

2026 West Coast Dance Festival

VENUE: Swan Park Calisthenics Centre

COMPETITION DATES: 6th April -9th April 2026 (depends on entries)

CONTACT DETAILS:

Enquiries or Competition Information:

West Coast Dance Festival email: westcoastdance@outlook.com

Or contact us through our face book page

CONDITIONS

1. Competitors enter at their own risk. West Coast Dance Festival accepts NO responsibility for any accidents or injury to any persons associated with the festival, either as a Competitor, Volunteer or a member of the General Public, at any time
2. The closing date of the entries will be the final day entries can be registered.
3. The committee reserves the right to change dates/venue as deemed necessary. (But of course will be avoided).
4. **REFUNDS: Competitors are not entitled to any refund of entry in the case of non-appearance or change of mind in this competition. Refunds will only be given in the event of cancelling the competition. Refund of registration fee only if medical certificate is provided for any major medical issue.**
5. Age limits must be of age as at the first day of competition.
6. The competition is open to Amateur and Professional Dancers.
7. The Committee reserves the right to amend or refuse any entry on any ground.
8. Students who have changed schools must have advised previous teachers' prior to the close of entry, and not perform previous school's routines without written permission.
9. Age groups may be combined subject to entry numbers. This, however, will be avoided if possible.
10. For **NOVICE** sections, the adjudicator reserves the right to award minor places only with no first place.

Performance Rules

1. If a Competitor/s has been omitted from the programme, the competitor/s will dance at the end of the section.
2. No Competitor may appear more than once in any Section of that genre.
3. Time limits will be enforced; entrants who exceed time limits will receive a 5-point deduction from their score. The time of the item will be taken from the commencement of music or from first movement until the competitor/s leave the stage or curtains are closed.
4. **Only competitors and teachers** with a pass will be permitted back stage. Please understand that it can become very crowded if too many non performing students are present backstage. By all means support your friends from the front. All studios will be given 2 complimentary teacher passes to be signed out at ticket booth with WWC check. If any more are needed, please let us know.
Any parents with a younger child needing to go back stage will need to purchase a ticket. No one will be able to be backstage without either a competitor or spectator wrist band.
5. If a competitor commences an item and stops, they may appear again at the end of the section. It is at adjudicators discretion if they are marked. Please remember that mishaps and nerves get the better of all of us.
6. Music with tap sounds, is not permitted in any tap dance (**This is inclusive of Troupes**).
7. Acrobatic tricks can be performed in a non-Acrobatic routine. However, it will be at the adjudicator's discretion how the competitor is marked.
8. It will be announced at the beginning of each section confirming any extra competitors or withdrawals.
9. All competitors will be required to line up on stage at the end of their section for results and presentations.
10. **STOCKINGS.** This has become an issue over the past few years. This Competition aims to have everyone comfortable to watch the dancers. It has been decided that stockings are compulsory and must be worn with every costume in solos/duos/troupes where long pants are not worn. Hip Hop dancers can be excluded if they are wearing shorts as long as no bottoms are showing.

ALL Championship/Medley competitors must wear stockings or 5 points will be deducted. The committee understands, that this may seem old-fashioned or controversial, but please remember there are families watching and some things cannot be unseen.

Genres Available

ACROBATS: This section must contain 'tumbling' tricks (a combination of balancing and contortion work may be included). It must include dance elements of equal proportion.

BROADWAY JAZZ: A jazz dance to music from a Broadway musical using steps appropriate to the style and music choice.

CLASSICAL: classical ballet technique without a story and using classical music. No Repertoire. **Note: A short tutu is to be worn (exception ensembles).**

CONTEMPORARY: an expressive style which is not bound by rigid technique, and showing free movement and expressive technique.

CONTORTION: Contortion is a performance art in which performers showcase their skills of extreme physical flexibility. An act will showcase a choreographed set of moves or poses, to music, which require extreme flexibility. Props may be used. A maximum of 2 aerial or back handspring movements. It is not to showcase acrobatic elements, but extreme flexibility.

DEMI-CHARACTER: classically based steps in the telling of a story incorporating mimed gestures. This genre may include a prop to help with the story. A variety of music can be used with variations in tempo. Music is to have no lyrics.

HIP HOP: A street **dance style** primarily performed to **hip-hop** music or that have evolved as part of **hip-hop** culture. It includes a wide range of **styles** primarily breaking, locking, and popping. Please use age appropriate music with no profanity.

IMPROVISATIONS: A choice of five genres. Jazz, Lyrical, Tap, Classical and Hip Hop. Music and length is at adjudicators discretion. Competitors listen to the music and then choreograph steps to the music on the spot. Only basic examination wear or class wear is to be worn. There will no access backstage prior to the Improvisation Sections as all entrants will be in lockdown. **U/8 and U/10 Jazz and Lyrical Only.**

LYRICAL: A classical based dance with more modern flowing movements with a connection to the music chosen. Music normally has lyrics.

MODERN JAZZ (not Broadway): A form of dance with high energy and strong movements.

MUSICAL THEATRE: To include singing and actions only (**No dance**). Any choice of song may be used. There is to be no voice over or miming to be used.

NATIONAL: A dance from a particular country or region. Authentic costuming, music, style and characteristics of the country must be included. Highland, Sailor's Hornpipe and Irish dances are not included in this genre.

NEO-CLASSICAL: Classical ballet developed to a new classical of abstract lines with classical technique. Minimal use of props. Simple costume with no sequins or fancy trims. Ear-rings allowed. Flexibility of body without acrobatic tricks. Music from any era - instrumental or vocal - however classical steps must be adhered to.

OWN CHOREOGRAPHY: The competitor's choice of music and genre with steps and music appropriate to the genre chosen. The competitor must choreograph the routine without help. Music choice, steps used and costuming will be taken into consideration. It does not include musical theatre or song and dance unless the competitor has made up their own song.

SONG AND DANCE: The competitor's choice of song with a separate dance component. Usually song is sung first, followed by the dance.

TAP: Any style of Tap - Theatrical, Street or Funk - (excludes Latin or Character this is for Championship section only.) Medleys have their own section.

DANCE ABILITY SOLO - A section for dancers with special needs. This is a combined age category (depending on entries) and can be any genre.

FAMILY SECTION - A section that family members can dance in any genre together at any age.

Championship Sections

The competitor must be an Open Dancer for the genre chosen to dance in Championship Sections.

Pre Junior Championship 8-9 year olds

Pre-Junior dancers will only dance one dance. This can include any genre, but they must be open for the genre chosen. They may repeat the dance in the competition.

Junior, Intermediate and Senior Championship

Competitor must dance 2 dances of their own choice. This can include Jazz, Acrobatics, Lyrical, Contemporary, Musical Theatre, Song and Dance and Hip Hop. Cash Prizes may be awarded (depending on entries) - (to be divided over 1st, 2nd & 3rd places)

Junior Championship- 12 years and under minimum age 10 years

Intermediate Championship - 15 years and under

Senior Championship- 16 years and above

ELIGIBILITY: Competitor must enter and dance in 2 open solo sections in the current competition. Competitor cannot repeat a dance from these sections in the Championship. The same time limits and rules apply as already stated for each individual section.

TAP CHAMPIONSHIPS

The competitor must be an Open Dancer for tap to dance in Championship Sections.

Junior, Intermediate and Senior Championship

Competitor must dance 2 dances.

DANCE 1: Any style of Tap - Theatrical, Street or Funk - (excludes Latin or Character)

DANCE 2: Latin or Character Dance

Character Tap is a tap routine that has a balance of tap technique and mime. Music and choreography should complement character portrayed. Small props can be used to enhance the character chosen.

The competitor must compete in their age tap solo. The dance may not be repeated in any other section. (i.e. the competitor will need 2 tap solos.)

Cash Prizes may be awarded (depending on entries) - (to be divided over 1st, 2nd & 3rd places)

Junior Championship- 12 years and under minimum age 10 years

Intermediate Championship - 15 years and under

Senior Championship- 16 years and above

ELIGIBILITY: Competitor must enter and dance in the tap solo section in their age group, in the current competition. The same time limits and rules apply as already stated for tap section. Latin and Character may be up to 3mins.

TAP MEDLEY

Competitors must perform a slow and fast tap without leaving the stage. The routine must be different to the one used in their solo section.

To qualify, competitors must enter and dance in their age tap solo.

Competitors must be Open for tap solo.

CLASSICAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The competitor must be an Open Dancer for the genre chosen to dance in both Championship Sections. Competitor must dance 2 dances.

Dance 1: Classical solo.

Dance 2: Competitors must choose Demi Character, Neo-Classical or National.

Cash Prizes may be awarded (depending on entries) - (to be divided over 1st, 2nd & 3rd places)

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

12 years and under minimum age 10 years

Competitor must be an open dancer in both genres chosen.

There is no need to enter age group solos.

The same time limits and rules apply as already stated.

Intermediate Championship

Intermediate Championship - 15 years and under

Competitor must be an open dancer in both genres chosen.

ELIGIBILITY: Competitor must enter and dance in 1 solo section for their age group, in the given genres in the current competition. Competitor cannot repeat a dance from these sections in the Championship. The same time limits and rules apply as already stated for each individual section.

Senior Championship

Senior Championship- 16 years and above

Competitor must be an open dancer in both genres chosen.

Pointe Shoes must be worn in Classical section.

ELIGIBILITY: Competitor must enter and dance in 1 solo section for their age group, in the given genres in the current competition. Competitor cannot repeat a dance from these sections in the Championship. The same time limits and rules apply as already stated for each individual section.

Troupes

1. All troupe participants will receive a ribbon if their troupe places 1st, 2nd, or 3rd. Honourable Mention will also receive a ribbon.
2. Minimum use of mime.
3. All members of Tap Troupes must wear tap shoes.
4. Troupe participants may not dance in 2 troupes in the same section. For example - if a studio has entered two under 10 troupes, dancers cannot be in both troupes entered. This rule is not applicable if any age groups need to be combined. Teachers to forward names and DOB of all troupe members via email at time of registration.
5. Troupes will NOT be allowed onto the stage to practice. Please utilise the practice room.
6. Troupe member age is of 31st December the previous year. Troupe age groups are 6 years and under, 8 years and under etc.

Awards

All Championship and Medley sections will be announced and places awarded on FINAL SESSION of competition.

Novice Dancer of the Festival

Points will be given as follows:

1st place - 5 points, 2nd place - 3 points, 3rd place - 1 point.

All novice sections are now included toward aggregate points.

Open Aggregate Award

JUNIOR, INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR

Points will be given as follows:

1st place - 5 points, 2nd place - 3 points, 3rd place - 1 point.

All open sections are now included toward aggregate points.

All Championship sections will count towards the aggregate total.

No duos/trios or troupe placings go toward aggregate.

If there is a tie in the Aggregate Award, both competitors will receive it. If 3 or more competitors tie, the award will be given to the competitor with the most 1st places.

Improvisation and Own Choreography Sections

These sections will go toward open aggregate and novice Dancer awards. If competitor is novice for the genre danced, points will go toward novice dancer, if competitor is open for genre danced, points will go toward open aggregate. Please state genre and open or novice at music desk.

Points for improve sections 1st place - 3 points, 2nd place - 2 points, 3rd place - 1 point.

A minimum of 3 competitors for awarding of points.

Reports

1. Reports need to be collected from the music desk after presentations. Reports will only be given to the Competitor or their teachers.
2. Please sign out perpetuals in book provided when collecting music and reports.

Competitors Pass / Programmes

1. **All competitors must have a Competitors Pass in 2026 - Price: \$40.00.** This applies to ALL competitors.
2. Please enter names and birth dates correctly when doing entries.
3. Competitor passes can be used for entry into the auditorium for all sessions. This year we will be using wrist bands that competitors will leave on for duration of the competition.
4. **PROGRAMMES: This year we will be sending out electronic copies of the programme. The cost will be included in competitor pass.**

Adjudication and protests

1. There is to be no contact with the adjudicator before, during or after any section. Any competitor, relative of a competitor, or teacher who approaches an adjudicator will be disqualified.
2. WCDF reserves the right to change the adjudicators for any reason whatsoever.
3. If there is a need to protest against any competitor, the protest must be put in writing by the principal teacher to the organisers within 1 hour after completion of a section with a fee of \$30.00. If in the opinion of the organisers a protest is not applicable, the deposit is forfeited.
4. The adjudicators results are final. If he/she deems music, costume or movements are inappropriate points may be deducted, or competitor disqualified, at their discretion.

Curtains

1. Stage curtain will only be used in **Troupe sections**.

Music

1. All music to be on USB only. Music to be in a file only. DO NOT PUT IN A FOLDER. Only 1 item per USB. Music must be handed in during the times specified in the programme at the front table near the ticket box. Please clearly mark Name, Section, Competitor number, and start on or off stage.
2. All music is to be recorded in MP3 format.
3. Over time music will incur a 5-point deduction.
4. Only one track on your USB.
5. All music must be age appropriate. No swearing, or inappropriate lyrics, or competitor will be disqualified. (please listen carefully to hip hop music,)
6. Please bring a copy of your music as a backup on IPOD, computer, phone. It will be announced if there is a music problem. Please don't panic. We want all dancers to have the opportunity to perform.
7. Music can be collected with your report at the music table.
8. Copyright laws must be adhered to at all times. All entrants must be fully aware of their copyright responsibilities. West Coast Dance Festival will not be liable in any way for personal breach of copyright. We assume that all studios/schools hold relevant licenses.

Dressing Room Area

1. Teachers and parents are responsible for the state of the dressing area.
2. **There is to be NO EATING in the dressing room. This is a theatre rule. Please be considerate of their rules.**
3. The dressing area is to be kept clean and tidy at all times. Please pick up all rubbish, and take water bottles and personal belongings when leaving your dressing room. Rubbish bins are supplied.
4. Please be aware of everyone's personal space, costumes and personal belongings. **PLEASE BE AWARE OF CHILDREN CHANGING WHEN TAKING PHOTOS.**
5. Please be aware of children's privacy in dressing areas. If there are dad's or male relatives dressing children, please be wary of other children. Please note the dressing area is not a congregation area. By all means please congratulate your dancer's, but spectators are to wait in the foyer until the dancer comes out.
6. There will be a Boys' only dressing area.

Theatre Rules

1. Please turn mobile phones off when in Auditorium.
2. Due to copyright and child protection laws, the recording of any performance is strictly prohibited in the theatre. Includes mobile phone cameras.
3. Food and drink are **NOT** permitted into the Theatre (Strict theatre rules).
4. Please keep any negative comments or opinions about performances or adjudications to yourself until you get home. We all understand there can be disappointments during competitions, but it can be upsetting to competitors and their families overhearing derogatory comments.
5. No children are allowed unaccompanied in the front 2 rows of the theatre. It can be very distracting.

Props

1. Access to the backstage area for large props is only prior to the session commencing. They should be removed on the completion of that session if not required again.
2. Please remove all smaller props after each session.
3. Please make sure acro boxes/props have appropriate grips to prevent slipping.
4. Please check all props for protruding screws or nails so they do not damage the stage.
5. No real flowers, foliage or straw to be used. No glass or ceramics to be used as props.

Photographer and Videographer

1. There will be a videographer and photographer throughout the festival to capture your dancer's routines. No cameras, video recorders or any other recording devices are allowed to be used during any performance.
2. Please be aware the official photographer may use images to promote their company.
3. West Coast will also be able to upload photos onto our facebook page.

Sponsorships/Perpetuals

1. Sponsorship and donation of perpetual trophies is always appreciated. There are many perpetuals that have been misplaced or lost, and the cost of replacements is very high. If anyone wishes to donate a missing perpetual or donate one to a section, please contact the organisers for sections.
2. Sponsorship of championship sections would also be appreciated. Please contact organisers if you know of any businesses or persons who would be interested.
3. Advertising in the programme is welcome. Please contact organisers if you would like to promote your business.
4. Perpetuals are to be returned by the 1st of March for Autumn competition, and 1st of September for Spring competition. If perpetuals are lost or damaged the competitor is to replace at his/her own cost.
5. If open and novice sections are combined to be an unclassified section, or there are combined age groups, perpetual will go to highest scoring open dancer or highest scoring dancer in corresponding age group.

Indemnity

The Competitor enters into the Dancing Competition at the **competitor's own risk**.

The Competitor will follow all directions and rules stated and waives any claims for liability against any organiser, participant, official, volunteer, judge, visitor, employee, or other competitors and releases all parties from all liability that may arise out of the competition, to the competitor. Liability shall include any personal injury, property loss or damage.

The Competitor or the Parent/Guardian or Teacher agrees that they have read and understood these rules and have agreed to them freely. If they are not satisfied in any way with the rules or the standard of the competition area or any of the facilities, then they are not obligated to compete.

Definition of Novice and Open

NOVICE: All competitors who have not been awarded a 1st placing in any competition in any city or country.

OPEN: Section commences from Under 9 years to Open Age.

TIME LIMITS

Age	Type	Time Limit
U/4-U/6	All solos/duos/trios	2 mins
U/7 -U12	Modern/Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Classical, Hip Hop, National, Contemporary, Acrobat, Contortion, Own Choreography, Broadway Jazz, Neo-Classical	2 ½ mins
U/13-Open Age	Modern/Jazz, Lyrical, Classical, Hip Hop, National, Contemporary, Acrobat, Contortion, Own Choreography, Broadway Jazz, Neo-Classical	3 mins
U/13-Open Age	Tap Solo	2 ½ mins
All Ages	Demi Character	3 mins
All Ages	Latin/Character	3 mins
All Ages	Song and Dance	4 mins
All Ages	Musical Theatre	3 mins
All Ages	Tap Medley	4 mins
U/8- U/12 Duo/Trio	Modern/Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Classical, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Acrobat, Own Choreography	2 ½ mins
All Ages Duo/Trio	Musical Theatre	3 mins
All Ages Duo/Trio	Song and Dance	4 mins
U/13-Open Age Duo/Trio	Modern/Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Classical, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Acrobat, Own Choreography, Family	3 mins
All Ages	All Troupes	5 mins

ENTRY FEES

Entries to be completed on line using Comps On Line

Cost (incl. GST)

SOLO	\$25.00
DUO/TRIO (medals given)	\$20 per competitor
TROUPES & ENSEMBLES (To be entered by Teachers only)	\$80.00 per routine
IMPROVISATIONS (medals given)	\$12.00 per improv
TAP MEDLEY- ALL AGES	\$35.00
ALL CHAMPIONSHIPS - ALL AGES	\$45.00
PRE-JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP	\$30.00
Competitors Pass/Admin Fee	\$40.00 (Compulsory) for all solos and those dancers only doing troupes.
Programmes	Included in competitor pass.
Adult Tickets Day/Night	\$15.00 per session 5 sessions for \$60 10 sessions for \$120
Children Tickets Day/Night	\$7.00 per session
Pensioners	\$7.00 per session
APRA/One Music	Calculated at checkout

PLEASE BE REMINDED:

Entry Fees are non-refundable:

1. this includes changing from Novice to Open after another competition
2. unless the competition is cancelled
3. major medical cases will receive competitor pass refund only, Medical certificate will need to be provided.
4. no refunds for errors or change of mind

Entries will not be admitted until PAID.

Please remember we aim to bring a happy and fun environment to ALL dancers and their families. Please treat everyone with respect and treat others the way you would want to be treated.

Enjoy, and we will see you all soon.

Showcase National Championships

Our competition is a qualifier for Showcase National Dance Championships to be held in Queensland in January 2027.

This means that any dancer who receives a 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a solo or duo/trio, or troupe that receives a 1st, 2nd or 3rd, qualifies for Nationals. Of course it is your choice to participate, but how amazing would it be to have dancers from Perth showcase their talent.

As an official qualifying competition, we have the opportunity to qualify dancers for their prestigious Dancer of the Year. There are four age groups; Junior, pre-teen, Teen and Senior. Dancers will need to nominate to do this category and will need to qualify in at least one open solo. Up to 12 dancers will be chosen to represent both their school and W.A.

To participate in Dancer of the Year, there will be a \$50 fee. If the dancer does not qualify for the competition, the fee will be refunded. If the dancer qualifies, but chooses not to dance, the fee will be forfeited.

If you wish to nominate, you can do this through comps online.

Covid

We will be following guidelines of State Government and of the Theatre.

As we are all well aware, circumstances can change in an instant. Please follow our Facebook page so you can follow any changes that may arise.

If we are unable to hold the competition because of lock down, our event will be postponed to September. Fingers crossed it will not come to this.