

GENERAL RULES

All persons in attendance will be expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship and general support for all dancers. We reserve the right to remove any participant, parent, teacher or spectator acting in an unacceptable manner from our event and the property of our host facility.

Fire & Ice National Talent Competition reserves the right to deduct points from or disqualify any entry or participant that does not adhere to the rules and regulations stated here.

It is agreed upon entering any Fire & Ice sponsored event that participants, including students, parents, teachers, and other spectators, will not hold Fire & Ice or its directors, employees, or host facilities liable for injuries sustained, illnesses contracted by them or loss of property while in attendance and/or participating in any activity of a Fire & Ice event.

Coaching dancers from the wings is strictly prohibited.

With the exception of the adjudicator's table, food and drinks are strictly prohibited from the seating area of any host facility unless otherwise posted at the event. At Fire & Ice, we work exceptionally hard to bring our event to outstanding venues. Therefore, we do ask that you please respect the property and leave all areas used during the duration of the competition in the same condition they were in when you arrived.

The directors of Fire & Ice reserve the right to change, delete or add any rules, regulations or policies at any time they deem necessary.

Fire & Ice reserves the right, when necessary, to move a competition site, create a secondary competition site or to expand a competition to a multiple day event. Dancers may only compete for one studio. Studios with multiple locations may compete as separate studios but dancers may only compete for one location.

In order for two groups from the same studio to compete in the same category at least 50% of the participants must change.

AGE DIVISIONS

Mini: 8 & younger **Junior:** 9-11 **Teen:** 12-14
Senior: 15-19 **Adult:** 20 & older

Age divisions are determined by the dancer's age as of January 1st of the current competition year.

SIZE DIVISIONS

All routines will fall under the size division of

Solo: 1 dancer
Duet or Trio: 2 or 3 dancers
Small Group: 4-9 dancers
Large Group: 10-19 dancers
Line/Production: 20 or more dancers

Participants are limited to a maximum of three solos per performer. They must not compete against themselves by entering two solos in the same category. This rule does not apply to title competitors. If a student is entered in title, they may do a maximum of four solos in the competition. **ONE SOLO IN TITLE** and three in the performing arts competition.

TIME LIMITATIONS

Fire & Ice does not time each individual performance or penalize routines for exceeding the suggested time limitations.

Below are Fire & Ice's recommended time limitations.

Solo: 2 minutes & 45 seconds
Duets & Trios: 3 minutes
Small Groups: 3 minutes & 30 seconds
Large Groups: 4 minutes
Line/Productions: 6 minutes

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MUSIC

All routines, music, choreography, and costumes must be suitable for family viewing and should be age appropriate. Music should be free of any foul language. Should a music contain foul language, Fire & Ice reserves the right to drop the routine a medal standing. This rule will be enforced at the discretion of the directors of your Fire & Ice event.

PROPS

General props are permitted but must be set in under two minutes.

If a prop will take more time, Fire & Ice must be aware of this in advance and additional fees may apply.

Dangerous props such as swords and fire will not be permitted nor will the use of live animals. The throwing of any item smaller than a rose petal will also be prohibited. All studios are responsible for clearing every item from the stage at the conclusion of a routine. Failure to do so may result in scoring penalties.

STILL AND VIDEO RECORDING

Fire & Ice will have professional videographers and/or photographers at each of our cities. Flash photography and videography will be strictly prohibited during performances at all Fire & Ice events. All photographers and/or videographers are third party companies independently owned and operated. Fire & Ice assumes no responsibility for lost or incorrect orders.

Participation in any Fire & Ice sponsored event indicates permission to use any photographs or video taken during the event in promotional venues, including newspapers, brochures, ads, television, videos, newsletters, Internet, and any other publications.

CATEGORIES

Acro: Routine consisting of 50% acrobatic moves and 50% dance.

Ballet: Routine consisting of ballet technique.

Character: Routine portraying a recognizable character. May incorporate any form of dance.

Cheer: Routine consisting of cheerleading or dance team technique.

Clogging: Routine utilizing either traditional or contemporary style clogging technique.

Contemporary: Routine consisting of modern and/or post-modern styles and techniques.

Folk/Ethnic: Routine consisting of ethnic styles of dance such as Hawaiian, African, etc.

Hip-Hop: Routine containing street-style dance moves to popular music.

Jazz: Routine displaying jazz technique.

Lyrical: Routine combining the techniques of jazz, ballet, and modern.

Modern: Routine utilizing interpretive dance using modern dance technique and choreography.

Musical Theatre: Routine consisting of Broadway/theatre dance styles.

Novelty: Routine consisting of any style and incorporating a prop into the routine.

Open: Routine consisting of any dance style or combination of styles.

Pointe: Routine including classical ballet steps and pointe technique. Pointe shoes only.

Pom-Pom: Routine consisting of pom-pom technique.

Student Choreography: Routine choreographed by a student consisting of any dance style.

Tap: Routine displaying tap techniques. No prerecorded tap sounds allowed on tape.

Up to 3 acrobatic tricks are allowed in every dance category. Any movement where the dancer's legs go over their head will be considered a trick. An acrobatic pass is considered to be a single trick. Should a dance contain more than three tricks/passes, it should be entered in the **Open** category. If over 50% of the 2nd dance is acrobatic, it should be entered into **Acro**.

COMPETITIVE LEVELS

All dancers who are registered for a Fire & Ice Talent Competition will be classified as a Fire Starter, Intermediate, or Elite class dancer. Fire & Ice does not qualify a dancer for any of the 3 classes, nor do we have an objective criteria by which a dancer is to be classified. It is the responsibility of each studio to place their dancers within whichever class they feel they are best suited. That being said, Fire & Ice National Talent Competition leaves level placement to each studio to place their students in a level that best fits their students' experience and training. Please use the suggested guidelines below to assist in level placements.

ELITE:

The Elite level is reserved for dancers with a few years of competition experience who are part of a heavy training regimen. (10+ hours per week)

INTERMEDIATE:

The Intermediate level is reserved for dancers with a few years of competition experience who part of a training regimen that requires a minimum of 6 hours of class per week. This level would also be appropriate for dancers who do not wish to perform in the Fire Starters Level.

FIRE STARTERS:

The Fire Starters level is reserved for dancers with little to no past competition experience who take 2-3 hours of class per week. This level is eligible for scholarship awards only and will not be competing for cash awards.

The competitive class of all non-solo routines will be determined by the competitive class of each dancer in given routine. For routines comprised of dancers of varying competitive classes, the routine will default to the competitive class in which the majority of dancers are classified. For example, a routine comprised of 5 elite class dancers and 4 intermediate class dancers would default to the elite class. In the event that a routine contains an equal number of dancers from varying competitive classes, the routine will default to the highest level. For example, if a given routine contains 6 Fire Starter class dancers and 6 Intermediate class dancers, the routine would automatically default to Intermediate. Please note that if a studio should desire for a dance to compete in a higher competitive class than it is originally registered for, they may bump the routine up, however, a studio may not bump a routine down.

Please note : Absolutely under no circumstances may any changes to competitive classes be made past the date of the final schedule release per competition. The final schedule is traditionally released one week prior to the competition.

Please understand that the intent of instituting the competitive classes is to enable dancers to compete against other dancers of comparable ability, training, and tenure. If any inquiries, concerns, or considerations should arise relating to the competitive class as and the regulations listed herin, please feel free to contact us as we are always open to questions and feedback that would enable us to create a superior experience for all of our dancers, studio directors, dance teachers, choreographers, and audience.

ADJUDICATION

Participants agree that the time, manner, and method of judging the competition shall be solely within the discretion of the directors of Fire & Ice.

Adjudicators at each Fire & Ice event will be an elite panel of professional choreographers, teachers and/or performers who are in high demand in today's dance world. All competitions are final and adjudicators will break all ties. No teacher, student or parent will question an adjudicator.

A three-point deduction will be made for dancers who leave the stage without completing a performance. Fire & Ice reserves the right to continue the competition without returning to an incomplete routine.

All routines will be scored within the following criterion: technique (35% of the cumulative score), showmanship (25% of cumulative score), Precision/Execution (15% of cumulative score), Choreography (15% of cumulative score), and Overall Performance (10% of cumulative score).

The following are the cumulative scoring breakdowns as they relate to the respective competitive levels.

	Elite	Intermediate	Fire Starter
Diamond	270-300	264-300	259-300
Platinum	260-269.9	255-263.9	250-258.9
Gold	255-259.9	250-254.9	245-249.9
Sterling Silver	0-254.9	0-249.9	0-244.9

Top scoring routines will be acknowledged within each age/size division. At each competition, Fire & Ice will recognize the top 10 highest scoring routines for each age & size division containing at least 10 or more routines. For any age and/or size division containing between 5 and 9 routines Fire & Ice will acknowledge the top 5 highest scoring routines. For any age and/or size division containing 3 or 4 routines, the top 3 scoring routines will be acknowledged.

In the event of a tie, the technique score will determine the higher overall placement within the divisional overall. If the technique scores are, the showmanship score will determine the higher overall placement. In the event that both the technique and showmanship scores are tied between amongst routines, the precision/execution scores will determine the highest overall placement. If two or more routines are tied with equivalent technique, showmanship, and precision/execution scores, the choreography score will determine the higher/highest overall placement. Lastly, if two or more routines are tied with equivalent technique, showmanship, precision/execution, and choreography scores, the overall performance score will determine the highest placement within the overalls.

A soloist may only place once within the overalls within their respective age division with their higher/highest scoring solo.

The following are the cumulative scoring breakdowns as they relate to the respective competitive levels.

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REGISTRATION

Fire & Ice Talent Competition's simple online registration process is on its webpage. The process is initiated by a single studio login. In that way, the studio will register for an entire competition at one time, in one place. The Studio Administrator will list each dancer's name, birthdate, and competitive class. That registration only needs to be done the first time a studio competes with Fire & Ice. This amazing system will not only save the information as it was entered, but it will increase the ages of the students without any further data input from the studio. It makes next year's competition preparatory work considerably less. After that initial inputting, the Studio Administrator will merely have to enter their routines. The information for each routine is just the city of the competition and the name and category into which it falls. A Studio Administrator will no longer have to calculate age or size division or even the competitive class. This system does all that automatically. Itemized invoices will be generated for each dancer to save additional work on the part of the administrator. Payment options for the competition are cash, check and money order. A studio will be considered officially registered for a specific competition as soon as their balance is completely paid. If a studio chooses to pay their competition fees within 30 days of the competition, the payment options will be cash, a bank-issued cashier's check or a money order. Fire & Ice is delighted to be able to offer this cutting-edge ease in registration.

AWARDS

Elite High Score awards will be divided into the age divisions of Mini, Junior, Teen and Senior. Performance division of all group routines is determined by the level in which the majority of the routine would qualify. (e.g. A group with 15 dancers – 8 Intermediate and 7 Elite would be eligible for entry in the Intermediate division.) Any entry form that does not distinguish a performance level will automatically be entered into the Elite level as entry in the Intermediate level is optional and solely at the discretion of the teacher.

ALL TITLE SOLOS MUST COMPETE IN THE ELITE COMPETITION LEVEL. A dancer can only compete in one competition level unless the majority of a group they are entered in changes the appropriate level to be entered.

Any routine that wins a cash prize and/or scholarship at Nationals is not eligible to compete in a Fire & Ice event the following season.

Participants may compete in more than one Fire & Ice city, however, any routine that wins a regional cash prize and/or scholarship cannot re-compete at another Fire & Ice event in the same season. The only exception to this rule is participation in a Fire & Ice Nationals event.

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SCHEDULING

Fire & Ice offers three separate levels of competition: Fire Starter, Intermediate, and Elite. While Intermediate and Elite routines may be scheduled to perform at the same time, the adjudicators are aware of the appropriate category and will judge accordingly. High score awards and/or cash prizes/scholarships will be presented in every level of competition. Because all of our Intermediate performers have generally received the same amount of training regardless of their age, these high score awards will include all age divisions.

Competing dancers must perform in the order scheduled by the competition unless special permission is given by the directors in attendance. Intentional manipulation of the performance schedule may result in disqualification. Fire & Ice will have a backstage manager in every city and will hold any costume changes or approved extenuating circumstances without deduction although costume changes will only be held for a maximum of five routines.

If a routine is holding up the competition by not checking in, although all of the dancers are dressed and ready to perform, Fire & Ice reserves the right to deduct points from the routine.