



Brindabella Dance Festival

2024 RULES

DATES:

Friday 27th September 2024 to
Monday 7th October 2024

(Note: Friday 27th will only be used if needed)

Troupes: Weekend of 27th- 29th September

Solos: 30th September – 7th October starting with
6/U and finishing with 15/O Championships and
Open Class Award.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES:

30th June 2024 or until Capacity Reached.

*The Committee will notify of entries closed 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 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.

The hosting of this event is subject to change. This event may be cancelled or modified at any time without notice.

Any amendments to the planned running of Brindabella Dance Festival 2024 will be taken as accepted upon entry. Refunds will not be given if the format is changed, and the dancers are 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.
- i. Ballet, Lyrical and Contemporary:
 - a. Girls - simple leotard with optional ballet skirt,
 - b. Boys - plain top and shorts or ballet pants
 - ii. Tap and Jazz:
 - a. Girls - simple leotard with optional shorts,
 - b. Boys - plain top and shorts/pants
 - iii. Hip Hop:
 - a. Plain top and shorts/pants
 - iv. Any Style:
 - a. Dancer's 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 Championships –

Classical Ballet Championship - 12U, 14U & 15O

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Open Classical Ballet, and**
- ii. **Any One (1)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Demi Character,
 - b. Open National Character; **and**
- iii. 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 – 10U

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Open Classical Ballet, and**
- ii. **Any One (1)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Demi Character,
 - b. Open National Character;
 - c. Open Lyrical **and**

iii. 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 – 8U

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Any One (1)** of the following sections
 - a. Open Classical Ballet
 - b. Open Demi-Character,
 - c. Open Lyrical, **and**
- ii. One (1) **Any Style improvisation** section.

On Championship Day:

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

Your Championship Routine can be repeated in this age group.

6.2 Tap Championship 12U, 14U & 150

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Any Two (2)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Slow Tap,
 - b. Open Waltz Tap,
 - c. Open Fast Tap; **and**
- ii. 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 & 150

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Any Two (2)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Jazz,
 - b. Open Broadway Jazz,
 - c. Open Musical Theatre; **and**
- ii. 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 & 150

- i. **Any Two (2)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Contemporary,
 - b. Open Lyrical; **and**
- ii. A **lyrical improvisation** section; **and**
- iii. A **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 Championships

Entertainment Championship – 12U, 14U & 150 (no repeat dance)

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

i. **Open Broadway or Open Musical Theatre, and**

ii. **Any One (1) of the following sections:**

- a. Open Jazz,
- b. Open Tap,
- c. Open Hip-Hop,
- d. Open Acrobatics
- e. Open Song and Dance
- f. Open Song and Tap; **and**

iii. **Any Two (2) of the following Improv sections:**

- a. Jazz
- b. Tap
- c. Hip-Hop

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform one solo ***of high entertainment value***, not previously performed. 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.

Entertainment Championship – 10/under (repeat dance permitted)

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

i. **Any two (2) of the following sections:**

- a. Open Jazz,
- b. Open Broadway Jazz,
- c. Open Musical Theatre,
- d. Open Fast Tap; **and**

iii. **Any one (1) of the following Improv sections:**

- a. Jazz
- b. Tap
- c. Hip-Hop

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform one solo ***of high entertainment value***, (repeat dance permitted for 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.

Entertainment Championship – 8/under (repeat dance permitted)

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Any One (1)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Jazz,
 - b. Open Broadway Jazz,
 - c. Open Tap; **and**
- iii. the **Any Style Improvisation section.**

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform one solo ***of high entertainment value***, (repeat dance permitted for 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.

7. Open Class Award.

- a) Dancers must enter their correct age group eg: 12 and under or 13 and over.
- b) Age is as of 27 September 2024.
- c) There are NO pre qualifying entries required.
- d) Please wear appropriate dance/class/audition attire, hair neatly groomed and performance. makeup encouraged for older dancers.
- e) Bring all type of dance shoes clearly labelled.
- f) Dancers to keep number pinned to them at all times during class for easy identification by adjudicator.
- g) Adjudicator decision is final.
- h) Spectating available with ticket purchase
- i) All spectating of the Open Class MUST be done in complete silence whilst class is running.
- j) The committee or any of its representatives may ask you to leave the auditorium from spectating this event at their own discretion and no ticket refunds will be given.

8. This section is intended to be in an audition style format. Dancers will be assessed on their class etiquette, presentation, ability to learn and perform the choreography and class content as well as their potential & technical execution.

9. 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.

10. 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
 - i. 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 any 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.

11. Social Media

- a) 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.
- b) 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.

12. 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.

13. 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 for critique only.
- 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.
- l) **Acrobatics:** A style of dance that combines dance technique with precision acrobatic elements. Incorporating 3 or more inverted tricks and/or contortion skills.
- m) **Jazz:** Either commercial or traditional style Jazz routine (not Broadway or Musical Theatre) incorporating Jazz technique with a focus on dance technique and choreography over tricks.

If a **JAZZ** routine contains more than three *INVERTED* tricks, including but not limited to handsprings, aerials, walkovers we recommend you enter it to the Acrobatic section to avoid potential disqualification.

14. 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.

15. 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 backstage will be directed by the backstage manager and in line with COVID-19 plan.
- e) No mobile phones permitted backstage.

16. 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.

17. 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.

18. 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.

19. 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.

20. 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.

21. 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.

22. Prompting

- a) No prompting is permitted in any section other than 5/U&6/U sections.

23. 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.

24. 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.

25. Refunds

- a) Refunds will not be given unless the Committee **cancel**s a section completely, or you qualify for a medical refund. Medical refunds require a doctor's certificate. A \$50 administration fee will be held, and the balance refunded.

26. 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.
- c) Teachers are STRICTLY forbidden to record or photograph any other dancer/s that are not their own from the wings.

27. 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) Dancers without a valid spectator ticket will not be given entry, unless there is sufficient seating available. These dancers may also be asked to leave to make way for paying spectators.

28. 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.

29. 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.

30. Conditions of entry:

- a) You understand that failure to comply with the direction of the Committee and or the venue staff, will result in immediate removal from the premises and competition without refund.
- b) 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 follow the directions of the Committee and or Venue Staff while in the premises.
- c) You understand that patronage may be limited, and you may not get to spectate all routines.
- d) 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.

31. 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.