



2021 Rules & Regulations

The Star Dance Alliance is a combined effort from the industries leaders in dance who strive to provide not only a high-quality experience, but ease in registration.

- Although each competition is run in its own way, all of the SDA competitions provide a quality competition arena to our customers in every aspect.
- A combined registration system that allows studios to enter/update their roster one time a year, and easily transfer routines from competition to competition.
- Streamlined Rules and Regulations that make it easier for studios to keep age divisions, group sizes and competition levels the same for each competition.
- Routines may qualify at any SDA Regional Competition for all of the Star Dance Alliance National Championships.
- SDA Star Dollars are awarded to Advanced Level Champions.
 - Regional winnings from 2021 may be redeemed for any SDA 2021 National Championship or for a 2022 Regional Competition from the issuing competition.
 - National winnings may be redeemed for a 2022 Regional Competition from the issuing competition.
 - Star Dollars may NOT be used for the World Dance Championships, World Dance Pageant, Power Pak or Wild Dance Intensive
- SDA Power Rankings
 - Every routine that competes at a SDA Regional Competition, and is awarded as the 'Regional Champion' in their division, is automatically entered into the POWER RANKINGS. Routines are entered into the rankings with the score that their routine was given at that regional event. You can track the Power Rankings weekly at www.stardancealliance.com
- Power Pak
 - Invitations & Scholarships are awarded at all of the SDA Regional Competitions.
- Wild Dance Intensive
 - Scholarships are awarded at all of the SDA Regional Competitions.
- World Dance Championships
 - Golden Ticket Invitations are given out at all SDA Regional and National Competitions to top scoring routines.
- World Dance Pageant
 - Scholarships are awarded at all of the SDA Regional Competitions.

ADULT AGE DIVISION: Any routine with a performer 20 years or older will compete in the Adult Division (*with the exception of the Grand Line Division*). All adult performers MUST compete in the Advanced performance level and are not eligible for High Score Awards. If enough routines are entered in the Adult Category, a special High Score Award may be awarded at that regional. Adult dancers may include Teachers, Professionals, Parents, etc.

PROOF OF AGE: All performers are required to have proof of ages on hand at every SDA competition. Failure to provide a birth certificate or drivers license if an age division is challenged will result in disqualification of that routine.

HIGH SCORE AGE DIVISIONS: High Score Awards will be given out in the Petite (8 & Under), Junior (9-11), Teen (12-14) and Senior (15-19) age divisions.

***AGE BUMP RULE** – The oldest performer in a duet/trio, small group, large group or line may only compete (1) age division lower than his/her age. Example: A routine with a 15 year old performer may only compete in the Teen (age 12-14) or Senior (age 15-19) divisions regardless of the average age. Example: A 15 year old performer may never compete in the Petite (8 & Under) or Junior (9-11) age division.

COMPETITION LEVELS

Studios are required to assign a competition level for EACH performer when they are entering their roster in the registration system. Please be certain that you are entering your performers in the CORRECT PERFORMANCE LEVEL. NOTE: DANCERS MAY ONLY BE REGISTERED AT ONE LEVEL...Any dancer found to be registered in more than one level may be disqualified.

Dancer's levels WILL NOT be able to be changed once entered.

SOLOS and DUET/TRIOS MUST COMPETE AT THE LEVEL IN WHICH THEY ARE REGISTERED ON YOUR ROSTER.

****IMPORTANT**** - It is at the judges discretion to move any routine that they feel is placed in a level below their ability to the level in which they feel is necessary. All judges decisions are FINAL. If the judges determine that a routine should be moved to a different level, and that level has already competed, the routine will then be eligible for adjudication only.

ANY ROUTINE THAT IS BUMPED TO A HIGHER COMPETITION LEVEL AT ANY SDA COMPETITION FOR ANY REASON WILL REMAIN IN THAT HIGHER LEVEL FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON THROUGHOUT ALL STAR DANCE ALLIANCE COMPETITIONS.

LEVEL ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are suggestions to be used in determining the appropriate level placement of each competitor. Because no competition can possibly know how many hours a child dances or for how many years they have danced, it is left to the teachers own sound judgement when entering level placement for their students.

ADVANCED Level: This competition level is for top-level competitive dancers who perform at an advanced technical level. All entries will be adjudicated, and will receive High Score Awards. *****This is the ONLY level that is eligible to compete for Prize Monies.** In addition, only advanced dancers are eligible to receive the Highest Level Adjudication.

INTERMEDIATE Level: This competition level is for the *intermediate or 'on the rise'* dancers, and is recommended for dancers who have had approximately 2-5 years experience. Entries will be adjudicated, and will receive High Score Awards within this level.

NOVICE Level: This competition level division is for *beginning* dancers who have little or no experience competing. Dancers may only be considered 'novice' dancers for a **maximum of 3 years**.. Entries will be adjudicated, and will receive High Score Awards within this level.

Small Groups and Duet/Trios - The highest level of dancer in a routine will determine the level of the routine. *Example: One Advanced Dancer and 8 Intermediate Dancers will determine the routine to be in the Advanced Level. One Intermediate Level dancer and 8 novice dancers will determine the routine to be in the Intermediate Level.*

Large Groups and Lines - No more than 1/3 of the dancers in a routine may be a higher performance level than the level that the routine is entered. *Example: If a routine has 12 dancers - 4 advanced, 4 intermediate & 4 novice, the routine will be placed in the 'advanced' level because 1/3 or more of the dancers are advanced.*

IMPORTANT NOTES ON COMPETITION LEVELS –

*No dancer that is registered in the 'advanced' level will be permitted to dance in ANY 'novice' level routine.

*No level changes may be made at the door.

*No Solo may be bumped to a higher competition level than the level in which the performer is entered on the 2021 studio roster.

*Groups/Lines may be placed in a higher competition level than the average of the participants, but never a lower level. This must be done PRIOR to the competition. Note: Any routine that is bumped to a higher level at any SDA competition will remain in that higher level for the remainder of the season throughout ALL Star Dance Alliance Competitions.

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PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

Acro/Gymnastics - A routine that contains primarily gymnastic tricks, including, but not limited to walkover, front/back limbers, handstands, headstands, cartwheels, etc. There should be a blend of gymnastics and dance together.

Ballet - A routine consisting of classical steps & ballet technique. Ballet shoes must be worn.

Baton - Routine using baton(s) and baton technique .

Character - A routine that portrays a character that is easily recognizable.

Cheerleading - A routine that has a combination of strong, sharp movements, vocal cheering and dance. May contain up to 50% acro/gymnastics.

Clogging - A routine which uses clogging technique.

Compulsory – (*Advanced Level/Solos Only*) A performance of pre-determined, specified dance techniques. (Please see details listed on next page)

Contemporary – A routine that combines both lyrical and modern movements.

Drill Team - A group performing military type moves with precision marching and may incorporate any type of dance.

Fashion Modeling – (*Advanced Level/Solos Only*) Must include Runway "T-style" Modeling Technique

- FORMAL- Any party dress or "After 5" attire.
- SPORTSWEAR- Casual skirts, pants, etc., select sport, skiing, tennis, horseback riding, etc.
- SWIMWEAR - Any swimwear or swimsuit & cover-up.

Folkloric - Routine incorporating ethnic styles of dance such as polkas, Hawaiian, Spanish, etc.

Hip Hop - A dance that consists of the latest street dance style, as seen in current dance videos.

Jazz - A routine that utilizes jazz technique such as splits, isolation, leaps, etc.

Lip Sync - A routine that utilizes pantomime techniques and mimics voices on pre-recorded music.

Lyrical - A routine that is performed to the lyrics or mood of the music.

Modern - A routine containing a contemporary style of dance.

Musical Theater - A routine performed to the music of a Broadway musical or a movie musical.

Open - A routine that is a combination of any of the other categories; a routine that does not exactly fit any of the definitions of any other category. (No Vocals permitted)

Photogenic Contest - Contestants should submit a 5x7 or larger photograph the FIRST DAY OF COMPETITION to the registration desk. The photo must be of only one person. Photogenic contestants must be a registered competitor in that competition and may register more than one photo.

Pointe - A routine that consists of ballet/pointe technique. Pointe shoes must be worn.

Pom Pon - A routine combining dance with the use of pom pons for at least 80% of the routine.

Production - This category may be entered ONLY in Line division and must have a minimum of 20 performers.

Song and Dance – A routine that combines dancing and singing. Both genres are expected to be present in this routine. Lead vocals may not be lip synched and may have back up vocal accompaniment only. We will provide two handheld, wireless microphones. No personal/studio microphones, headsets, etc. will be permitted.

Tap - A routine utilizing tap technique and must be performed with tap shoes only.

Vocal – (*Advanced Level Only*) A performance of any type of vocal presentation. Accompaniment must be pre-recorded. (No lead vocals may be recorded; backup voices only will be permitted). We will provide two handheld, wireless microphones. No personal/studio microphones, headsets, etc. will be permitted to be hooked into the sound system.

COMPULSORY SOLO REQUIREMENTS

This is a solo performance of specific dance techniques set forth by the list below. Dancers will be judged on the quality of execution regardless of the difficulty level. Choreography and/or transitional movements between each required technical element will not be judged, but is permitted.

Scoring Breakdown: Turns - 30 points, Control/Balance/Flexibility – 30 points,
 Leaps/Jumps - 30 points Bonus Section – 10 points

ATTIRE: Contestants MUST wear black, form-fitting dance apparel (NO Costumes). Hair must be pulled back away from face. No socks may be worn unless they are worn with shoes. Shoes are optional (must wear two).

MUSIC: Technical elements must be executed in time with the music of your choice (any genre may be used).

REQUIREMENTS: All 4 technical elements MUST be executed in each category IN THE ORDER in which they are listed below.

11 & Under Requirements:

1. FLEXIBILITY/CONTROL/BALANCE
 - a. Split (any side or center)
 - b. Leg Stretch (balance holding leg in any way you choose) *ex: heel stretch or scorpion*
 - c. Grande Battement (front or side)
 - d. Extension/Développé (front, side or arabesque)
2. TURNS
 - a. Right OR Left double pirouette turned out en Dehors (outside)
 - b. Piqué turn (turned out with coupé back en Dedans)
 - c. 3 Chaîné turns (in relevé)
 - d. Right or Left Inside Pirouette (in plié with parallel passé)
3. LEAPS/JUMPS (*Leaps may be executed Right OR Left*)
 - a. Échappé sauté (from 5th to 2nd)
 - b. Sauté arabesque
 - c. Grand Jeté (brushing front leg, straight jeté)
 - d. Saut de chat (grand jeté with front leg développé)
2. BONUS SECTION (2-3 of your own technical elements to showcase)

Examples: Acro passes or tricks (walkovers, valdez, back handsprings, chin/chest stands)
Advanced and exciting turn sections featuring multiple turns
Switch leaps, Turning Jeté, Men - Double tours

12 & Over Requirements:

1. FLEXIBILITY/CONTROL/BALANCE
 - a. Split (any side or center)
 - b. Leg Stretch (balance holding leg in any way you choose) *ex: heel stretch or scorpion*
 - c. Choose TWO of the following extensions:
 - i. Penché arabesque
 - ii. Écarté side extension
 - iii. Tilt (side extension, tilting back laterally)
 - iv. Forward layout - parallel side extension with flat back in forward position
2. TURNS
 - a. Double en Dehors (outside) - Right AND Left pirouette with passé turned out (Not into fouette turns)
 - b. Double inside - Pirouette en Dedans turned out with high passé
 - c. Attitude turn (front or back attitude) - Can be piqué attitude turn or plié relevé en Dehors, en Dedans
 - d. Females - (4) fouetté turns / Males - (4) turns in second (Pirouettes into our out of fouette turns do not count as double pirouettes en Dehors as stated above)
3. LEAPS/JUMPS (*Leaps may be executed Right OR Left*)
 - a. Sauté arabesque
 - b. Grand Jeté (brushing front leg, straight jeté)
 - c. Saut de chat (développé, passé to straight front leg grand jeté)
 - d. Leap in 2nd or Side jeté (développé or brush straight leg)
2. BONUS SECTION (2-3 of your own technical elements to showcase)

Examples: Acro passes or tricks (walkovers, valdez, back handsprings, chin/chest stands)
Advanced and exciting turn sections featuring multiple turns
Switch leaps, Turning Jeté, Men - Double tours

***NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

All Star Dance Alliance Competitions will present the following overall awards at their final showdown (*Battle, Big Show, No Limits, etc.*) at National Championships...

(4) Victory Cups – These will be awarded in the Advanced Level to the overall highest scoring routine in the Petite (8 & Under), Junior (9-11), Teen (12-14) and Senior (15-19) age divisions.

(2) Grand Line Champions – These will be awarded to the 1st place scoring Grand Line in the 11 & Under and 12 & Over divisions.

(2) Premier Cups – These will be awarded in the Intermediate Level to the overall highest scoring routine in the 11 & Under and 12 & Over age divisions.

Adjudication of Awards

POINT SYSTEM: Each entry will be competing against a pre-determined amount of points and will be reflected in our STAR scoring program

DIVISIONAL 1st PLACE AWARDS: If there is only one entry in a division, a 1st place trophy will be awarded if the performer received 4 STARS or higher. If there are 2 or more entries in a category, a competitive first place award will be presented to the entry with the highest score.

Any routine receiving 4 Stars or higher are eligible for the National Championships. All prizes will be awarded to the teacher or director.

JUDGES CRITIQUES: All judges will be on a video or audio critique system. The Studio Director will be able to access score sheets and critiques through the studio's online registration account.

Adjudications Breakdown

***HIGH SCORE AWARDS PER COMPETITIVE DIVISION:**

The Advanced, Intermediate & Novice Division High Score Awards will be presented in the following age groups: 8 & Under, 9-11, 12-14 and 15-19 age divisions for Solos, Duets/Trios, Small Groups, Large Groups, & Lines. Grand Line will only be awarded in the Advanced Division and in the 11 & Under and 12 and Over Age Divisions. 20 & Over Division can only be entered in the Advanced Division and will be awarded only in small groups, large groups, and lines. The Compulsory Division will be awarded Advanced Scores in 11 & Under and 12-19 age groups.

***STAR DANCE ALLIANCE AWARD and GOLDEN TICKETS:**

In addition to regular High Score Awards, The Star Dance Alliance will be awarding the following:

Advanced Division: A High Score plaque will go to the highest scoring group routine in the following age categories: 11 & Under Grand Line, 12 & Over Grand Line, 8 and under, 9-11, 12-14, and 15-19. Winners in the Advanced Division will also automatically be ranked in the Star Dance Alliance Power Rankings located on www.stardancealliance.com and will be awarded Golden Ticket Invitations to the World Dance Championship. **Intermediate Division:** High Score plaque to highest scoring group routine in the following age categories: 8 & Under, 9-11, 12-14, & 15-19. The winners will also be awarded Golden Ticket Invitations to the World Dance Championship.

Novice Division: High Score plaque to highest scoring group routine in the following age categories: 11 & Under and 12-19. The winners will also be awarded Golden Ticket Invitations to the World Dance Championship.

***ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS:**

The judges and directors will present this award to the Small Group, Large Group or Line deemed "Most Entertaining" for both 11 & Under and 12 & Over. All Divisions are eligible for this award.

***CHOREOGRAPHY AWARDS:**

This award will be presented to the teacher of a Small Group, Large Group, or Line for both 11 & Under and 12 & Over. All Divisions are eligible for this award.

***OUTSTANDING COSTUME AWARDS:**

This award will be presented to entrants who receive the highest scores based on design, overall impression, fit, etc. in the 11 & Under age division and the 12 & Over age division. One award will be presented to the best Duet/ Trio and Group/Line Costume combined. All ages will compete against each other for all Dance Levels combined, i.e., Advanced, Intermediate, & Novice for this award. If you wish to enter the costume division, please check appropriate box when you register that routine online. The participant must be a registered ~~HOLLYWOOD~~ contestant during the current competition season. All entries in the costume contest will be judged during the performance of their routine. There will not be a special presentation of costume contestants. Make sure to enter the costume competition at least a 1/2 hour prior to your performance.

***PHOTOGENIC AWARDS:**

This award will be presented to the solo contestant judged most photogenic in the 11 & Under age division, and in the 12 & Over division. You must enter the Photogenic Contest on the day of the Competition at the Registration desk and must be a registered competitor during the current competition season to compete. Please bring a recent 5" x 7" or 8" x 10" in black and white or color. Please also write name, address, height and weight on the back of photo. **You may enter more than one photo, but only one award will be given.** Contestants will be responsible for obtaining their photo from the registration desk after the photogenic awards are presented. Believe is not responsible for loss or damages to any photograph submitted.

***VOCAL HIGH SCORE AWARDS:**

Vocal Category entries are eligible for Vocal High Score Awards. High score awards will be presented in three separate divisions: Solos, Duets/Trios, and Groups. Note: Vocal entries are not eligible to enter any of the Believe Title Divisions No additional sound equipment or microphones may be used or connected to the Believe sound system. Believe will provide One (1) wireless hand held microphone in each competition room at each Regional. (No headset microphones)

***SPECIAL AWARDS:**

Special Award Ribbons will be created by the judges for routines and individuals that will be awarded at the beginning of each awards ceremony.

***POWER PAK:**

Power Pak **Invitations** will be given to deserving dancers selected from solos and duo/trios in the Advanced Division only. Power Pak **Scholarships** will be given to deserving dancers selected from any solo, group, or line from the regional weekend.

***WORLD DANCE PAGEANT:**

WDP Scholarships will be given to deserving dancers selected from any solo, group, or line from the regional weekend.

***WILD ABOUT YOU:**

WILD Scholarships will be given to deserving dancers from any group, or line from the regional weekend.

Star Dance Alliance & Star Dollars

STAR DOLLARS: Star Dollars can be applied to a regional of your choice in 2021 or 2022 ONLY at the issuing competition. (EXAMPLE: You won Star Dollars at Believe. You may only use the Star Dollars at another Believe Regional the same year or the following year. The Star Dollars will not be good at Nexstar, Imagine, Starpower, Dream Maker or Revolution Talent Competition towards Regional entry fees.)

For National Championships, Star Dollars can be used at a Championship at Starpower, Revolution Talent Competition, Believe, Imagine, Dream Maker or Nexstar ONLY in the same year it was received. (Example: You won Star Dollars at Believe 2021. You may only use the Star Dollars for Championships at a 2021 National Championship of your choice). In the Small Group, Large Group and Line divisions, if there are fewer than 5 entries in a General Division, Star Dollars will not be awarded.

ADVANCED Level will be *awarded* STAR DOLLARS in the following categories: Solos, Duet/Trios, Small Groups, Large Groups, Lines, Grand Lines, 20 & Over (Groups & Lines Only)

INTERMEDIATE Level is not eligible for STAR DOLLARS but will receive High Score Plaques and/or trophies.

NOVICE Level is not eligible for STAR DOLLARS but will receive High Score Plaques and/or trophies.

National Championships

QUALIFYING FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS WITHIN THE SDA:

You will also qualify for any

National Championship in the Star Dance Alliance by attending any SDA Regional Event. (Example: You attend a Believe Regional Event. You then qualify to attend a National Championship for Starpower, Nexstar, Believe, Imagine, Dream Maker or Revolution Talent Competition). Each routine that is registered for a National Competition must qualify at a regional event. Routines may never bump down a level to compete at Nationals and must compete at the same level they qualified for regionally or higher. Under extreme circumstances and upon the approval of Believe, a video may be submitted, along with Regional entry fees, to qualify for Championships.