



Class Rules/Policies

No food/drinks/gum allowed in classroom, only water bottles.

No siblings/friends/guardians are allowed in the classrooms unless there is a special day for them to visit. Parents (only for Princess Poms) will usually have a separate place to wait and table/chairs in rooms that are open. We do the best we can with the facilities we are allowed to rent, to keep dancers in a separate space with little distraction so they can learn. During the current situation, parents are not allowed in the facilities we practice in (except Princess Poms) so we can keep the groups of people at as small of a number as possible.

We send out competition information as soon as we receive it. We will not and do not withhold competition information, schedules, room blocks for competitions, etc.

Refer to our flyers/emails as to which items are to be purchased for class. Black jazz shoes (not black ballet shoes) for K-3rd grade and tan jazz shoes for 4th grade – High School. Skin-colored dance tights are needed for competition (links are sent out by our staff so everyone has the same color when purchased online). Princess Poms does tap or ballet (depending on the Season) along with their Jazz/Poms instruction. Please plan accordingly to have the proper dance shoes to go along with class. Dance shoes must be worn to EVERY practice unless the teacher specifies otherwise. No crocs, no gym shoes, no tennis shoes, no sandals, etc., only dance shoes to be worn to every single class or the dancer cannot participate in class.

As per our policies in the registration paperwork, no bullying, harassment, and cliques will be tolerated.

We try to keep class at as few facilities as possible. We rely on the community to help us rent space nearby and for reasonable days/times during the week to help with scheduling. There may be a rare time where a facility has to cancel our reservation for some reason, so please be understanding as we try to make accommodations if that happens. We cannot plan class (and will not) around any special events/schedules the dancer has, and if the timing is inconvenient during the week for regular classes, parents may have to consider if they want to commit to the entire Season. We have only a certain amount of facilities we work with and work around their schedule of availability. We try to keep weekends free unless there's a special event. We do not always know the exact time right away, and still may be in talks with the facility through the summer due to Covid restrictions/group restrictions.

Please consider that and keep that evening's schedule open.

Our classes are multi-leveled and may have a few grades combined. Our staff does their best to cater to each student to help them progress in their knowledge of dance. We like to keep class sizes small for the best teacher-student ratio.

We do not have a closed-door environment for our Princess Poms as some of our dancers are still learning independence from their parents. If a child is upset, needs their parent, or even needs a

bathroom break we completely understand. We hope that families and friends will wait in a designated area in each building we use so there is minimal distraction to the students.

There is no recording of any class, of any age due to safety for minors.

Dancers cannot have cell phones out during class for the safety of all our dancers, who are minors. No recording TikTok videos, no skyping, no texting, etc. If phones are out, a coach/teacher will have to hold onto the phone until the end of class. If this keeps happening the dancer will have to be suspended from class. We take the safety of our dancers seriously. Phones will only be used by coaches in case of an emergency, or to record a routine sent only to the parents/posted on Google Classroom to aid in practice at home.

Pickup for your student must be at the scheduled time class ends, no later. If our classes are too big for our main location and we use a nearby facility (school, rec center, etc.) please check your schedule to make sure you have the correct location and pass that information on to anyone else involved in pickups so everything goes smoothly at the end of class.

We compete with multiple organizations. The choreography our coaches create try to meet all rules and requirements of all organizations we compete with. We will NOT change choreography every week or two for each competition organization. We do our best to keep all judges/organizations happy and try to hit every high rubric with each competition organization.

A majority-vote system will be used to bids won at competitions. The majority of the votes determine where the entire organization goes for the competition, not just one team or part of a team. All teams will use bids for the day that the majority votes for.

If there are bids won in the Fall for the Spring Season, we will close registration for that team for the Spring Season and will only give that opportunity to continue into the Spring with the girls that earned those bids. A bid is a paid registration fee for your dancer and some are worth as high as \$130. Bids that are won do not transfer to another dancer. If you confirm your dancer is returning in the Spring, we make sure that insurance is paid and all other expenses, prior to the Spring Season starting. If you confirm your dancer is returning in the Spring Season, payment MUST be made before the first week of class the latest or your dancer will NOT be able to attend class. Insurance, competition fees, etc., have been paid out even before your dancer has started their first week of class (for both Seasons).

Prices for the Spring Season will be posted sometime in December. The price for Spring Season depends on how many bids are won in the Fall. The Spring Season will cost less than the Fall as the costume does not need to be added since they are using their costumes for the Spring Season again. If your dancer needs a larger/smaller costume in the Spring that will be an additional expense to you (as well as the shipping and handling), the parent/guardian.

All dance competitions paid for at registration are at local competitions. We do our best to keep competitions as local as possible. Dancers absolutely have to be committed to attending all local competitions, this is required. Bids may be earned from local competitions to Championships that may be out of the area – Wisconsin, Rockford, Florida, etc. Attending those are optional and may be an additional cost depending upon earned bid status (100% paid, 50%, 25%, etc) and majority vote. If you are NOT able to attend an out-of-area bid event (usually in the Spring), please let us know immediately so we can adjust choreography. We will have to spend some time re-working the routine without your dancer if they cannot go, so please understand that we would now have to move formations, etc. Your dancer may not dance as often in the 2nd half of class due to re-working choreography for an out-of-area

event. Most organizations tell dancers not to show up at all in the weeks before the event they cannot dance/compete at. We do not do that. Please come to practice to work on foundations and strength even if the dance temporarily changes.

If you do not attend a competition, and there are awards won, only those who have attended and competed will receive the awards given for that competition. This also coincides with winning bids and only those that compete and get a bid can go to the bid event earned.

If there is a question/complaint/discrepancy/concern during a competition, we have to follow the chain of command that is used in all sporting events/competitions. The question/complaint/discrepancy/concern is brought to the coaches/director's attention, who will then bring it to the judges/organization director if it needs to be brought to their attention, at the right time.

We will not stop a competition, interrupt, or bombard a director/judges and will keep a professional manner as we represent Bulldogs Spirit and a negative presence at competitions/events is not tolerated. Parents are not allowed to approach judges and directors of competitions and if that happens we will have to ask the parent to no longer continue with Bulldogs Spirit (with no refund) as our Organization will get reprimanded.

For the safety of our students, there can be no recording of class during any of our classes. Coaches can record the dancer's routine to send out to just our parents. Do not post this online as we want to maintain safety for all of our dancers. The only place we will post the routine is to Google Classroom to review and aid in practice at home. If videos of our dancers are shared online we will ask the parent to no longer continue with Bulldogs Spirit with no refund. We do not want safety compromised.

We are not responsible for bad weather/snowstorms etc., where a makeup class will have to be scheduled. If the time of the storm coming cannot be exactly determined, staff may choose to cancel class out of safety for our dancers. This happens to all events during storms, we have families coming from multiple different towns so we take that into account. The date of re-scheduled class depends on the availability of our facilities, and if they have any dates available.

Any Covid closures, lockdowns, restrictions etc., we are also not responsible for and we work within State guidelines until they are lifted.

Last minute changes to routines (someone dropping out right before competition, getting sick, etc.) we are not responsible for and we will change choreography as best as we can with the time and facilities at our disposal. It is extremely important you inform your Coach if you are NOT able to come to a competition. Coming to local competitions is required, and if you cannot go to a bid event that may be out of the area we need to know immediately. Please understand the commitment to attend all local competitions, and if you feel this is an issue please take time off and do not commit to our competition Organization for the Season if this will be an issue with your schedule. Most dates we know ahead of time but some we may not and we all have to be flexible to make the competitions.

If dancers let us know they cannot make a competition, that information is not sent to other parents. If this does not affect us by pulling the routine out, and we can change choreography at class (maybe add an extra class), then things continue as planned. It is not the business of other parents to know if someone cannot make it. Those reasons are personal (usually an emergency, personal reason) and confidential between the parent and coaches. If the dance can continue as planned, we keep our schedule as planned, no disruptions. If we lose a significant number of dancers and cannot compete, the parents will be notified immediately, but this can be avoided by following the Commitment

Agreement that you sign, by committing to all competitions and telling us immediately if you cannot come.

At the end of our Season we try to do a special performance, whether that be at a movie theater, a basketball game, etc. In the last year there have been many changes and public performances have been limited (especially no more retirement home performances), so each year may change in regards to opportunities to perform. We cannot promise a large performance during Fall or Spring Season because of the current situation (and State regulations) and what facilities are open for us to perform. Any chance we get we will relay this on to you, the parent/guardian right away to get input and see if it's a good opportunity to take advantage of.

Spring Season does not include the cost of another costume. With that being said, if there's an opportunity for a Spring performance, we may have our dancers do a put-together costume or find one that's a good deal if we can learn another routine to perform in the Spring. Lots of dance teams learn two routines simultaneously through their Season, so if it's possible to learn another dance and have more performance opportunities we're happy to oblige, as long as dancers are caught up on their current routine with no issues and come to every practice. Again, this is all dependent on facility availability for a performance, costs for the facility, commitment, etc.

All choreography that our coaches have created belongs in perpetuity to them. Anyone who wishes to re-create this choreography will have to give written permission to our organization so the coach can consider giving permission of re-creation. There would also have to be credit given to our coaches (written, verbal, etc.) if the coach agrees to let the choreography be re-created, and there may also be a fee to be allowed to re-create said choreography. Remixes created by the coaches also belong to the coaches in perpetuity as well, and the same rules apply. If any of our coaches decide to leave our organization, the choreography and remixes will leave with them as they belong to the coaches in perpetuity – all choreography and remixes in past, present and future.

We are a no-bullying, no-clique, no-drama zone. We take this seriously. Girls on our teams consider this a safe space, a place to grow in confidence, and we will not have that changed or threatened. If there is a team member or members that are bullying or mistreating other teammates, they will be asked to leave with no refund.

We appreciate feedback that is instrumental in creating a thriving, enjoyable atmosphere for our students, as well as new opportunities that are found for our dancers to perform/compete. Your staff has made this a full-time volunteer job, to ensure that dancers have opportunities to learn, perform, make friends, build confidence and make happy memories that they will always keep with them.

Parent/Guardian Signature/Date _____