal points through the use of large props and set pieces. Productions are allotted 6 minutes and up to an additional 2 minute extension may be purchased for a total of 8 minutes. All ages and levels will compete for a singular overall in either Production-Dance or Production-Talent. Adults may not be registered in the Production category. If an adult is registered in a production the routine must compete as an Adult Line.

## **TALENT CATEGORIES**

These categories will all perform in the BravO! Experience level only, regardless of the individual or group experience level.

**Monologue/Acting:** A Monologue is a speech in the dramatic or poetic form performed by one person speaking his or her thoughts aloud directly to the audience. Monologues can only be performed by a soloist. The acting category may be entered with any number of performers and should consist of acting out a scene

from a play, movie, television show, commercial, or novel. The scene can also be original but must be formatted in the same manner as a standard script.

**Song and Dance:** Must contain both singing and any listed category of dancing. All performers will be judged on both singing and dancing. There must be no other lead vocals anywhere on the routine track. Up to two handheld wireless microphones will be available for use. If additional microphones are required, you must contact the Bravo! Office at least 30 days in advance to make arrangements with the Technical Director.

**Vocal:** Routine may be any type of vocal presentation. No lead vocals will be permitted on music accompaniment. Backup vocals are allowed. Up to two handheld wireless microphones will be available for use. If additional microphones are required, you must contact the Bravo! Office at least 30 days in advance to make arrangements with the Technical Director.

## LEO'S PRIDE (ADAPTIVE CATEGORY)

Leo's Pride is a category near and dear to Bravo!'s heart. Named after Bravo! owner's son Leo, this category is all about showcasing the talent and heart of our special needs and equally abled competitors. Routines placed in this adaptive (Leo's Pride) category will be scored according to Overture! level guidelines, regardless of the average level or age of all the performers/participants placed within the routine. Routines placed in Leo's Pride will also be scheduled nearest to the corresponding O!wards time, as a convenience to performers and their families. In addition, adjudication, special judge's awards, category winners, and Overalls will be announced at the start of every ceremony for these routines. Adaptive routines may compete in any of the size groups from solo to line but will not be eligible in the standard O!verture Overalls as it is a separate entry type from Dance or Talent. For questions or details on how to enter a routine in Leo's Pride, please call our offices to speak with a Bravo! Office Staff.

**Please Note:** Registration in this category is voluntary and does not have any bearing on the dancers being placed in other standard routines with different leveling placement





## REGIONAL TITLE COMPETITION

BravO! hosts a Title Competition at each regional event. Eligibility for the Title Competition is reserved for soloists in the BravO! level of competition (with the exception of minis and adults). This category will be incorporated into the standard solo competition and scored/judged on a separate score sheet from adjudication. Routines in the Talent Category (Vocal, Song and Dance, and Monologue/Acting) are not eligible. There are two ways to enter Title: during online registration and in person at the event. To enter the Title Competition prior to the event, select the 'Title' box when registering the solo routine. At the event, locate the BravO! Boutique and speak with a BravO! Staff member. When entering for title at the event, it is important to do so at least 1 hour prior to the performance time. Each individual performer may only enter a maximum of three solos in the Title Competition. Previous years' winners are eligible to recompete, even if they are in the same age division. All performers will be judged for Title during their regular solo routine.

### *New in 2026!*

Title participants will now be combined and announced, separated by age division, as Senior, Teen, Junior, or Petite Title Winner. In the event of 10 or more unique participants, a runner-up will also be announced. Title winners will receive their choice of crown or hat, sash, trophy, and a certificate applicable for a free title entry for the subsequent season.

## PROPS

The placement and removal of props is the sole responsibility of the studio. Props must be freestanding; any scenery or backdrops requiring the use of theater fly bars or special lighting may not be used.

In addition, for safety measures, choreography that allows any performer to be physically placed more than 6 feet off the ground of any scenic piece or prop could be considered hazardous. Though the 6-foot height is only a benchmark, BravO! reserves the right to disqualify any routine that it deems unsafe or that is not in line with the company, state, and local regulations. Please see a stage manager upon arrival to discuss props prior to unloading.

If a prop is brought onto the stage without prior approval, the routine will be subject to disqualification. Studios may be financially responsible for damage to any BravO! equipment (including flooring) that may be caused by studio props and/or performers.

### **Prop Restrictions**

- Fire, swords, knives, and guns are strictly prohibited, including prop versions of the aforementioned.
- Fog and/or smoke are not permitted.
- Live animals are not permitted.

- The use of helium balloons will be at the discretion of the theatre staff, not the BravO! Staff. If the theatre staff allow the use of helium balloons, they must be attached to a weight to ensure they will not float into the lights, causing a possible fire hazard.
- No form of liquid, glitter, gel, aerosol, powder, etc. may be used. This is to protect the dance surface and ensure safety for all performers.
- If the stage is littered during a routine, please be prepared to clean up immediately after the routine is finished. Failure to make arrangements for removal of props or routine items left on stage may render the routine with a point deduction.

Please be mindful that the stage and dance floor is a shared space and use forethought when planning for the use of props. If props are large, difficult to construct, or require special assistance, please contact the BravO! Office at least 2 weeks prior to the competition and ensure that it is marked appropriately in your registration.

## COMPETITION MUSIC

All competition music must be uploaded to your online Dance Comp Genie account. The deadline for music upload will be the corresponding Monday 2 weeks prior to the competition start date. Dance Comp Genie's music upload feature currently only supports .mp3 files. If your music is in a different file format, you may need to convert the files prior to uploading. This can be done using an online file converter. All music must be recorded at your desired speed and cut into one playable track per routine. Track speed WILL NOT be adjusted, and multiple tracks are not permitted for one routine. CDs and flash drives with properly titled routine tracks are the only acceptable form of backup allowed at BravO!

Phones, tablets, and other playback devices may not be permitted at the venue and is up to the discretion of BravO! staff in emergency cases. BravO! is not responsible for any damage that may be caused to these devices.

BravO! is not responsible for improper playback of music resulting from poor quality music files, CDs brought to the competition in poor condition, or incorrect uploads. Please review all music at the time of upload and be sure all back up CDs and flash drives are of adequate quality if/when brought to the Emcee. Any music remaining at the end of the event will be left with the house staff. BravO! is not responsible for music left at the venue after the event.

## SCHEDULING OF EVENTS

The scheduling of each event will begin approximately 30 days prior to the competition start date. BravO! Management reserves the right to expand a competition to additional days when necessary or move a competition location. Schedules are not predetermined and are customized based on varying factors for each location and venue. While BravO!

strives to accommodate city requests, the scheduling is up to the sole discretion of BravO! and is determined by event counts and division layouts. It is this reason that placing routines and performers in the correct levels prior to registration closing is of the utmost importance!

Please note, BravO! cannot guarantee the accommodation of all requests as venue restrictions, size, and allotted run times are agreed upon in rental contracts. Late entries will be approved on a case-by-case basis. BravO! reserves the right to start competitions on the advertised start date and increase or decrease the length of competition for any unforeseen circumstances.

Larger show sizes may make a school day start necessary. In these instances, we strive to impact as few people as possible by scheduling only solos and duo/trios during traditional school hours. Those unable, or unwilling, to attend due to school obligations may receive a full refund of entry fees for those school-time routines; however, this requires prior communication via email to the BravO! Office with the routine information to be scratched at least 2 weeks prior to the event start day. Due to scheduling uncertainties, we will not move routines to perform later in the session. It is up to the discretion of BravO! and schedule allowances if a routine may be performed on a later day or for adjudication only in lieu of a refund in these instances.

Changes, requests, and additions to scheduling is at the sole discretion of BravO! and must be communicated through the BravO! Office prior to final scheduling. Routines approved to perform early before corresponding awards ceremony may be eligible for consideration in their age/division/ size overalls. These exceptions are at the sole discretion of BravO! and must be communicated and approved by BravO! Office staff at least one week in advance.

Final Schedules with awards times and entry numbers will be provided to studios who have paid in full, including scratched routines, 1 week prior to the start of an event.

\*\*\* NO CHANGES WILL BE PERMITTED AT THE COMPETITION \*\*\*