



Brindabella Dance Festival

2023 RULES

Dates:

Friday 22 September 2023 to
Sunday 1st October 2023 (Note: Friday 22
will only be used if needed)

Troupes: Weekend of 22nd- 24th September

Solos: 24th September – 01st October
starting with 6U and finishing with 150
Championships.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES:

*Until Capacity Reached (the Committee will
notify of closed entries via our Facebook page –
Brindabella Dance Festival Canberra) – entries
on a first paid first served basis, a staged
approach to entries may be necessary.
Online entries only – fees and charges may apply*

The hosting of this event is subject to the evolving impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This event may be cancelled or modified at any time without notice. The Brindabella Dance Festival Inc Committee (the Committee) will take all steps necessary to ensure that the event is compliant with rules and guidelines issued by the ACT Government and The Venue Administrator at the time of the event.

Whilst the height of Covid-19 is no longer, Brindabella Dance Festival prides itself on providing a fun and safe environment for all our dancers and their guests. At this time, the eisteddfod is planned to be run in a "normal format and capacity" however, please understand that any time the Brindabella Dance Festival Robust Covid Plan from 2020, 2021 & 2022 may be placed into effect without notice. The implementation may effect the planned running of the event and may cause inconvenience to some. If you would like a copy of the Brindabella Dance Festivals Latest Covid-19 Plan please email brindabelladf@yahoo.com.au to request a copy. Any amendments to the planned running of Brindabella Dance Festival 2023 will be taken as accepted upon entry. Refunds will not be given if dancers are re formatted and given the opportunity to dance under a new plan.

1. General

- a) The Brindabella Dance Festival is open to amateurs only with exception to the Adult Troupe Section. An amateur is any school aged person whose main source of income is not derived from dance (i.e.: being a paid performer or choreographer for professional dance events).
- b) The Brindabella Dance Festival is a family eisteddfod. Music, choreography and costumes must be suitable for family viewing. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.

2. Age

- a) Solo, Duo/Trio Age: is as at the first day of competition of the eldest dancer. (see cover page for dates). See Syllabus for definition.
- b) Troupe Age: is age as at 1 January year of competition of the eldest dancer.
- c) The Committee reserves the right to request proof of age (supplied at competitors expense), and can, at their discretion, withhold any prizes until this is produced.
- d) Competitors may only enter in their own age group (dancing up an age group is not permitted unless there is not an appropriate section within the competitor's age group).
- e) Duos/Trios – age is taken of the eldest dancer eg a brother and sister duo where the brother is 15 and the sister is 7 the duo must be entered in 15 years and over.
- f) Groups – Age is taken of the eldest dancer.

3. Category Definitions

- a) **Specially Restricted** – means a competitor who has NEVER placed 1st 2nd or 3rd at any competition in any age category for that genre up until your entries have been placed and paid. A 1st, 2nd or 3rd placing in a specially restricted section moves your dancer to restricted.
- b) **Restricted** – means a competitor has not won **first place** in that category in any competition up until your entries have been placed and paid.
- c) **Open** – competitors who have won first place in a restricted section at any previous competition in that discipline in any age category. This section is still open to those who have not won a 1st place in that genre, and who choose to compete at this level.
- d) **Troupes** – must contain a minimum of four competitors. A maximum of four entries per section per studio.
- e) **School Groups** – To qualify as a school group, the routine must be learned at school in a school environment, not as part of a dance school environment. The group may contain students from a dance school. School Groups wear school uniform, not costumes.
- f) **Improvisation** – Music will be chosen by the Adjudicator. The competitors in this section are sequestered and not able to hear the music whilst sequestered. Competitors are taken separately to the backstage area and have one opportunity to hear the music once through and compose their routine. They then perform on stage to the Adjudicator immediately.

Dress requirements for improvisation are plain dance attire, scrunchie, flower or hair ribbon, tights and shoes where appropriate to the style. No costumes or hair bling or large logos.

- Ballet, Lyrical and Contemporary:
 - Girls - simple leotard with optional ballet skirt,
 - Boys - plain top and shorts or ballet pants
- Tap and Jazz:
 - Girls - simple leotard with optional shorts,
 - Boys - plain top and shorts/pants
- Hip Hop:
 - Plain top and shorts/pants
- Any Style:
 - Dancers discretion (no costumes)

4. Duo/Trios

- a) An individual may enter a duo/trio with a different partner. The maximum number of times an individual can enter the same duo/trio section is two.

5. Student Choreography

- a) The routine must be totally choreographed and performed by the student.
- b) No teacher assistance may be given. We rely on your honesty for this section.
- c) The student may enter a maximum of 2 student choreography routines, providing they are of different dance styles.
- d) The time limit for student choreography routines is a maximum of 2 minutes.

6. Championships

- a) Competitors must have qualified in the general sections as referred to below.
- b) There must be a minimum **of two competitors** in a Championship for it to proceed. In the event that only one competitor is entered the Committee reserves the right to cancel the section or move the competitor up an age grouping if available.
- c) Duo/Trio sections are not qualifying sections for Championships.

6.1 Classical Ballet Championship – 12/under, 14/under, 15/over

- To qualify, competitors must have performed in two previous Open sections, one of which must be a Classical and one other chosen from Demi-Character or National Character.
- To qualify, competitors must have performed in a ballet improvisation section.

On Championship Day:

- Competitors will be required to perform two solos a Demi-Character and then a Classical.
- Only one item may be repeated. A change of costume and/or music does not constitute a change of routine.

Classical Ballet Championship - 10/under

- To qualify, competitors must have performed in two previous Open sections, one of which must be a Classical and one other chosen from Demi-Character, Lyrical or National Character.
- To qualify, competitors must have performed in a ballet improvisation section.

On Championship Day:

- Competitors will be required to perform one solo being either a Classical, Demi-Character.

- Your championship routine can be repeated in this age group.

Classical Ballet Championship - 8/under

- To qualify, competitors must have performed in one previous Open section in either Classical Ballet, Demi-Character or Lyrical.
- To qualify, competitors must have performed in the any style improvisation section.

On Championship Day:

- Competitors will be required to perform one solo being a Classical Ballet, Demi-Character.
- Your Championship Routine can be repeated in this age group.

6.2 Tap Championship 12U, 14U & 15O

- To qualify, competitors must have performed in two previous Open sections in the categories of Slow Tap, Waltz Tap or Fast Tap.
- To qualify, competitors must have performed in a tap improvisation section.

On Championship Day:

- Competitors will be required to perform two solos, dance A being a slow or waltz routine and dance B is a fast or speed tap.
- One item may be repeated. A change of costume and/or music does not constitute a change of routine.

6.3 Jazz Championship 12U, 14U & 15O

- To qualify, competitors must have performed in two previous Open sections in the categories of Jazz, Broadway Jazz or Musical Theatre.
- To qualify, competitors must have performed in a jazz improvisation section.

On Championship Day:

- Competitors will be required to perform two solos, dance A being a Broadway Jazz and Dance B being a Straight Jazz routine.
- One item may be repeated. A change of costume and/or music does not constitute a change of routine.

6.4 Contemporary/Lyrical Championship 12U, 14U & 15O

- To qualify, competitors must have performed in two previous Open sections in the categories of Contemporary and Lyrical.
- To qualify, competitors must have performed in a lyrical & Contemporary improvisation section.

On Championship Day:

- Competitors will be required to perform two solos, Dance A will be a Contemporary and dance B the Lyrical.
- One item may be repeated. A change of costume and/or music does not constitute a change of routine.

6.5 Entertainment Championship - 12/under, 14/under and 15/over (no repeat dance)

- To qualify, competitors must have performed in three previous Open sections in the categories of Jazz, Broadway Jazz or Musical Theatre, and Tap style, or Acrobatics or Song and Tap or Song and Soft Shoe (3 qualifying routines in total for example – Jazz, Musical Theatre and Slow Tap).

Entertainment Championship – 10/under (repeat dance permitted)

- To qualify, competitors must have competed in two previous Open sections in the categories of Jazz, Broadway Jazz/Musical Theatre and Fast Tap (2 qualifying routines) and performed in one of the following improvisation sections: Jazz, Tap or Hip Hop.

Entertainment Championship – 8/under (repeat dance permitted)

- To qualify, competitors must have competed in one previous Open section in the categories of Jazz, Broadway Jazz and Tap (1 qualifying routine) and performed in the any style improvisation section.

On Championship Day:

- Competitors will be required to perform one solo ***of high entertainment value***, not previously performed (with exception of 10/u and 8/u performers). Dance styles can be Broadway Jazz, Musical Theatre, Fast Tap, Acrobatics, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Student Choreography, Demi-Character or Song and Dance (any style). **Straight Jazz, Classical, Lyrical and National Character routines cannot be performed in this section.**
- The entertainment championship section will be adjudicated on entertainment value and originality.
- There must be a minimum of **two** competitors in this section for it to proceed. In the event that only one competitor is entered the Committee reserves the right to cancel the section or move the competitor up an age grouping, if available.

7. Copyright

- a) The law of Copyright applies to the Brindabella Dance Festival. It is the responsibility of each competitor to adhere to the Act. Your studio APRA number must be included on your entry. This number is available from your studio teacher.

8. Entries

- a) All entries to be lodged on-line by the closing date (see cover page for dates). Payments to be made electronically at the time of submitting the entry. Without payment your entry will not be honoured
 - Please note: an APRA/AMCOS music playing fee will be added for each item at time of entry (improvisations included).
- b) If entries are not paid (even in the event of closing prior to the listed date) the entry will not be honoured, entries must be paid in full to be included in our program.
- c) If the Festival is cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic or other catastrophic/unforeseen event, refunds will be offered minus administration and banking fees for those who have not danced.
- d) No other refunds will be given once entries are received unless the Committee cancels a section.
- e) No late entries will be accepted.
- f) Competitors may enter each Solo Section once only, with the exception of Student Choreography sections. However, if Sections are combined and the competitor is required to perform more than once it will be the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that costume changes do not delay the festival proceedings on the day.
- g) Routines must be entered in the correct sections, (e.g. a Broadway Jazz cannot be performed in the Jazz section unless there is no Broadway section offered, or unless the Committee decides to combine sections). Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
- h) The number of entries in each section may be limited depending on total number of overall entries. In the unlikely event that limits are imposed competitors will be included in order of entries being lodged and PAID.
- i) Dancers may NOT enter more than 1 routine per genre. Eg. A restricted dancer is not permitted to enter a Jazz routine in the Restricted and Open sections of their Age groups.

They are also not permitted to dance up unless that category is not available and at the discretion of the committee.

- j) Ageing up, a new costume, or new routine does not return an Open dancer to Restricted nor does the absence of placing in Open sections. Please refer to the rules at the top defining Specially Restricted and Restricted dancers.

9. Social Media

The Brindabella Dance Festival is run by a volunteer committee who make all efforts to ensure that the Festival is a fun and friendly environment for all. We welcome feedback and opportunities for improvement. Such feedback must be given directly to the Committee either in person or by email to brindabelladf@yahoo.com.au.

- a) Any dance teacher, representative, dancer, parent or friend that posts negative or inappropriate comment regarding Brindabella Dance Festival on social media including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram may be excluded from competing without refund and may be banned from entering future Festivals.

10. The Committee:

- a) Reserves the right to refuse anyone entry.
- b) Reserves the right to amend the program at any time.
- c) Reserves the right to combine or cancel sections should they deem necessary.
- d) Reserves the right to add age groups dependent on entries received.
- e) Will do all in its power to maintain the advertised adjudicator however it reserves the right to make any changes deemed necessary.
- f) Invests the Adjudicator with the power to withhold any prize if he/she does not consider the standard of competition warrants one.
- g) ONLY the approved executive members of the committee, as directed by the President may approach the Adjudicator.
- h) Reserves the right to adjudicate in any protests and their decision is final.
- i) All powers of the legal entity incorporated as Brindabella Dance Festival Inc. have been delegated to the Committee as elected from time to time.
- j) Will make the final decision on any issues that are not covered in the Rules.

11. Dance Style Definitions

For clarification, the Committee provides the following guidance as to styles of dance:

- a) **Classical Ballet:** traditional formal style of ballet. The Brindabella Dance Festival does not stipulate the age that Competitors may dance en pointe. However, any competitors who choose to dance en pointe will be expected to have the required technique and ability to dance safely en pointe. The Adjudicator may at his/her discretion ring the bell and request a dancer to change shoes and perform at the end of the section.
- b) **Broadway Jazz:** The dance is performed to jazz style music either modern day or traditional, with an ode to traditional Jazz and cabaret style. Broadway is a particular style of dance, and the Adjudicator will expect to see Broadway style steps in the routine. Miming is permitted.
- c) **Musical Theatre:** A routine that is inspired from an actual musical, where the dancer portrays a character and executes technical dance elements in an entertaining way often incorporating mime.
- d) **Lyrical:** also known as modern expressive, lyrical dance uses movement to express strong emotions such as love, joy and anger. This style of dance is usually to music with lyrics and the lyrics inspire the movement and expression. It is characterised by fluidity and grace.
- e) **Contemporary:** is a style of expressive dance that draws from both classical ballet technique and other dance genres including modern, lyrical and jazz. Contemporary dance stresses versatility and improvisation, unlike the strict, structured nature of ballet. Contemporary dancers focus on floor work using gravity to pull them down to the floor. This dance genre is often done in bare feet. Contemporary dance can be performed to many different styles of music and is characterised by its versatility.

- f) **Fast tap:** tap to a fast piece of music with fast timing. Competitors may enter straight tap in this section.
- g) **Slow tap:** done to a ballad or slow piece of music, usually has a lyrical quality to the routine.
- h) **Waltz Tap:** tap dance to 3/4 time music.
- i) **Troupe Variety/Production Number:** A spectacular dance performance which may include a variety of music and dance styles. It can incorporate singing and can also be in a musical theatre style. Miming is permitted. Generally the performance is longer than 5 minutes.
- j) **Song and Dance** (including song and tap and song and soft shoe): performance must be relatively equal in both song and dance. Competitors cannot just sing.
- k) **National Character:** must comprise traditional dance movement from one specified nation/country.

12. Adjudicator

- a) The Adjudicator's decision is final.
- b) Any competitor who has been taught regularly by the Adjudicator within the preceding six months will not be eligible to compete and must withdraw immediately, or be disqualified. This excludes workshop classes and/or industry briefings.
- c) Any competitor currently represented by an agency affiliated with the Adjudicator must declare this to the Committee prior to entry.
- d) The Adjudicator has the right to withhold a prize if he/she does not feel a sufficient standard has been reached.
- e) The Adjudicator must not be approached by any competitor/parent/teacher for any reason or that competitor will be disqualified.
- f) The Adjudicator may apply a penalty if time limit is exceeded.

13. Backstage

- a) No parent is permitted backstage at any time.
- b) For 6/U sections one studio teacher may be permitted, at the discretion of the backstage manager only.
- c) Anyone causing a disturbance backstage may be asked to leave by the backstage manager and must comply.
- d) There is to be no spectating backstage, entry to back stage will be directed by the backstage manager and in line with COVID-19 plan.
- e) No mobile phones permitted backstage.

14. Competitor Breakdown

- a) In the case of a competitor breakdown, a repeat of the routine is allowable at the sole discretion of the Adjudicator. However, the competitor will not be eligible for any prize except highly commended, at the discretion of the Adjudicator.

15. Dressing rooms

- a) No changing is permitted in the auditorium toilets or auditorium.
- b) Dressing rooms will be allocated.
- c) No parents or spectators are permitted in dressing rooms, without approval from the Committee.
- d) Dressing rooms must be left **clean and sanitized** at end of troupe completion or prize money will be withheld. In the event no prize money has been awarded a cleaning fee will be invoiced to the offending studio.

16. Safety and disclaimer

- a) Every care will be taken for the safety of competitors. However, parents and guardians, including teachers are also required to supervise their children when they are not backstage (i.e. in the dressing rooms, theatre foyer and surrounds).
- b) Basic first aid facilities will be available. Please inquire at the canteen, backstage or ask a Committee Member. Any accidents or injuries must be reported and all first aid will be administered with the assistance of the Venue staff.
- c) Brindabella Dance Festival Inc, the Committee, the Members and all parties involved with the Brindabella Dance Festival will not accept any liability for loss, damage, injury or inconvenience that might occur to any person or goods as a consequence of their participation in the Festival or attendance at it.

17. Music

- a) The Brindabella Dance Festival is a family eisteddfod. Music, choreography and costumes must be suitable for family viewing. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.
- b) Music must be registered **ONLINE** – instructions for this will be provided once entries are complete. Only MP3 Format will be accepted.
- c) All music must be uploaded and checked into the music system no less than 10 days prior to the commencement of the event.
- d) Each competitor understands that a small fee will be applied at completion of upload. The Committee reserves the right to change the format in which music is received prior to the competition start date.
- e) It is the responsibility of the competitors to ensure that the correct music files have been uploaded to each routine.
- f) Backstage staff only will operate all music equipment.
- g) All music must be cured and cut appropriately for the routine.
- h) Vocals are permitted to Tap music, however please ensure they do not overwhelm the tapping.
- i) Competitors may not accompany pre-recorded vocals in song and dance routines.

18. Perpetual Trophies

- a) Perpetual Trophies may be awarded in some sections.
- b) Where perpetual trophies are awarded, these trophies must be returned by the closing date of entries the following year.

19. Photography

- a) No photographs may be taken in the theatre at any time.
- b) Only the official photographer nominated by the Committee is permitted to take photographs in the theatre.
- c) Failure to comply with this may result in disqualification.

20. Prompting

- a) No prompting is permitted in any section other than 6/U sections.

21. Protests

- a) The Adjudicators decision is final.
- b) The Committee reserves the right to adjudicate in any conflict and their decision is final.
- c) Protests must be lodged within thirty minutes of the section's adjudication. The protest must be in writing, handed to a Committee Member and must be accompanied by a \$50.00 fee, which is non-refundable if protest is not upheld.

22. Program

- a) Brindabella Dance Festival uses competition management software to take online entries and develop the program.
- b) Once finalised, changes to the program, such as incorrect section entered, are at the discretion of the Committee. Where a change is permitted an administration fee of \$10 per change will be charged, exception is if the error is the fault of the Committee.

Refunds

- a) If the Festival is cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic or other catastrophic event or natural disaster or situation out of the control of the Committee, refunds will be offered to dancers who have not yet performed, minus the administration and banking fees.
- b) No refunds will be given once entries are received unless the Committee cancels a section.

23. Teachers

- a) One Teacher may accompany 6/U solos/duos/trios and any age troupe backstage. At the discretion of the backstage manager.
- b) If distressing other competitors, Teachers may be asked to leave by backstage manager and must comply immediately.

24. Theatre

- a) No eating, drinking or smoking in the theatre.
- b) Fire Exits must be kept clear at all times.
- c) No entry/exit is allowed to/from the Theatre Auditorium when a dancer is on stage.
- d) In circumstances where the theatre seating is full, non-paying competitors must give up their seat for a paid ticket holder.
- e) During the COVID-19 pandemic seating will be subject to capacity limits. Further information will be provided closer to the event.

25. Tickets

- a) Season - cover all solo sections and troupe days.
- b) Session – applies to morning, afternoon or evening only.
- c) All tickets must be shown before entering the Theatre.

26. Video

- a) Absolutely no videoing or recording is permitted in the theatre.
- b) No use of mobile phones to video record or capture photographs allowed in the theatre or backstage
- c) Only the official videographer nominated by the Committee is to be used.
- d) Failure to comply with this may result in disqualification.

27. Indemnity

All attendees, including but not limited to, Dancers, Parents/Carers, Teachers, Directors, Volunteers and Patrons, indemnify and keep indemnified Brindabella Dance Festival Inc. and its Committee Members and operators on both a commercial and personal basis against all actions, suits, proceedings, claims, demands, costs, and expenses whatsoever which may be made against the registered non for profit and or its volunteer members in carrying out the duties and requirements in terms of the event and these rules.

COVID-19 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:

1. You are not a Positive Covid-19 Case at the time of the event.
2. You agree to not cover up any cough or cold, and will remove yourself or anyone accompanying you that have these symptoms.
3. You understand that failure to comply with the direction of the Committee will result in immediate removal from the premises and competition without refund.
4. You agree to take on the responsibility of those accompanying you the entrant, including but not limited to extended family or friends and dancers that may attend as patrons, siblings', parents and teachers. Ensuring they are always following the directions of the Committee while in the premises.
5. You understand that patronage may be limited, and you may not get to spectate all routines.
6. You understand that updates will be published on the Brindabella Dance Festival Facebook page as Brindabella does not have the capacity to individually chase/email updates.