



**2012
SCHOOL DANCE
INFORMATION BOOKLET**

**Contest of Champions
1553 Boren Drive
Ocoee, FL 34764
info@contestofchampions.com**

These pages contain Contest of Champions information regarding classifications, categories, rules, regulations and safety guidelines. For additional information and details, please call 1-800-421-4159 or visit www.contestofchampions.com.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE/TIME</u>
School Dance Competition & Awards	ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex "HP Field House"	Saturday, March 3, 2012 - Sunday, March 4, 2012
** Contest schedule is subject to change anytime at the discretion of the Event Director **		

CONTEST DIRECTORS

ROGER HAYES

Event Producer

This is Roger's nineteenth year as the Event Producer for the Contest of Champions. Roger resides in Dallas, Texas, he is the owner of Spirit Productions, Inc. He was an instructor for the National Cheerleaders Association for 10 years and was a Collegiate All American. He is a former cheerleader for Tulane University, the NFL New Orleans Saints and Mississippi State University. While living in New Orleans, Louisiana, he was the Official Mascot for the 1984 Louisiana World's Fair, Seymore D. Fair. He is currently serving as Event Producer of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. He has produced and choreographed cheerleading performances for Mike Miller & Associates, SPECIAL EVENTS, the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the Jeep Eagle Aloha Bowl, the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin, Ireland, London's Grand Christmas Parade, in London, England and the Southwestern Bell Cotton Bowl Classic Pre-game and Half-time shows in Dallas, Texas. In 1994 he was a production assistant for the Miss Texas Scholarship Pageant and choreographed for the 75th Annual Miss America Boardwalk Parade. As the former founder and owner of America's Best, Roger conducted cheer and dance camps and championships nationwide. He has served as a judge for the National Cheerleaders Association, Atlantic Cheer & Dance, American Cheer Power, Mardi Gras Nationals, Golden State Spirit Association and the 2005 USASF Cheerleading Worlds in Orlando, Florida. Currently, Roger is the owner of Spirit of America Productions. The company provides performance opportunities for cheerleaders and dancers in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

For specific cheer competition related questions, please contact Roger Hayes at:

RHayesCOC@msn.com

LAURA DAVIS

Event Producer

Laura is from Dallas, Texas and has been active in the field of Dance/Drill Team since the early 70's. This is Laura's twelfth year as the Event Producer for the Contest of Champions. She is an Executive Director/Owner of Starmakers Dance & Performance Camps. Her background includes attending Kilgore College earning an Associate of Arts degree while performing as a Rangerette Lieutenant and Swingster. She completed her degree in Dance from North Texas State University and earned her Masters Degree in Physical Education at the University of Texas at Tyler. Laura is a former Director of the South Garland High School Southern Belles and was later the Assistant Director and Choreographer of the Kilgore College Rangerettes. She was an instructor for N.C.A. SUPERSTAR for 16 years ultimately serving in the office as Curriculum Coordinator. Additionally, she has choreographed numerous bowl game pre-game & half-time shows such as the Aloha Bowl and Cotton Bowl. She has had extensive choreographic involvement in the dance productions coordinated by Mike Miller & Associates as part of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade each year since 1986. Laura has served as the 1st Vice President & as Sergeant at Arms for the Dance Drill Team Directors of America. She has been an adjudicator and choreographer throughout the country for the past 30 years. Currently, Laura is the owner of Spirit of America Productions. The company provides performance opportunities for cheerleaders and dancers in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

For specific dance competition related questions, please contact Laura Davis at:

Laura@spiritofamericaproductions.com

EVENT PARTICIPATION & ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. EVENT PARTICIPATION

The Contest of Champions is an open competition, independent of any association or camp, requiring no qualifier to participate. The school dance event is open to all schools nationwide. Participation in our event requires purchase of a competition package. A contest only commuter package is available to Florida groups. Packages do not include transportation or contest entry fees. For more detailed information about the 2012 competition, please contact our experienced contest event coordinators at 800-421-4159. Additional information is available through our website at www.contestofchampions.com.

2. ENTRY FEES & FORMS

You must send in your contest entry fees and completed entry form prior to January 13, 2012. Please remember that all competition entries are non-refundable from the time they are received into our office. Upon signature of the entry form, the Director is agreeing that they have read, have understood and have agreed to the competition rules & regulations, awards and penalties, and accept its contents.

COMPETITION ENTRY FEES

Team - \$250.00 Per Routine

Show Production - \$250.00

Officer Line (Any Size) - \$175.00 Per Routine

X-Large Ensemble - \$200.00 Per Routine

Large Ensemble - \$175.00 Per Routine

Small Ensemble - \$150.00 Per Routine

Duet/Trio - \$150.00 Per Routine

Soloists - \$100.00 Per Routine



All new contest entries, additions or changes must be received in our office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 13, 2012 in order to avoid the additional fees below. This is not a post marked due date, it is an in our office due date. All fees are for each new, late or revised entry.

Post January 13, 2012 Deadline Fees:

January 14, 2012 - February 3, 2012: \$100.00

February 4, 2012 - February 17, 2012: \$200.00

After February 17, 2012: \$400.00

Note: Entries are not official until all entry forms and fees have been received in our office. Phone calls to make changes or deletions will not be accepted. This policy is in place to aid in the prompt distribution of the final Contest information. You may fax your changes to 407-656-7466. Changes are not official until you have received written confirmation from our office.

Changes to entries made after February 3, 2012 will not be reflected in our pre-printed contest programs or adjudication sheets and critique tapes. The name change will be announced the day of competition.

3. CONFIRMATIONS

Once your forms and fees have been processed, you will receive a confirmation letter and payment receipt. A written confirmation will be sent after each change that has been received and processed in our office. It is the Director's responsibility to make sure all information contained in each confirmation is correct.

4. RELAX!

Your event coordinator will be in contact with you throughout your Contest of Champions experience to assist in all aspects of your trip.

5. WAIVER/RELEASE FORM

Each performer's and alternate's legal guardian must sign a 2012 Waiver Release Form. This is a standard form that releases the Walt Disney Company, as well as the Contest of Champions from any liability. Please duplicate as needed. These forms are due no later than January 13, 2012.

CLASSIFICATIONS & CATEGORIES

TEAM CLASSIFICATIONS

Junior High/Middle School: 5 or more performers

Junior Varsity: Performers in 11th grade and under

Extra Small Team: 5-9 Performers

Small Team: 10-15 Performers

Medium Team: 16-20 Performers

Large Team: 21-36 Performers

X-Large Team: 37 or more Performers

Teams may enter a maximum of 4 team performances. If a school has multiple dance teams, each team may enter a maximum of 4 team performances. The lowest team score of the 4 will be dropped and the remaining 3 team scores will be totaled for overall award purposes. At least 3 routines must be in one size classification to be eligible for the following awards: Classification National Champion and National Grand Champion. To avoid point deductions, each routine must be within the minimum and maximum number of performers of the classification competing.

TEAM CATEGORIES

JAZZ: A dance performance that includes a combination of rhythmic, creative body movements which interpret and emphasize a musical selection.

HIP HOP: A dance performance emphasizing hip hop or street dance styles, moves and techniques.

MILITARY: A dance performance that emphasizes sharp, concise movements and utilizes formation changes, patterns, footwork and dynamic presentation.

KICK: A dance performance that includes a minimum of 50 high kicks. It may include dance combinations, but must have a majority of the routine focused on kick combinations.

PROP: A dance performance that incorporates and utilizes a visual aid as the object of focus for approximately **75%** of the routine.

LYRICAL: A dance performance that incorporates smooth, fluid, technical body movements which emphasize and interpret a musical selection.

NOVELTY/CHARACTER: A dance performance choreographed to place special attention on a character or theme reflected in the music. Props or costumes may be used.

POM: A dance performance that utilizes poms in approximately **75%** of the routine. It should emphasize sharp, energetic arm movements and contain pattern, formations and level changes.

MODERN: A dance performance that utilizes contemporary modern styles and unique, creative movement. This should not be interpreted as "hip-hop" or "street dance".

BALLET/POINTE: A dance performance that emphasizes ballet technique and should include classical steps and movements.

OPEN: A dance performance that combines a variety of dance styles and techniques.

RULES & REGULATIONS

TIME ALLOWED FOR PERFORMANCES

TEAM EVENTS	2 - 3½	Minutes
OFFICER LINE	2 - 3½	Minutes
SHOW PRODUCTION	5 - 8	Minutes
ENSEMBLES	2 - 3½	Minutes
SOLO	1½ - 2½	Minutes

Routine performance timing begins and ends with the first and last beat of music. Total performance time includes set-up, entrance, performance and exiting. Performances are scheduled every 5 minutes. No performance will be permitted more than 5 minutes for set up, performance and exit. Show Productions are scheduled every 15 minutes. Total performance timing begins and ends with the first and last foot on the performance floor. No Show Production will be permitted more than 15 minutes for set up, performance and exit. A penalty will be assessed for time violation (see penalty information).

PERFORMANCE FACILITIES

Team competition will be held on a regulation professional size basketball court at Disney's Wide World of Sports® complex that hosts a professional sound system. The court is 94 feet by 50 feet and is marked by boundary lines, regular court lines, and a centerline. The floor does not have volleyball lines. Penalties will not be assessed for stepping on or moving out of boundary lines. All participants must wear soft-soled shoes (unless barefoot) so as not to mark, scuff or damage the floor. Any group that damages the floor in any way will be held responsible.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Performances are scheduled by category and classification in the order deposits are received by our office. If you are the first group to submit your deposits in your classification and category, you will be the last to perform.

Performances will be adjusted accordingly to facilitate costume changes and is subject to change for any reason the Contest Director deems necessary. The decision of the Contest Director is final in all scheduling situations.

GYMNASTICS / STUNTS

The use of gymnastics, lifts, pyramids and stunts is allowed. The Contest of Champions and the *Walt Disney World*® Resort will not be responsible for any injuries as a result of a performance.

PROPS, BACKDROPS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

A prop is anything not worn on the body as part of the costume. Props may not require electricity, smoke, fog, fire, fireworks, air compression, aerosol/non-aerosol or any other type of flammable or hazardous materials. In addition, confetti, glitter, balloons or other similar substances may not be used or thrown during the performance. The use of knives, swords or other objects that may be considered dangerous are strictly prohibited.

The entrance to HP Fieldhouse is 12 ft. by 9 ft. A Prop Information Form is to be returned to our office by February 3, 2012.

It is strictly enforced that only necessary adult prop crew will be allowed to unload and load props from the loading dock and backstage areas. Performers and children will not be allowed in these areas. Teams will not have access to the performance floor during prop delivery time. All deliveries must be pre-arranged for security clearance.

It is the Coach/Director's responsibility to inspect all props and backdrops for floor protection prior to your performance. Anything that touches the floor must be padded. Any team that damages the performance floor will be billed for repairs. Violation of prop rules & regulations will result in a 10 point penalty as stated in your 2012 Contest of Champions information.

All props brought the day of competition must be removed from the building no later than the last team performance on competition day. This rule is strictly enforced. If you are shipping to ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex, storage space is very limited. Props may not arrive prior to Friday, March 2, 2012 and must leave no later than Sunday, March 4, 2012 upon conclusion of competition. No items will be accepted prior to March 2, 2012. Outgoing shipments must be arranged appropriately by the group, and arrive with all shipping documents and account numbers (unless it is prepaid) or it will be discarded. The Contest of Champions and the *Walt Disney World*® Resort will not make any arrangements to have your materials delivered or shipped out and are not responsible for any lost, damaged, or stolen props.

MUSIC REQUIREMENTS

All music should be recorded on a quality CD, Mini-Disk, or MP3 player that has excellent musical clarity. Music should be appropriate for all ages – free from inappropriate language and content. The music should be cued and clearly marked with your team name and classification/category.

The Contest of Champions and the *Walt Disney World*® Resort use professional sound systems and are not responsible for any music that has not been recorded on quality materials. Portable compact disc players will not be permitted to plug into the sound system. A sound technician will control the system, however a team representative will be required to operate your music. This person must stay at the music table throughout each performance.

COSTUMING/CHOREOGRAPHY

Suggestive, offensive or vulgar choreography that is deemed inappropriate for family audiences will be penalized. All choreography should be appropriate for all ages. Vulgar or suggestive material is defined as any movement or choreography that is implying something improper or indecent, sexual in content or utilizes profane gestures. Costuming should be appropriate for all dancers.

ADJUDICATION & AWARDS

SCORING PROCESS

A five-member panel of outstanding experts will serve as the judging panel. The high and low score will be discarded and the three middle scores will be added to arrive at the "final score". Ties will not be broken. Score sheets are available to be picked up by the Team Director approximately 45 minutes after each performance.

TEAM COMPETITION

In order to be eligible for the Classification National Champion and National Grand Champion awards, dance teams must enter three different categories in one size classification. Teams may elect to enter four performances. The lowest team score of the four will be dropped and the remaining three team scores will be totaled.

Rating plaques will be given to team entries. Your final score will be used to determine your rating based on the following:

SUPERIOR **255-300 Total Points**

EXCELLENT **210-254 Total Points**

OUTSTANDING **0-209 Total Points**

1st, 2nd & 3rd place trophies will be awarded in each category of competition by classification.

Best in Category 1st, 2nd & 3rd place trophies will be awarded to the highest scoring team in each performance category regardless of classification. (Jazz, Lyrical, Modern, Ballet/Pointe, Novelty/Character, Pom, Military, Prop, Kick, Open & Hip Hop)

Classification National Champion trophies, banners and individual awards will be awarded to the highest combined scoring Team in each classification of competition (small, medium, large, etc.).

Cash Prize* will also be awarded to each Classification National Champion Winner:
Top Jr. High/Middle: \$1,000
Top Junior Varsity: \$1,000
Top X-Small Team: \$1,000
Top Small Team: \$1,000
Top Medium Team: \$1,000
Top Large Team: \$1,000
Top X-Large Team: \$1,000

*A minimum of 3 teams must be registered in each classification in order for cash prize to be awarded.

National Grand Champion will be awarded to the team with the highest combined score in competition regardless of classification. Each member of this team will also receive a unique, one-of-a-kind award.

SHOW PRODUCTION

Show production is an optional event and does not count toward your overall score for the National Grand Champion.

Show production is a dance performance utilizing a combination of dance elements and styles. Presentation should interpret a theme and emphasis should be on the overall entertainment value. Show production groups must have at least 16 performing members from competing teams. Only one show production may be entered.

1st, 2nd & 3rd place trophies will be awarded.

OFFICER LINE

Officer line competition is an optional event and does not count toward your overall score for the National Grand Champion award. Officer lines may be any size and may perform any type of routine. Up to four officer line routines may be represented by a team.

1st – 10th place will be awarded medallions for officer line competition.

ENSEMBLES

Ensemble performances are optional and are designed for teams wishing to perform additional routines. These performances do not count toward your scores for the National Grand Champion award. You may perform any type of routine in the ensemble competition. There is no limit on the number of ensemble performances.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be awarded medallions for each ensemble category.

DUET/TRIOS: 2 to 3 performers

SMALL ENSEMBLE: 4 to 6 performers

LARGE ENSEMBLE: 7 to 12 performers

X-LARGE ENSEMBLE: 13+ performers

Ensemble performances will be scheduled back to back. To avoid scheduling conflicts, cross-over individuals that perform in more than one ensemble must be noted on the appropriate entry form.

SOLOS

Solo entries are open to male & female dancers and will be divided into three classifications based on the dancer's age on the date of the competition. Soloists may enter only 1 routine. No tap shoes are allowed on the performance floor.

JUNIOR HIGH/MIDDLE: Ages 12 - 14

JUNIOR: Ages 15 - 16

SENIOR: Ages 17 - 18

1st – 10th place trophies and medallions will be awarded in each category of competition.

Senior solo finalists will compete Sunday evening prior to the awards ceremony.

College Scholarships will be awarded to the top three senior soloists.

Scholarships will be awarded as follows:

1st Place - \$1,000.00

2nd Place - \$500.00

3rd Place - \$250.00

**A minimum of 12 dancers must be registered in order for scholarships to be awarded. In the event of a tie the scholarship will be divided between the winners*

SCHOOL DANCE PENALTIES

TIMING PENALTY

Any violation of the following routine performance timing limitations will result in a three-point penalty being deducted from the total final score of that routine. Routine performance timing is from the first to last beat of the music.

1. Under 2 minutes or over 3½ minutes for a team or ensemble performance.
2. Under 1½ or over 2½ minutes for a solo performance.
3. Under 5 minutes or over 8 minutes for a show production.

Any violation of the following total performance timing limitations will result in a five-point penalty being deducted from the total final score of that routine.

1. Over 5 minutes for set up, entering, performance and exit for a performance for team, officer and ensemble performance.
2. Over 15 minutes for set up, entering, performance and exit for a performance for show production.

CLASSIFICATION PENALTY

The penalty judge will be counting the number of performers on the floor for all team, show production and ensemble routines. Any team performing out of classification or without the required number of performers will be penalized **15 points** from the total final score of that routine. Please see the penalty sheet.

PROP/TAPE/PADDING RULES

It is the responsibility of the Director to ensure that all props are inspected prior to performance. If an illegal prop or any hazardous material is utilized during a performance it will result in a 10 point penalty from that routine.

Any group that marks, scuffs or damages the floor will be responsible for damages.

BOUNDARY PENALTY

No penalty will be assessed for stepping on or moving out of boundary lines on the performance floor.

INAPPROPRIATE

COSTUMING/CHOREOGRAPHY/MUSIC

10 points will be deducted from your total score for anything deemed inappropriate. This may include movements, words, music or costuming.

*The decision of the Penalty Judge and Contest Director is final in all situations concerning penalties.