



Official Rule  
Book & Terms





## 1. General Information

- Encore Dance Challenge is a professionally run dance competition designed to provide a positive, supportive and inspiring environment for dancers of all ages and abilities. Our focus is on fairness, encouragement and celebrating the art of dance.
- Encore Dance Challenge reserves the right to amend, update, or interpret rules where necessary to ensure the smooth and fair running of the event.

## 2. Eligibility

- Encore Dance Challenge is open to dancers competing through registered dance studios or schools. Independent entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Competition Director.
- All dancers must compete in the correct age division based on their age **as of 1st January of the competition year.**
- All entrants must comply with safety and venue requirements.

## 3. Age Divisions

*Mini: 6 years & under (6/u)*

*Petite: 8 years & under (8/u)*

*Junior: 10 years & under (10/u)*

*Preteens: 12 years & under (12/u)*

*Teens: 14 years & under (14/u)*

*Seniors: 15 years & over (15/o)*

- All dancers participating in troupes must individually meet the age requirements for the division they are entered in, based on age as of 1st January of the competition year.



## 4. Entry Types

### ***TROUPES***

- *Sections may be split into Small & Large Troupe sections dependant on number of entries*

## 5. Routine Time Limits

- *To ensure a smooth and fair competition schedule, all routines must comply with the time limits outlined below. Timing begins with the first audible sound and ends with the final sound or movement.*

### ***TROUPES***

*4 Minutes MAX*

- *Routines exceeding the listed time limit by more than 5 seconds may incur a point deduction or be ineligible for overall awards. Entrances, exits and applause are not included in routine timing.*
- *Encore Dance Challenge reserves the right to adjust scheduling or time limits where required to ensure the best possible competition experience for all participants.*

## 6. Music

- *All music must be submitted via the official competition platform by the advertised deadline.*
- *Music must be one continuous track per routine.*
- *Encore Dance Challenge is not responsible for music errors caused by late, incorrect or poor-quality uploads.*
- *A backup music file is required via USB or dropbox on the day of the event incase of any tech issues.*



## **7. Judging & Scoring**

- All routines are adjudicated by qualified and experienced judges.
- Routines are scored based on technique, performance quality, choreography, musicality and overall execution.
- Judges' decisions are final and will not be subject to appeal.

## **8. Awards**

- Awards will be presented for each division and age category.
- Overall awards may be presented at the discretion of Encore Dance Challenge.
- Special awards and adjudication recognition may be offered.

## **9. Props & Set Pieces**

- Hand-held props are permitted unless otherwise stated.
- Large props or set pieces must be approved prior to the event.
- Props must be safely managed by the performers.
- No props may damage the stage or venue, in the event damage is incurred, the applicable studio will be responsible for repair costs.

## **10. Costumes & Footwear**

- Costumes must be age-appropriate and suitable for a family-friendly environment.
- Footwear must be appropriate to the routine style.
- Encore Dance Challenge reserves the right to request costume changes if deemed inappropriate.



## **11. Photography & Videography**

- Professional photography and videography will be available at every competition.
- Personal photography or videography may be restricted during the event.
- Encore Dance Challenge may capture photos and videos for promotional purposes. By entering, studios grant permission for dancers to be photographed or filmed.

## **12. Entry Deadlines, Capacity, Scheduling & Late Entries**

- Entries will close one month prior to each event date.
- Events may close early if entry capacity is reached.
- A waitlist may be implemented once an event is full. Placement from the waitlist is not guaranteed.
- Late entries may be accepted for up to two weeks following the official closing date, strictly at the Competition Director's discretion.
- Late entry fees will apply to all accepted late entries.
- Encore Dance Challenge does not guarantee scheduling preferences for late entries or waitlisted entries.

### **Program Release**

- A draft program will be sent to studios and competitors within one week of the official closing date.
- Any issues or change requests must be emailed to Encore Dance Challenge within two weeks of receiving the draft program.
- A final program, including late entries and approved changes, will be released approximately 10 days prior to the event.
- No changes (including routine order, titles, ages, music or sections) will be accepted after the final program has been released, except at the sole discretion of the Competition Director.



### **13. Withdrawal, Refunds & Cancellations**

- Entry fees are non-refundable except for event cancellation.
- Withdrawal Policy:
  - Notice must be submitted in writing to EDC.
  - Withdrawals before the closing date may be eligible for partial credit at EDC discretion.
  - Late withdrawals may incur a \$10-\$20 administrative fee per routine.
- Refunds may be considered for medical emergencies with documentation.
- EDC may reschedule events; entries transfer automatically unless withdrawn.
- In the event of cancellation, a full refund will be issued to entries, minus the booking fee and card fees.

### **14. Liability & Insurance**

- Encore Dance Challenge is not responsible for injury, loss or damage sustained during the event.
- All participants compete at their own risk.
- Studios are responsible for ensuring appropriate insurance coverage.

### **15. Right to Refuse Entry**

- Encore Dance Challenge reserves the right to refuse any entry that does not comply with competition rules or values.

### **16. Terms & Conditions**

- Entry constitutes agreement to all rules, policies, and code of conduct.
- Encore Dance Challenge reserves the right to amend rules.
- All routines must comply with copyright laws for music and choreography.



## **17. Change Room & Child Safety Program**

- For the privacy and comfort of all competitors, males are not permitted in female change rooms at any time.
- We understand that individual circumstances may vary. If special arrangements are required, please contact the Encore Dance Challenge team prior to the event so we can organise an appropriate alternative solution.
- All teachers, studio owners, and adult supervisors who are working with competitors must hold a current Working With Children Check (WWCC) relevant to their state of residence. By attending the event, studios confirm that all supervising adults have valid clearance and are compliant with child safety regulations.
- Encore Dance Challenge is committed to providing a safe, respectful and supportive environment for all participants.

## **18. Day of Event Policies**

- All studios and competitors must arrive at the venue at least 60 minutes prior to their scheduled performance time.
- Encore Dance Challenge is not responsible for missed routines due to late arrival.
- Schedule times are approximate and may run ahead of or behind schedule.
- Competitors should be performance-ready when called to marshalling.
- Encore Dance Challenge reserves the right to make on-the-day schedule adjustments to ensure the smooth running of the event.
- All participants, teachers, parents and spectators are expected to follow venue rules and behave respectfully at all times.
- Entry fees are non-refundable, except in the case of event cancellation.



## 19. Behaviour & Sportsmanship

- Encore Dance Challenge promotes respectful behaviour at all times.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct from dancers, teachers, parents or spectators may result in disqualification or removal from the event.
- Respect for staff, judges and fellow competitors is expected at all times.

## 20. Final Notes

- Participation in Encore Dance Challenge implies acceptance of all rules and conditions outlined in this rulebook.
- Thank you for being part of Encore Dance Challenge, where every performance deserves an encore!!!

# CONTACT US

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Encore Dance Challenge

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