



Candance

OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

National Finals

1. Entry deadlines are as follows:

2. Age of dancers as of **January 1st, 2026**

3. Candance will accept **TWO forms of payment**, Studio Cheque/Money Order - **OR** - E-Transfer (Online). All electronic transfers (e-transfer) must be sent to info@candancecompetition.ca and promptly followed up by e-mail, or phone, to confirm your studio name/city of interest and receipt of deposit. Please indicate your studio name/city of interest in the 'message' section of the e-transfer. Should your e-transfer exceed the maximum transferable amount, multiple e-transfers will be accepted to cover the balance.

All cheques or money orders are payable to "Candance Entertainment Group Inc."

Late entries must be paid for by certified cheque. All studios must send in a deposit when making your reservation in order to hold your space. This is mandatory, there will be a 5% late fee on all fees if received after **January 15th, 2026**. Studios will not receive any schedules if fees are not paid on time. No post-dated cheques will be accepted. If there are changes after the preliminary schedule deadline there will be a \$10 surcharge per entry/pre-change.

Absolutely NO refunds will be given under any circumstance.

4. Full-time teachers and/or full-time professional dancers are **NOT ALLOWED** to compete in the regular competition; they may however compete in the Adult division (no overalls awarded).

5. Candance uses the latest digital sound systems at all events. Music uploads for this season will be available upon registration. All uploaded music will be obtained **48hrs prior to event start time**.

6. Any photography, flash photography, digital photography, videotaping, and/or recording of any kind is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** at all Candance events *Routines risk being disqualified!

7. Each event will have 3 qualified judges. All judge's decisions are **final**

8. Time limits will be **strictly enforced**. There will be a 1-point deduction for every 5 seconds the routine is over the time limit

9. Each registered routine that is performed on stage will receive three (3) judge's critiques. **All judge's critiques will be provided online via Video Judge**. Critiques will be available within 7 Days of the event finish date. Only studio directors are allowed access to the critiques with credentials provided upon registration.

10. Novice and Pre-Competitive categories are *only eligible* to compete in the **Novice/Pre-Competitive Dance Off**

11. Dancers must be ready at least **30 minutes** before their scheduled time to perform. Every dancer **must sign in** with a backstage manager **at least 3 numbers prior** to performing. Candance will not tolerate holding routines for any reason. If routines are in the wrong category this must be done by the preliminary schedule deadline. **NO** changes will be done at the event. Candance will not tolerate any harassment or any inappropriate behavior. This will result in a disqualification and removal from the premises.

12. A soloist scoring 80 or higher can only win "**Title Soloist Regional Winner**" or "**Runner-Up**" in one city per season. If for any reason a dancer at the regional level is unable to attend our National Finals Title Soloist Competition,



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National Finals

Candance retains the right to offer this position to eligible dancers *within the top 15* in their division, contacting the studio(s) by June 1st.

13. No **independent entries** will be accepted at Candance. In order to have a solo compete at Candance, the registered studio must enter three (3) groups or more. Candance will announce top 15 solos in each division and only ONE dancer can place ONE time in the top 15 solo category.

14. A *competitive* dancer is **NOT eligible** to compete in the *Novice or Pre-Competitive* divisions. Pre-Competitive dancers must stay within the 6 hours of less of training. This does not include rehearsal time.

15. All scholarships and awards are **subject to change** without notice.

16. The placement of props and sets must be completed in **2 minutes or less**. Please contact the Candance office to confirm setup and submit a prop list with all corresponding routines

17. The studio is responsible for **completely clearing the stage** of all items following their performance.

18. Once the first draft of the schedule is out and you are given a deadline for all changes, Candance **will NOT accept** any further changes of any kind after the deadline or at the event. Please be sure to make all changes prior to the deadlines given. If there are changes after the preliminary schedule deadline there will be a **\$10 surcharge per entry/per change**.

19. Although not limited to a set number of routines, soloists will be subject to an increase in fee's after the first 3 routines performed on stage. Solo routines #1 - #3 will be charged the base rate. **The 4th solo (or more) a \$20 fee will be added.**

20. Candance reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of days per event.

21. Candance will follow all government/venue regulations & policies to move forward in 2025/2026. **All health and safety regulations will be put into place.** These regulations will be posted under each city on the Candance website as the information comes into us from each venue. These may vary from city to city, and province to province. Candance's concern is for the wellbeing of all dancers, parents and clients entering Candance. All policies must be followed by everyone in attendance for the 2025/2026 season.

22. It will be **MANDATORY** that all studio directors/owners and parents/guardians fill out, sign and submit our waivers to the Candance office **24 hours** prior in order for dancers or attendees to participate in any Candance event.

23. *Title Soloist Competition* - It is **MANDATORY** that all contestants perform in the opening number twice, Title Day and Gala. Junior, Teen & Senior contestants are required to participate in 3 out of 5 audition classes. The total audition score is worth 60% of the total score.

24. Any rule and/or regulation may be updated and/or changed at any time.



★ AGE(S) OF DANCERS

TO CALCULATE THE AVERAGE AGE OF YOUR ROUTINES: Add ages together (*as of January 1st, 2026*) and divide by the number of competitors in the routine; drop the decimal place.

SOLOS & DUET/TRIOS

AGE DIVISIONS: Age(s) as of January 1st, 2026

- 5 & Under, 6 Years, 7 Years, 8 Years, 9 Years, 10 Years, 11 Years, 12 Years, 13 Years, 14 Years, 15 Years, 16 Years, 17 Years, 18 Years, 19 & Over

SMALL / EXTENDED SMALL GROUPS, LARGE / EXTENDED LARGE GROUPS, LINES / EXTENDED LINES

AGE DIVISIONS: Age(s) as of January 1st, 2026

- 5 & Under, 6 Years, 7 Years, 8 Years, 9 Years, 10 Years, 11 Years, 12 Years, 13 Years, 14 Years, 15 Years, 16 Years, 17 Years, 18 Years, 19 & Over

PRODUCTIONS AGE DIVISIONS: Age(s) as of January 1st, 2026

- 12 & Under, 13 & Over

ADULT/PARENT/PROFESSIONAL

AGE DIVISIONS: Age(s) as of January 1st, 2026

- 19 & Over

**This category is NOT eligible for overalls, cash awards, or the Diamond Dance Off*

***This category is for any combination of professional-teacher and/or professional-dancer, and dancers, that do not fall into any other division*

****Professional: is a dancer that is NO LONGER a student and earns a full-time income to dance professionally and/or teach*

★ ROUTINE SIZES

SOLO: 1 DANCER

DUET: 2 DANCERS

TRIO: 3 DANCERS

SMALL GROUP: 4 TO 9 DANCERS

EXT. SMALL GROUP: 4 TO 9 DANCERS

LARGE GROUP: 10 TO 15 DANCERS

EXT. LARGE GROUP: 10 TO 15 DANCERS

LINE: 16 OR MORE DANCERS

EXT. LINE: 16 OR MORE DANCERS

***PRODUCTION:** 16 OR MORE DANCERS

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR DANCE-OFF

★ GENRES

GENRES AVAILABLE AT CANDANCE IN THE NOVICE / PRE-COMPETITIVE / COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS:

- **DEMI-POINTE / DEMI CHARACTER** (*Any routine in this genre with the use of Pointe shoes must select "Pointe")
- **POINTE**
- **JAZZ** (*a maximum of 2 acrobatic tricks are allowed in this genre)
This can include many styles of jazz, such as Broadway Jazz, Jazz Fusion, Jazz Funk, Jazz Pop, Classical Jazz, Contemporary Jazz, Latin Jazz and Street Jazz
- **TAP** (*No pre-recorded tap sounds are allowed in this genre)
- **ACRO / GYM**
- **LYRICAL**
- **MODERN**
- **CONTEMPORARY**
- **MUSICAL THEATRE** (*Must include lip sync, live singing and must be Broadway style dance/music)
- **HIP HOP / STREET**
- **OPEN** (*Any routine that does not seem appropriate in any of the above genres)

★ TIME LIMITS

**All Novice, Pre-Competitive and Competitive routines have a maximum time limit of 3 minutes*

***A maximum of 2 minutes is allowed to setup props and/or sets for small groups, lines, and extended lines. Please contact us for production props and/or sets.*

****Additional fees will apply up to 2 minutes over time. Routines over the time limit will be subject to point deductions. Please see information in your DanceBUG account.*

SOLO: 3 Minutes

DUET/TRIO: 3 Minutes

EXTENDED DUET/TRIO: 4 Minutes

SMALL GROUP: 3 Minutes

EXTENDED SMALL GROUP: 4 Minutes

LARGE GROUP: 4 Minutes

EXTENDED LARGE GROUP: 5 Minutes

LINE: 4 Minutes

EXTENDED LINE: 5 Minutes

PRODUCTION: 8 Minutes



★ DIVISIONS

NOVICE

This division is suited for a dancer that has never competed before in a Solo, Duet, and/or Trio. They may have competed in a group. All novice small groups, large groups, lines and extended lines must be 100% novice.

**A novice dancer is allowed to compete in both the "Pre-Competitive" and "Competitive" divisions*

***This division is ONLY ELIGIBLE for the Novice/Pre-Competitive Diamond Dance Off*

****All dancers must be 100% novice, first time competing within the same dance season. Once the dancer does a novice solo in any genre, the next season they're a competitive dancer if they do a different genre.*

PRE-COMPETITIVE

This division is suited for both recreational and part-time competitive dancers. They cannot exceed a maximum of 6 hours of training per week; this includes all rehearsal time. this does not include all rehearsal time.

**A pre-competitive dancer CAN compete in a competitive routine, but CAN NOT compete in the Competitive solo division. All Pre-Competitive routines MUST be 100% Pre-Competitive*

***This division is ONLY ELIGIBLE for the Novice/Pre-Competitive Diamond Dance Off*

COMPETITIVE

This division is suited for a dancer that has competed before and is a full-time competitive dancer. This division is eligible for all Overall Awards and the Diamond Dance Off (small groups, large groups, lines, and extended lines).

Dancers in this division have the opportunity to qualify for our **Title Soloist Competition and National Finals Performing Arts Competition*

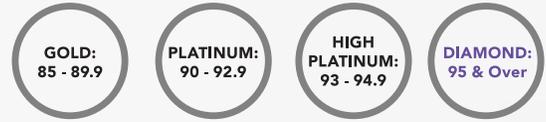
***A competitive dancer is NOT ALLOWED to compete in the "Pre-Competitive" or "Novice" divisions*

ADULT/PARENT/PROFESSIONAL

This division is suited for any combination of professional-teacher and/or professional-dancer, and dancers, that do not fall into any other division.

***Professional: is a dancer that is NO LONGER a student and earns a full-time income to dance professionally and/or teach*

★ AWARDS SCORING



★ AWARDS

CANDANCE OFFICIAL TOUR AWARDS:

*Medals, Ribbons, Pins, and Plaques are awarded in ALL divisions **Novice, Pre-Competitive & Production have separate overall awards

***The top 3 routines will be announced if there are 6 or more routines in the category

"THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT" - JOE NOCE MEMORIAL AWARD

- Most Entertaining Routine of the entire event

MINI, JUNIOR, TEEN, SENIOR

- Overall Scholarships in ALL CATEGORIES

12 & UNDER / 13 & OVER

- Announcement of Top 15 Soloists
- Costume Awards
- Adjudicator's Choice Awards
- Choreography Awards
- Candance People's Choice Award Nominees
- Candance EPIC Awards
- Candance Director's Pick Award
- Candance Cup - ALL-NEW

★ CATEGORIES

MINI CATEGORY

This category is for dancers age 5 to 9 years

JUNIOR CATEGORY

This category is for dancers age 10 to 12 years

TEEN CATEGORY

This category is for dancers age 13 to 14 years

SENIOR CATEGORY

This category is for dancers age 15 and over



★ DIAMOND DANCE OFF

*ONLY AVAILABLE AT CANADIAN REGIONAL DANCE COMPETITIONS

DIAMOND DANCE OFF DIVISIONS:

**JUNIOR (12 AND UNDER) /
SENIOR (13 AND OVER)**

Candance is thrilled to keep growing and shaping our events based on what matters most to you! This season, we're introducing exciting updates to the highlight of our regional competitions – the DIAMOND DANCE OFF!

Each studio will now qualify four routines to compete in the regional Diamond Dance Off:

- One Mini Group Routine
- One Junior Group Routine
- One Teen Group Routine
- One Senior Group Routine

To qualify, these routines must achieve a Diamond award.

*For the Diamond Dance Off to take place, the regional event must have 400 or more registered entries. At an event with no Diamond Dance Off we will award high score and overall awards.

NOVICE & PRE-COMPETITIVE DANCE OFF:

Limited to 10 of the highest scoring routines!

*For the Nov. & P.C. Dance Off to take place, the regional event must have 30 or more registered Nov. & P.C. group entries. At an event with no Dance Off we will award high score and overall awards.

**The Top 10 novice/pre-competitive group routines will compete again for top awards

***Production, Adult/Parent/Professional are NOT ELIGIBLE for the Dance Off Events

****Novice/Pre-Competitive division will dance in their respective Dance Off Events (if applicable)

★ ENTRY FEES

CANDANCE ENTRY FEE'S INCLUDE:

- The opportunity to perform on a professional stage equipped with a high quality sound system
- Adjudication by 3 highly-qualified professional and/or celebrity judges
- The ability for you and/or your studio to upload your digital music online upon registration
- Video critiques and judge's scores provided via online access to Video Judge; Includes 3 high quality videos with judges voice critiques for each registered entry and all final scores
- Fun, safe, and family-friendly environment

*The following features are provided **FREE** from Candance: Live Stream, Social Media Photos and any/all Awards Photos taken at the Awards.

★ TITLE SOLOIST COMPETITION

All regional Title Soloist winners from the Top 15 will be awarded & are eligible to compete in the "Title Soloist Competition" at our exciting National Finals this season!

TITLE SOLOIST DIVISIONS

Mini Miss & Mister: 5 Years - 9 Years
Junior Miss & Mister: 10 Years - 12 Years
Teen Miss & Mister: 13 Years - 14 Years
Senior Miss & Mister: 15 Years - 19 Years

For further information and details regarding our famous Title Soloist Competition please visit:

TITLE.CANDANCECOMPETITION.CA

****IMPORTANT****

Please contact Candance at our office for ALL entry fee information. Pricing for entry fees does not include HST; please add tax to your total.

Contact our office for available Teacher's Incentives during the upcoming Candance 2026 Tour!

Call us toll-free at + 1 (866) 305-6174 or email us at info@candancecompetition.ca