

SHOWCASE AMERICA UNLIMITED

DANCE TEAM RULES AND REGULATIONS

MAY 2008-APRIL 2012

1. **Contests:** the entry fee for regular seasonal contests will be \$75 per category for non-members; \$85 for SCAU Members.
2. **Regional and State Contests:** the entry for Regional Championships (Columbus, Mansfield, Dayton and Cincinnati) will be \$85 per category for non-members; \$75 for SCAU Members.
3. **Medic Charge:** All Regular, Regional and State Contests will charge an additional \$5 to cover costs of medics and their equipment.
4. **Nationals (which include Ohio State Championship):** Teams entry fees for nationals, which will defray the cost of awards, judges and rental of facility are as follows

\$700.00 non-members (\$550.00 SCAU Members)—all categories * *

\$600 non-members (\$450.00 SCAU Members) – Primary teams **

\$400.00 non-members (\$250.00 SCAU Members) – All Officer Lines**

\$400.00 non-members (\$300.00 SCAU Members)—Combined teams and elite teams formed out of existing teams, or from 2 or more schools, districts, or communities. * *

* * These are estimated fees as of 9-13-09 as the contract for Bank of Kentucky Center has not yet been finalized and approved. Should the costs be significantly higher or lower, the entry fees will be adjusted accordingly.

5. **MEMBERSHIP FEES:** \$175 initial membership fee per team for first time members; \$85 annual renewal fee. MEMBERSHIPS POSTMARKED AFTER NOVEMBER 1ST OF EACH YEAR WILL BE CHARGED \$325 AND \$170 RESPECTIVELY

1. **Payment:** Entry and membership fees for each contest must be paid by MONEY ORDER, CASHIER CHECKS, OR SCHOOL CHECKS to each contest director hosting a contest. No personal checks or booster club checks will be accepted. State/National Entry fees can be paid by Mastercard/Visa by phone to 513-734-1989.

Eligibility

Any college (full time students), high school (19 years or younger and still in school), junior high (7th, 8th or 9th grade), elementary (4th, 5th, or 6th grade), primary (Kindergarten to 3rd grade), or a community sponsored team of the same grade levels as above and willing to abide by the rules set forth by SCAU, will be eligible to compete. Directors must be able to provide proof of grade level upon request. This will insure that a team will not be improperly competing out of its age level.

1. The minimum number for a team in competition is FOUR (4) performing members. Exception is Officer Line which is a minimum of TWO (2) members. If less than FOUR (4) members performing the team will receive a 2-point penalty for each category entered.
2. Each contest will offer size divisions for elementary, junior and senior teams. PRIMARY TEAMS ARE NOT DIVIDED BY SIZES.

JUNIOR/SENIOR DIVISIONS:

CLASS A=4-9 PERFORMING MEMBERS

CLASS AA= 10-17 PERFORMING MEMBERS

CLASS AAA=18 AND ABOVE PERFORMING MEMBERS

ELEMENTARY DIVISION:

A=4-12 PERFORMING MEMBERS

AA= 13 AND ABOVE

4. All teams must, by November 1st of each year declare its team size (performing members only) to SCAU. Any changes must be made prior to the team's first competitive performance. Exceptions may be granted by the SCAU Board of Directors.
5. A team must compete in 3 contests in order to be eligible for State/Nationals. Teams must qualify in each category at least once with a score of 150 or above.

LATE REGISTRATIONS AND NO-SHOWS: Any team which withdraws from a contest or category within the final week prior to the contest will be reported to the Board of Directors. Two such incidents will result in ineligibility for State/Nationals. No refund of monies is due the withdrawing team.

CATEGORIES: In all categories, a maximum of one prop may be used by each performer. Accessories to the costume may be used, but can not be removed and treated as a prop. In all categories, except kick, a maximum of 24 kicks may be used.

POM CATEGORY: Any routine which exclusively uses poms throughout the entire routine. A minimum of one pom must be in the hand or on the body at all times. All poms must be 4 inches or larger.

JAZZ: Any routine using mostly dance moves, such as turns, leap and jazz combinations

KICK: Any routine which is primarily choreographed to feature a variety of kick sequences. A minimum of 50 kicks must be performed using a minimum of 3 types of kicks. Preparatory moves such as jumps for a kick, do not count as a kick, nor do extended toe touches, seated or floor kicks. This category is not available to primary teams.

LYRICAL/ MODERN/ CONTEMPORARY: Any routine which focuses on the emotional interpretation of the music. The routine should demonstrate a constant flow of movement using ballet and modern dance styles, as well as control, balance and extension. This category is not available to primary teams.

HIP HOP/ FUNK: Any routine which focuses on execution, street style dance, synchronization, body control and rhythm. This category may include hip hop, break dancing, pop-lock, crunk, etc.

PROP/NOVELTY: Any routine which uses an unlimited number of props/backdrops, costumes, etc. in order to set a mood, theme or tell a story. This category is not available to senior teams.

PRODUCTION: Any show which presents a theme or story. At least 2 props must be used by each performer and at least 2 styles of dance must be used. Senior division only. Time limit for this category is increased to 6 minutes.

OPEN: This category is open to all teams in the junior and senior division and may be of any genre, style or combination of styles. Its use of props is not restricted.

OFFICER LINE: The officer line must have at least 2 participants and not more than 50% of the SCAU declared team size. Any style or category may be performed.

SOLO, DUET, TRIO: Is a function of sister group, Creative Dance Productions and will be offered in tandem at some Showcase competitions.

SAFETY: SCAU and Contest Directors demand that shows are designed with the safety of performers and spectators in mind. It is suggested that injurious moves be omitted. SCAU scoresheets do not include points for any show design which may endanger performers or spectators. Lifts above the shoulder and/or any move deigned by the judges as unsafe, must be designed with safety in mind and must include a spotter who is not a performer.

Props must be constructed with safety in mind. Maximum height will be 8 feet and should be constructed with performer safety in mind. Contact local/state fire marshals to obtain written safety precautions for all props. Backdrops must be built to enter a regular door (32" x 78") without the center bar being removed.

Special Effects such as smoke, mechanical movement, balloons, air guns, etc. can be operated by persons outside of the competition area. No pyrotechnic, open flames, fireworks, bombs, sparklers, etc. may be used unless inspected and approved by the local Fire Marshal and Police Department Bomb Squad. Teams using fire extinguishers of the electrical or powder type will be disqualified. Fire extinguishers of the Co2 type and dry ice are permitted.

Glitter may not be used at regular or regional contests. Footwear must be safe for use on gymnasium floors and are subject to each local contest's restrictions.

SET UP FOR PERFORMANCE: Team set ups are not judged, however teams should move onto the floor in some organized fashion. Walls, spectators, bleachers, steps are out of bounds. No other boundary is in effect. Teams will enter from the judges' left and exit to their right or over the back line. The exit is judged.

TIME LIMITS: Each team will be given a block of time in which to complete the following: team entrance and set up; routine; exit; clearing floor of all costumes, props, etc.

4 minute Block of Time given to all teams in all categories except Production

6 minute Block of Time given to Production teams

MUSIC: All must be recorded on a quality CD. The CD must be marked with the track number, team name, category and division. Music must be appropriate for a general audience and must not contain words or inferences considered suggestive or offensive. No live music may be used unless in the context of a team's prop performance (drums, drumsticks, tambourines, singing, etc.)

It is suggested that teams provide a representative at the DJ location in order to take care of situations and issues which might occur with the music. While this is not a requirement, if there is an issue with the music (regardless of the fault), a team will be penalized if no one is present at the DJ location to immediately rectify the situation.

COACHING: Advisors or other adults, including prop handlers on the floor, sidelines or stands shall not coach or prompt team members (excluding primary teams).

PROP HANDLERS: Prop handlers may enter the performance space for 20 second intervals. Prop handlers can not take on the role of a performer at any time.

USE OF NATIONAL COLORS: Teams using the flag of the United States of America must adhere to all guidelines of the U.S. Flag Code.

PENALTIES:

1 / 10 point: Alignment; interval; distance; out of step; memory; conduct; prop or costume failure or drop; missing prop or costume piece

1 point: Second and subsequent 30 seconds over time block (+5 points for overtime penalty)

2 points: Minimum number of members not met (4); Delay of contest; No music representative present if there is a music issue (regardless of fault); touching walls, bleachers, spectators, stair

5 points: Time block violation; adult coaching; failure to provide spotter for mounts or dangerous moves

10 points: Failure to meet kick minimum in kick; inappropriate lyrics or moves; unauthorized spectator videotaping and/or flash photography; captain salute more than 20 seconds (on captain's score)

DISQUALIFICATION: Failing to meet category rule; live music; profanity, poor sportsmanship, gestures in poor taste (during, before, after contest); damage to contest floor; use of unauthorized special effects; officer line more than 50% of team members

JUDGING AND DECISIONS: Two judges + a penalty judge will evaluate all routines. The decisions of the judges will be final. In case of tabulation error where placement or rating movement is involved, such errors will be corrected. Only SCAU judges will be used for tabulation.

AWARDS: At regular contests, no placement trophies will be given to competing teams. Each member will receive a memorabilia ribbon, pin, patch, etc. A rating system is used for all contests. Each team will receive a ribbon awarded for each rating. The following ratings will be given:

OUTSTANDING (WHITE): 110-149.

EXCELLENT (RED): 150-157

HIGH EXCELLENT (PINK): 158-165

SUPERIOR (BLUE): 166-173

HIGH SUPERIOR (LIGHT BLUE): 174-181

ULTIMATE STAR (SILVER): 182-189

SHOWCASE STAR (RED, WHITE, BLUE): 190-200

HIGH POINT AWARDS: High Point awards will be awarded in each age division (not by size). Four high point trophies will be awarded in senior, junior, and elementary divisions. Two high point trophies will be awarded in primary. High point awards are for the highest point totals of the day and teams may only receive one high point trophy per contest.

REGIONAL AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS: In addition to rating ribbons, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies will be awarded in each age and size division. Primary teams will all receive a trophy at State and Regional contests.

LEADERSHIP: Ribbons will be given to each captain at contests. The captain will be scored in the JAZZ category (if not in jazz, in the first category in which she/he appears). If a performer is the captain of multiple teams, he/she will only be judged once with her first team. Co-Captains will not be judged as one unit at a contest. Co-Captains may rotate from contest to contest and be judged individually one at a time, from one contest to another. Captains salute will be limited to 20 seconds (starts at end of DJ's announcement and ends when the captain has reached his/her starting place). All captain scores throughout the season are tallied to determine the top three winners at State/National Championships. The highest and lowest scores will be dropped (if a captain appears 5 or more times). 4 contests (drop the lowest). 3 contests (keep all scores). A captain must appear 3 times in order to be eligible.

DRESS CODE FOR AWARDS: Teams have the option of wearing team outfits at regular contests. Only costumes (not warm-ups) will be worn at regional, state, national championships.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: Judges will not use audio tapes and only score sheets will be used for comments and placement. The same judges will be assigned to all categories within a size/age bracket.

Primary, Elementary and Officer Lines will only perform shows one time and the one score will determine placement and medal winners. Junior and senior teams will re-compete in a medal round on Sunday. Officer lines are not separated into sizes.

Junior and Senior teams will compete for the purpose of qualifying for the medal round. Ohio State Championships will also be announced in the preliminary competition.

Medal round: If a category has 0-19 teams, 50% move forward (maximum of 5 teams); 20 or more teams, 6 move forward. At the judges' discretion, wildcard teams may be sent forward to the medal round.

MEDAL ROUND: The medal round score will consist of the average (minus penalty) of the qualification score + medal round judges' scores minus penalty.

National placements will be awarded in each age, size and category for junior and senior teams.

STATE AWARDS: For any State that did not have its own State Championship, the highest score in any category in each of the age groups will receive the State award during preliminary awards.

VIDEOGRAPHY AND DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY: Videotaping of other entry's shows is prohibited. Video taping of one's own show will be permitted when properly cleared and tagged by the contest director.

FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY: Flash photography is not permitted. This is in effect for the safety of the dancers.

RULE CHANGES: All suggested rule changes must be presented in writing to the Board of Directors by May 1st for review and requires a majority approval at the rules meeting of the Board of Trustees.

ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS: Officers and Board of Directors shall be elected every two years on the even years. Persons interested in running for office or in nominating a person must place that request in writing to the Vice-President of SCAU before May 15th of each even year. Offices are: Chief Operating Officer; Vice-Presidents; Treasurer; State-National Coordinator; Recording Secretary; Board of Directors (10).

Any and all contact for discussion with the Officers of SCAU or its judges will be by the Director of the team only.