

GUNNEDAH EISTEDDFOD SOCIETY (INC)

2026 SYLLABUS - Dance Eisteddfod

Thursday 29th October – Sunday 1st November

ENTRY CLOSING DATE: 18th September 2026

COMMITTEE:

President: Mrs Meryl Hennessy
Vice President: Mrs Marg Amos / Leonie Harley
Secretary: Mrs Marg Kersley
Treasurer: Mrs Lyn Pengilly
Public Officer: Mrs Meryl Hennessy

DANCE CONVENERS: Ms Erin Walton 0458 469 994
Mrs Jess Taylor 0448 685 377

Email: gunnedaheisteddfod@gmail.com

ENTRY FEE:

*Solo \$10.00
*Duo/Trio \$15.00
*Group \$20.00
*Improvisation \$8.00

DOOR FEE:

*\$5.00 Session
*\$10.00 Day Pass
*\$30.00 Dance Eisteddfod Pass
*Children under 12 - free

ADJUDICATOR: Joanne Grace

Postal Address: Gunnedah Eisteddfod Society Inc.
PO Box 372 Gunnedah NSW 2380

Email: gunnedaheisteddfod@gmail.com

Bank Details:

Account Name: Gunnedah Eisteddfod Society
BSB: 062 551
Account: 00900338

Web: <https://gunnedaheisteddfod.com.au>

Facebook: Gunnedah Eisteddfod Society

GENERAL RULES and CONDITIONS OF ENTRY DANCE

1. ADJUDICATOR

- 1.1. The Adjudicator's decision shall be final.
- 1.2. The Adjudicator shall have the power to withhold or divide any prize at his/her discretion.
- 1.3. Only authorised persons may approach the Adjudicator. If a parent approaches the Adjudicator at any time during the Eisteddfod regarding the performance of a competitor, that competitor may be disqualified.
- 1.4. Adjudicator's reports will be provided as voice or written reports. Further details will be provided on finalisation of the program.
- 1.5. Any person who has danced under the adjudicator or been taught by the adjudicator in the last 6 months is ineligible for entry.

2. ADMITTANCE

- 2.1. The Committee reserves the right to refuse admittance to any person.
- 2.2. Competitors do not need to pay an admittance fee for a session in which they are competing. All other spectators **MUST** pay an entry fee.

3. AGE

- 3.1. Age of all entrants for solos/duos/trios is assessed as at January 1st 2026
- 3.2. Age of all entrants for group dances is assessed as at January 1st 2026.
- 3.3. The date of birth of each entrant is to be provided on all entry forms.
- 3.4. Proof of age may be required, in the form of a birth certificate or other means, on request at any time during the Eisteddfod for entrants in events limited by an age classification.
- 3.5. For Group sections the group age classification will be determined by the age of the **oldest member** of each group. With exception of groups over 10, who may have 2 dancers up to 12 months older.

4. AWARDS

- 4.1. Awards and adjudications can be collected from the assigned table at the conclusion of that section.

5. COMMITTEE OF THE EISTEDDFOD

- 5.1. The Committee reserves the right to amend or refuse any entry, to combine or cancel any section for which insufficient entries have been received.
- 5.2. The Committee reserves the right to request pre-approval of group dances/music prior to accepting entries from any studio.
- 5.3. Failure to comply with any of the Rules and Conditions may involve disqualification and withholding of prizes.
- 5.4. The Committee shall be the sole judge of disputes.
- 5.5. The decision of the Committee in all questions and disputes arising out of, or not provided for, in the Rules and Conditions shall be final. All entries are received subject to this rule and shall not be subject to any appeal at law.
- 5.6. No responsibility will be accepted for errors and omissions in the Syllabus or Programme. Competitors should check programme against their entry form at time of receiving programme.

6. COMPETITORS

- 6.1. Competitors must be ready to compete in the section and order in which their names appear in the programme.
- 6.2. Competitors may forfeit or jeopardise their chances of performing by late arrival, failure to submit music or failure to present side of stage for any event.
- 6.3. At the discretion of the Committee a competitor's order within an event can be changed under special circumstances. In relation to this rule please refer to the Committee.
- 6.4. No competitor shall be allowed to repeat the same item in more than one event during the Eisteddfod, including groups.
- 6.5. Competitors will not be transferred from one section to another if incorrectly entered in the Eisteddfod unless the error is the fault of the Committee.
- 6.6. Rehearsing on stage and anywhere in the auditorium during the Eisteddfod is not permissible.
- 6.7. A competitor may request to compete at a different time than indicated in the programme. However, that competitor will be eligible for adjudicator's comments only.
- 6.8. There will be no scheduling requests in 2026.

7. DRESS / FOOTWEAR / DEMEANOUR

- 7.1. Taps must not be worn in any part of the auditorium except on the stage.
- 7.2. Competitors must use the dressing areas provided and not change in the auditorium or passageways.
- 7.3. Appearance, posture and demeanour are an important part of a performance and will be taken into consideration by the adjudicator.

7.4. Offensive material, music, performance and costumes are not permitted. The Adjudicator, with the music, full support of the committee, has the authority to terminate a performance if it is considered offensive in any way. The Committee and/or the adjudicator have the authority to withhold prizes for inappropriate performances. Please remember this a family friendly environment aimed to entertain all ages of audience members.

7.5. No pointe shoes to be worn in 12-and-under age groups.

7.6. All competitors **MUST** wear tights.

8. ENTRIES

8.1. Entries must be received by the advertised closing date.

8.2. Entry numbers may be capped and therefore entries will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

8.3. All entries must be submitted online via "Comps Online". No other form of entry will be permitted.

8.4. The entrant is responsible for correct entries. The committee accepts no responsibility for incorrect entries, unless as a fault of the committee.

8.5. There will be no changes or transfers to other sections following the publishing of the programme.

8.6. The Committee reserves the right to combine or cancel any event where insufficient entries are received, unless competitors involved in that section are willing to finance its running costs. The Committee also reserves the right to divide or combine any section for programme purposes, to alter competition times and to amend the programme if necessary.

8.7. Refunds of entry fees are made only if sections are cancelled. Refunds will be processed in the form the payment was originally made.

8.8. Late entries may be accepted in exceptional circumstances, however late entries will incur a \$20 fee.

9. PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING

9.1. The Committee reserves the right to record, telecast or photograph any item or section of the Eisteddfod.

9.2. Due to child protection laws no unauthorised filming is permitted within the venue.

9.3. Due to child protection laws the taking of photographs is expressly forbidden in the venue. Photographs may be taken in the foyer of your own child/ren before and after performances. Photographs may be taken by a photographer from the local newspaper and published online.

9.4. The Committee reserves the right to request that the recording device be provided to the Committee where an unauthorised recording/photograph has been made or otherwise destroy that recording.

9.5. Mobile phones must be turned off whilst in the venue.

10. EVENTS

SOLO EVENTS

10.1. No competitor will be allowed to perform more than once in any Solo section.

10.2. Competitors may compete up an age category but must be of sufficient standard to do so.

DUO/TRIO EVENTS

10.3. In Duo/Trio items, the name and date of birth of each participant must be stipulated in the entry.

10.4. In the event of one participant not being able to perform due to a genuine change in circumstance, the Committee may allow a substitute provided that two weeks' notice is given to the Committee.

10.5. The maximum number of times that an individual can enter in the same Duo/Trio event is 1.

SCHOOL EVENTS

10.7 School Groups must consist of four (4) or more dancers.

10.8. Dancers may only compete in their appropriate age category OR up an age category but must be of sufficient standard to do so.

GROUP EVENTS

10.9. Groups must consist of four (4) or more dancers.

10.10. The maximum number of times that a studio can enter the same group event is 2, schedule permitting. If excessive numbers of groups are entered, studios may be asked to select only one group per section due to time constraints. (Refunds will be provided if this occurs).

10.11. Group day (non-school groups) will be the Saturday. Please ensure your groups are prepared for this.

ARTS FOR ALL EVENTS

10.12. Arts For All events are open to those dancers who would be considered 'special needs'. Dancers in this category must have a recognised intellectual or physical disability or cognitive delay. Entries in this category must provide a medical certificate or doctor's letter. Confidentiality will be maintained with no details being provided to anyone other than the committee and adjudicator. Entrants will only need to provide the certificate or letter once, on initial entry and will not need to provide this for consecutive years of entry unless their condition is classified as temporary by their

medical professional. Any questions related to entry in this category can be directed via email to the Committee.

10.13. For Arts for All events one teacher and/or parent is allowed side stage or out the front (maximum of 2 people) for prompting and support purposes, for any age competitor in this category.

10.14. The Committee reserves the right to subdivide this section according to individual needs at its discretion.

IMPROVISATIONS

10.15. Improvisation music is adjudicators choice and is capped at one (1) minute.

10.16 Competitors in improvisations must wear plain leotard, no bling, sequins, etc. Plain shorts or tights are permitted as competitors' choice. Any competitor presenting for improvisations in inappropriate outfit will have one chance to change while in the toilets awaiting their turn in the schedule but must be able to change themselves.

10.17. No parents, teachers or anyone else, other than committee members or improv marshallers, may approach or interact with improvisation competitors once music starts until the improvisation section is completed, failure to comply will result in disqualification of competitor.

OWN CHOREOGRAPHY

10.18. Own choreography events must be FULLY student's own work. Entrants must choose own music and style of dance. Costume must suit dance.

11. MUSIC

11.1. Music must be submitted by the due date. The cut-off date will be provided when the program is released. Music must not exceed the maximum allowed time (see section 18. *Time Limits*).

11.2. In all cases a backup copy of the music, on CD/USB/iPod/iPhone, should be available. In the event a backup copy is provided on an iPod/iPhone the competitor must appoint someone else to play it on equipment provided. All backup music must be clearly marked with event number, competitor number, competitor name, start indicator i.e. start on stage / start off stage and copyright licence number. USBs/CDs should contain only one piece of music. Music should be cued to play.

11.3. The equipment for playing the music will be provided and operated by a person appointed by the Committee.

11.4. All music should be pre-cut, mixed or faded.

12. OWN CHOICE

12.1. All sections are own choice unless otherwise specified.

13. PROGRAMME

13.1. Programmes will be emailed to the email address provided on the free of entry form/online entry charge. No physical copies will be available.

14. PROPS

14.1. Props (including use of props, placement of props on stage and retrieval of props from stage) are the responsibility of the competitor.

14.2. Competitors may enlist help to place props on the stage and retrieve props offstage. However, those persons assisting shall be aware that no persons other than the announcer and music player will be allowed side stage during the performance (with the exception of 6-years-and-under and Arts for All events).

15. PROTESTS

15.1. Protests/appeals/complaints must be lodged in writing with the Committee within 20 minutes of completion of the relevant section with a fee of \$25.

15.2. Such appeals may include, but are not limited to, alleged competitor number mistakes, error in calculation of marks, competitor ineligibility, interpretation of rules, etc.

16. SAFETY

16.1. Every care will be taken for competitors' safety; however, the Committee WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE for any injury sustained by any competitor during the Eisteddfod.

17. SIDESTAGE

17.1. No person (including teachers, parents or other non-competitors) other than the announcer, improv-marshaller or Committee members will be allowed side stage during performances.

17.2. Competitors must leave the stage area after their performance.

17.3. There is to be no prompting, except when a competitor is under 6 years of age or an Arts for All competitor in which case one person will be permitted to be side of stage or out the front with minimal distraction.

17.4. No teachers/parents are permitted on stage at any time other than for prop placement.

18. TIME LIMITS

18.1. Time limits must be adhered to by the competitor and will be strictly monitored.

18.2. Time limits are as follows:

Solos

6 years and under – 2 minutes

All Other – 3 minutes

Improvs – 1 minute

Duos/Trios – 3 minutes

Groups – 5 minutes

18.3. Entrants whose performance exceeds the time limit may forfeit any placing and be eligible for adjudication comments only.

19. SOCIAL MEDIA RULES

The Gunnedah Dance Eisteddfod is run by a committee of volunteers; we make every effort to ensure our event is a fun and welcoming experience for all. We welcome feedback and any opportunity for improvement; however, all feedback must be provided in person, via email or private message to our Facebook page. We have introduced some rules relating to social media.

19.1 Any dancer, parent, family-member or friend that posts negative or inappropriate comments relating to Gunnedah Dance Eisteddfod on any social media platform including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat may be excluded or have their dancer excluded from competing without refund and may also be banned from entering any future eisteddfods.

19.2. Any dance teacher or representative from any dance school that posts negative or inappropriate comments relating to Gunnedah Dance Eisteddfod on any social media platform including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat may have their troupe and any dancers from their dance school excluded from competing without refund and may also be banned from entering any future eisteddfods.

20. COVID 19 RELATED RULES

Competitors and spectators agree to follow ALL current COVID-19 guidelines issued by the Government, Eisteddfod or Venue. The Gunnedah Dance Eisteddfod COVID-19 Safe Plan and Rules as outlined below (please check current Government requirements and Club requirements as they are ever evolving):

20.1 All rules and regulations relevant to current COVID restrictions imposed by either our venue - or our Eisteddfod at the time of our event MUST be adhered to. Failure to do so will result in refusal of entry or removal from our event/venue.

Entries

Classical

Age Group	Solo	Duo/Trio	Groups 4 – 20 dancers	Improv
6 years and under	X	X	X	
8 years and under	X	X	X	X
10 years and under	X	X	X	X
12 years and under	X	X	X	X
14 years and under	X	X	X	X
16 years and under	X	X	X	X
Open age	X	X	X	X

Lyrical

Age Group	Solo	Duo/Trio	Groups 4 – 20 dancers	Improv
6 years and under	X	X	X	
8 years and under	X	X	X	X
10 years and under	X	X	X	X
12 years and under	X	X	X	X
14 years and under	X	X	X	X
16 years and under	X	X	X	X
Open age	X	X	X	X

Jazz

Age Group	Solo	Duo/Trio	Groups 4 – 20 dancers	Improv
6 years and under	X	X	X	
8 years and under	X	X	X	X
10 years and under	X	X	X	X
12 years and under	X	X	X	X
14 years and under	X	X	X	X
16 years and under	X	X	X	X
Open age	X	X	X	X

Contemporary

Age Group	Solo	Duo/Trio	Groups 4 – 20 dancers	Improv
6 years and under	X	X	X	
8 years and under	X	X	X	X
10 years and under	X	X	X	X
12 years and under	X	X	X	X
14 years and under	X	X	X	X
16 years and under	X	X	X	X
Open age	X	X	X	X

National / Demi character / Variation

Age Group	Solo	Duo/Trio	Groups 4 – 20 dancers
8 years and under	X	X	X
10 years and under	X	X	X
12 years and under	X	X	X
14 years and under	X	X	X
16 years and under	X	X	X
Open age	X	X	X

Tap

Age Group	Solo	Duo/Trio	Groups 4 – 20 dancers
8 years and under	X	X	X
10 years and under	X	X	X
12 years and under	X	X	X
14 years and under	X	X	X
15 years and over	X	X	X

Other Style not already listed (incl musical theatre and acro)

Age Group	Solo	Duo/Trio	Groups 4 – 20 dancers
10 years and under	X	X	X
14 years and under	X	X	X
15 years and over	X	X	X

Hip Hop

Age Group	Solo	Duo/Trio	Groups 4 – 20 dancers
8 years and under	X	X	X
10 years and under	X	X	X
12 years and under	X	X	X
14 years and under	X	X	X
15 years and over	X	X	X

Own Choreography

Age Group
10 years and under
12 years and under
14 years and under
16 years and under
Open age

School Groups

Age Group
Infants – Group
Primary – Group
Junior High School (Years 7 to 9)
Senior High School (Years 10 to 12)

Arts for All - Any Style

Age Group
10 years and under
14 years and under
Open age

Adjudicator Awards - Most Promising Performer

10/U	12 /U	14/U	16/U	Open age
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