

# Bundaberg Combined Ballet Association

## 2026 Conditions of Entry and Competition Rules

### Introduction

It is each person's responsibility to read the competition rules and information, which are subject to change at any time before entries officially open for the competition each year.

The competitor, parent, legal guardian, dance teacher and/or studio owner will need to accept they have read and understood all rules, conditions and information associated with the competition.

By submitting entry to the competition, the competitor acknowledges that they have read, understood, accept, and agree to abide by the conditions of the competition. If dissatisfied with the conditions of the competition in any way, they are not obliged to enter.

### Rules, Terms and Conditions

#### Child Protection

BCBA is committed to upholding the highest standards of safety and wellbeing for its competitors. **As such, the following items are mandatory at all BCBA events:**

1. A competitor's costuming is not to place them at any risk of exposing themselves (i.e. breast, buttock, genital area) to the audience.



2. Tights are to be worn under any costume that does not have a defined leg sewn in. If there is any risk of buttock/genitalia being exposed, tights are required to be worn. Tights may be of half, capri or full length; and may be footless, with a stirrup or fully contained.

← If the costume leg is shorter than that of the diagram to the left (for example low riding briefs), tights are required to be worn.

3. **Dancers are not able to perform on stage if the above conditions are not met.**
4. Choreography is to be age-appropriate and not contain movements that could be widely interpreted as sexually promiscuous, explicit, or offensive.
5. Music choice is to be age-appropriate, and not contain explicit or subliminal sexual references, drug and alcohol references, or references to violence.
6. Choreography based around themes of a highly sensitive nature such as abuse, suicide, locally and globally traumatic events, etc. are to be avoided, or handled with extreme care and due diligence, as BCBA are not in the position to provide appropriate and timely content warnings to its audiences.
7. Props such as sand, water, powder, glitter, glass, mirror, porcelain, and electrical props or open flames, are not permitted to be used on the stage.

**The Adjudicator will be made aware of these mandatory requirements, and they may be used to determine outcomes for competitors in terms of scores and placings.** In addition to the Adjudicator, the BCBA Executive Committee reserves the right to determine the appropriateness or inappropriateness of costume and choreographic choices in context with the family-friendly nature of the competition.

If the Adjudicator feels it necessary to identify a breach in the child protection rules and conditions as listed above, or if a formal complaint is made to the BCBA Executive Committee in writing, Studio Owners will be communicated with via email.

## Entry Process

1. The **Bundaberg Festival of Dance** and **Restricted Dance Competition** are open to amateur dancers only. If a dancer has previously been paid to perform as a professional dancer, they are ineligible to enter, unless they are under 18 as at 1 January 2026.
2. The **Restricted Dance Competition** is open only to **Bundaberg-region** dancers who **have not placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>** in the section they are entering at any prior novice, restricted or open competition as of the time of entry. This rule excludes own choreography sections.
  - a. 'Bundaberg-region' is defined as residing in any of the following post codes: 4660, 4670, 4671, 4673, 4674, 4676, 4677, and 4678.
  - b. If a dancer places 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in a competition after entry has been submitted to the Restricted Dance Competition, the existing entry will remain valid.
  - c. The restriction on excluding dancers who have placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> does not apply to placings in sections 8 years and under.
3. All entries must be made through the Comps-Online registration system. <https://www.comps-online.com.au/>
4. The **Festival of Dance** runs from **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2026 to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2026**. The **Restricted Dance Competition** dates **To Be Confirmed**. While every effort is made to keep age-grouped sections together, there is no guarantee that competitors will be performing on consecutive days. The number of days may change dependent on the number of entries received. We are not able to fill individual requests with programming.
5. Entry fees are as follows<sup>1</sup>
  - Festival of Dance 2026**
    - \$15 per Solo
    - \$20 per Duo/Trio
    - \$25 Per Group
    - \$20 per Championship; payment required only upon qualification.
    - \$8 per Improvisation
    - \$20 per Competitor for Competitor Pass
  - Restricted Dance Competition 2026**
    - \$10 per Solo
    - \$15 per Duo/Trio
    - \$10 per Own Choreography Solo
    - \$15 per Own Choreography Duo/Trio
    - \$10 per Competitor for Competitor Pass
6. Payment is to be made in accordance with the information provided by Comps-Online during registration. Entries will not be processed until payment is received. Refunds will not be granted unless extenuating circumstances prevent BCBA events from running as normal.
7. The age of the competitor will be taken as at the **1<sup>st</sup> January 2026**. If the age is subject to protest, a Birth Certificate may be requested.
8. Competitors may only enter once per section, unless:
  - a. They are competing with a different partner/s in duo/trio sections, or
  - b. They are competing in multiple group routines.

<sup>1</sup> Comps-Online will charge a separate Booking Fee when processing competition entries and payments. Please ensure entry details are complete and correct before proceeding to payment to avoid risk of additional fees being charged by Comps-Online.

9. Sections will be combined age as default. Sections may require age groups to be split in the instance there are greater than 15 entries in a combined section; this is to the discretion of the BCBA Executive Committee.
10. Dance Studios, School Groups and Community Groups may enter no more than 2 groups per section.
11. Competitors may only enter in sections as dictated by their age and may not enter sections above or below their age bracket.
  - a. Open Adult Section is for School Leavers and entrants that are not attending full time dance school.
  - b. Where groups are concerned,
    - i. Studios must enter the appropriate aged section as per the eldest member of the group.
    - ii. Teachers 18 & over are not permitted to dance in groups if their primary source of income is Dance teaching income and/or they have previously been paid as a professional dancer. Review of this rule is at the discretion of the Committee.
12. School Groups and Community Groups are only eligible to enter **Restricted Dance Competition**.
13. **Entries close as per the dates and times listed below. Entries will close earlier if the event capacity is reached. NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

**Festival of Dance – 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Restricted Dance Competition – to be advised**

14. A Running Order will be released as soon as is practicable after entries have closed. It will be made available for download from our website at [www.bcbadance.org.au](http://www.bcbadance.org.au) and on Facebook as soon as it is completed.

## **Section Genres/Styles, Time Limits, and other Section Terms and Conditions**

1. Individual styles of dance will be allocated their own section, where possible. Alternatively, they will be combined by genre.
2. The same routine must not be performed more than once by a competitor during the competition, except for Championship performances.
3. Where an individual style section is not available, whole of genre sections may include the following styles of dance:
  - a. **Acrobatics** – Acro Dance, Acro Balance, Tumbling, Contortion, and any other acrobatic discipline not requiring an aerial apparatus to be rigged.
  - b. **Ballet** – Classical Ballet, Demi-Character, Neoclassical, National, Modern/Contemporary Ballet where classical technique is shown i.e. ballet slipper, demi-pointe or pointe shoes worn, turnout, fixed placement of the feet and arms, pointed feet.
  - c. **Contemporary** – Modern, Post-Modern and other styles where contemporary technique is shown i.e. parallel placement, contract-release, fall-recovery, floor work.
  - d. **Hip Hop** – Any street style established after 1960s i.e. Breakdance, Boogaloo, Popping, Locking, Tutting, Waacking, Vogue, Dancehall, House.

- e. **Jazz** – Jazz, Broadway Jazz, Cabaret, Up-Tempo Modern, Commercial Jazz.
- f. **Lyrical** – Slow Modern, Slow Jazz, Lyrical Hip Hop.
- g. **Tap** – Tap, Speed Tap, Slow Tap, Street Tap, Waltz Tap (3/4 or 6/8 metre only), Commercial Tap, Acapella, Character Tap, Specialty Tap.
- \* **Singing Permitted** – Song & Dance, Song & Tap, Entertainment, and all 6 Years & Under sections.

**Routine time limits** are as follows. If a routine exceeds the time limit, penalty will be to the adjudicator's discretion.

- h. Solos = maximum 3 minutes,
- i. Duos/Trios = maximum 3 minutes,
- j. Groups = maximum 5 minutes,
- k. Song and Dance = maximum 3 minutes, and
- l. Own Choreography = maximum 2 minutes.

#### 4. **Improvisation**

a. **Time limits** are as follows:

- i. 12 Years & Under = approx. 45 to 60 seconds
- ii. 13 Years & Over = approx. 60 to 90 seconds.
- b. Competitors in Improvisation sections dance one at a time, and only basic examination wear or class wear is to be worn – no embellishments, adornments, or logos.
- c. Competitors will be in lockdown during the Improvisation Sections to avoid any outside influences. There will be no side stage access during this time, apart from authorised Volunteers. Competitors are not permitted to have any property with them whilst in 'lockdown' including (but not limited to) electronic devices or personal bags.
- d. Only placings will be awarded for Improvisation sections; no adjudication will be given however scores will be recorded for Championship calculations.

## **Championships**

1. To be eligible to qualify to compete for a **Championship**, the competitor **must**:
  - a. Enter and perform in a minimum of three (3) style sections available under the genre of the specific Championship they have selected.
  - b. Improvisations may be used as a section for a competitor to become eligible to qualify for a Championship, however, it cannot be used as one of the Championship routines if the competitor successfully qualifies.
2. For the purpose of qualifying for Championships, the following genres and their respective styles are:

<b>Classical Championship</b>	Classical Ballet, Classical Improvisation, Character / Demi-Character, Neo Classical and National.
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<b>Modern Championship</b>	Jazz, Jazz Improvisation, Lyrical, and Contemporary.
<b>Tap Championship</b>	Tap, Tap Improvisation, Waltz Tap, and Speed Tap, Character / Specialty Tap
<b>Entertainment Championship</b>	Entertainment / Novelty, Song & Dance, Acrobatics, Hip Hop and Hip Hop Improvisation.

3. Qualify with an aggregate score across their three (3) highest scoring sections competed in the specified genre. The competitors with the top five (5) aggregate scores will qualify to move on to the Championship sections.
4. In the event of a tie in points for qualification across the dancers' three (3) highest-scoring eligible sections in contention for the fourth, fifth and sixth Championship positions, all tied competitors will be included in the Championships competition.
5. Qualifying Championship competitors will be notified soon after the final qualifying section is completed for each genre.
6. Qualifying Championship competitors will be required to perform 1 routine of their choice in the Championships section. The routine may be a new routine or a routine that has been performed already in this year's Festival of Dance.
7. Dancers may only perform a routine from the qualifying Championship Sections as listed in Championships item 2. No crossover of genre's allowed in the Championships.
8. If your selected dance routine does not meet the Championship category requirements as per items 2 and 7, your routine will be disqualified.
9. Championship Dancers must pay entry fee of \$20 (per Championship Genre) prior to the advised cutoff time to secure your place.
10. Championship Music must be uploaded by the dancer to Music Uploads prior to advised cutoff time. It is the responsibility of the dancer to ensure the correct music is uploaded.

## Competition and Stage Etiquette

1. Competitors are requested to wear suitable covering over their costumes when not on or beside the stage. Tap shoes must also be removed or covered at all times, until the competitor enters the side-stage area to perform.
2. Props must be placed on/off stage in the shortest possible time and removed from the backstage area immediately after use. If the competitor requires assistance to load/place/remove/unload props, this must be arranged with a BCBA Committee Member or Volunteer prior to the start of the session in which the section takes place. Due to limited space at the venue, large and/or numerous props requiring more than 1 person to set on stage are strongly discouraged.
3. Competitors must compete in the order of the program, except in extenuating circumstances, when arrangements must be made with the BCBA Executive Committee no later than one week prior to the event. **Program changes cannot be accepted once the final program is released.**

4. It is the competitor's responsibility to report to the Backstage Marshall prior to the commencement of their section.
5. Strictly no rehearsing is permitted on the stage at any time during the competition.
6. The front of stage curtain is not available for use during the competition.
7. If a competitor runs off mid-performance, they will be permitted to retry at the adjudicator's discretion. The adjudicator will determine their score and placement accordingly.
8. If there are errors with the music being played, the competitor may choose to retry immediately or at the end of the section. This is also to the discretion of the Adjudicator.
9. Dressing rooms must be kept clean and tidy and in compliance with the restrictions of the competition venue. NO FOOD OR DRINK (excluding Water) is to be consumed in the backstage areas. Male competitors will be allocated their own dressing room.
10. Filming and/or photography is strictly prohibited in the both the auditorium and from any streamed television screens. BCBA reserves the right to appoint an official videographer and/or photographer from which footage can be purchased. No photography or videography is permitted in the dressing rooms.
11. Communication with the Adjudicator either by competitors, parents, teachers, or other interested parties during the competition is not permitted.
12. The Adjudicator's decision is final and no public protest or correspondence against such a decision will be entered into. Any formal protest must be lodged in writing within 30 minutes of the cause of the protest arising and passed on to any member of the BCBA Executive Committee. The formal protest must be accompanied by a fee of \$50 which will be forfeited if the protest is considered frivolous or proved without merit by the BCBA Executive Committee.

### **Additional Information**

1. BCBA reserves the right to appoint a substitute Adjudicator if deemed necessary.
2. Only one teacher or support person to be side stage with the dancer during their performance on stage. Once the dancer has completed their performance, the teacher or support person are to vacate side stage.
3. BCBA Committee Members and Backstage Marshalls have the authority to remove unauthorised persons from the side stage and backstage area.
4. Adjudication Reports will be distributed accordingly through a method at the committee discretion.

### **Release and Indemnity**

The competitor agrees to, and affirms their understanding, that:

1. Participating in this competition involves inherent risk of injury which may be of a serious nature,
2. Property loss or damage may occur.
3. The competitor is not covered by any insurance policy while attending and/or participating in the competition.
4. The competitor enters the competition at their own risk and will satisfy themselves as to the safety of the competition area and surfaces to be used.



5. The competitor is responsible for their own first aid requirements. We would recommend competitors have sufficient first aid supplies including heat/cold packs and band aids etc.
6. The competitor will follow all directions, rules and conditions stated by the competition organiser (BCBA) or persons authorised by them and waives any claims for liability against any other organiser, participant, official, steward, judge, visitor, employee or invitee, and releases the aforementioned from all liability that may arise out of the competition. Such liability includes, but is not limited to, any personal injury, property loss or damage.
7. If the competitor is not satisfied in any way with the rules, standard of the competition area, facilities, or arrangements, they are not obliged to enter or compete.

## Code of Conduct

The competitor (including respective parents, guardians, family members, peers, teachers, and studio owners) will:

1. Display appropriate behaviour and conduct towards BCBA Committee Members, the Adjudicator, volunteers, and fellow competitors.
2. Be immediately disqualified for inappropriate behaviour and conduct towards BCBA Committee Members, the Adjudicator, volunteers, and fellow competitors.
3. Warrant they have read and understood the rules, conditions, release and indemnity, and code of conduct, and accepted them of their own free will.

**Inappropriate behaviour and conduct in this instance are defined as unsportsmanlike actions through verbal or written comments (including on social media platforms), isolation, and/or bullying. This encompasses emotional and physical acts taken place both within and away from the venue, including all social media platforms.**

Any such misdemeanours on social media platforms that are brought to the attention of the BCBA Executive Committee, will be asked to be removed immediately or failure to remove such items will result in one of the following actions.

**Breaches of the Code of Conduct will result in one of the following actions being taken by the BCBA Executive Committee:**

- Disqualification from the individual section without refund,
- Disqualification from the competition without refund,
- Fixed-term ban from the event without refund,
- Fixed-term ban from all BCBA events, or
- Lifetime ban from all BCBA events.

The above actions will apply to both the dancer and associated family members involved in any breaches of the Code of Conduct.

Individuals and studio owners will be notified in writing of the identified breach and actions taken by the committee.