

FNQ Tropical Dance Festival – 2025

Although the aim is to provide a relaxed competition - some rules still need to exist.

Rules & Regulations

Teachers please ensure that the Competitors and Parents have read and understand the rules provided.

Failure to comply with any of the following rules and conditions will lead to disqualifications and withholding of prizes and the decision of the festival organisers shall be final. All entries received are subject to that proviso and shall not be subject to any appeal at law as being contrary to the spirit of friendly competition upon which this festival is based.

COVID-19 NOTE:

Proof of Double Vaccination is required to be able to enter the venue as directed by the QLD gov unless they are:

- under the age of 16 years
- in primary or secondary school and is part of a group attending an activity organised by a school, sporting team or community group

Make sure you:

- keep a distance from other people as much as you can
- wash your hands regularly and use hand sanitiser when you're out and about
- stay home if you are sick
- get tested if you develop any COVID-19 symptoms.

Everyone must be wearing a mask at ALL times unless:

- eating or drinking while seated
- or doing strenuous exercise i.e performing on stage
- you have a medical exemption

Please remember that all of the people working at the FNQTDF are volunteers and being rude to any of them will not be tolerated at this event and you will be asked to leave.

CODE OF ETHICS: The festival does not tolerate inappropriate, unfriendly or unsportsmanlike behaviour at any time by competitors, teachers and parents. There will be no derogatory statements concerning another studio or fellow dancer at any time. The Festival expects behaviour to be fitting and appropriate of our reputation and the art form we represent at all times. No screaming will be allowed during the competition either backstage or in the auditorium.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

ALL COMPETITORS DANCE IN THIS FESTIVAL AT THEIR OWN RISK

All entries must be submitted either online or by using the regulation entry forms that can be downloaded from the website or collected from Cairns Dance, with competitors Full Name, age and date of birth on each entry. If additional forms are needed, please photocopy the regulation form and send altogether in one package.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES:

The closing date of entries is 1st April 2025

LATE ENTRIES:

Late entries will only be accepted through your Dance Studio Owners/Teachers **ONLY** up to 1 week after close of entries.

An acknowledgement of receipt of entries will be made when the entry is received. If this acknowledgement is not received within one day of submitting your entry please check your junk mail and if still not received it is essential that you contact us immediately.

PAYMENT:

Entries must be paid at time of entry. Payment can be made via Paypal account, or Credit card details will be shown when the submit for button is pressed. No refunds will be given.

ALL COMPETITORS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY COMPULSORY REGISTRATION FEE. This fee includes a performers pass, electronic & hard copy of the program and a gift bag with their items to be collected at the venue.

If In the event the auditorium is full, then holders of a Performers Pass may be requested to relinquish their seat for a paying Patron.

Competition is open to all dancers, except full time professional dancers. If you have a question about eligibility, contact FNQ Tropical Dance Festival.

RIGHT TO REFUSE ENTRIES:

The FNQ Tropical Dance Festival and its Directors reserve the right to refuse any application at any time.

No competitor may appear more than once in any section.

A competitor whose name is omitted from the program due to an administration oversight will be required to perform last in the appropriate section.

If a competitor commences a dance then stops for any reason other than a technical fault on behalf of the organisers, then that competitor may be permitted to appear again at the end of the section. However, he or she will receive a mark at the adjudicators discretion.

COVID COMPLIANCE:

We comply with the Qld health Regulations and the Regulations of the venues being hired. All people must use the QLD checkin app and be able to prove vaccination status upon entry to venues.

Hilton Cairns - will allow a maximum of 20 Unvaccinated people at any 1 time. Please be aware if you are unvaccinated the maximum number of unvaccinated peoples has been reached you may be asked to leave the venue until an available time to enter to ensure we meet the criteria. Refunds will not be given if your unable to enter the venue at the time you desire if the maximum number of unvaccinated people has been reached.

All people accessing CPAC must be vaccinated in accordance with current guidelines and be able to prove their status. No refunds will be given if your unable to comply.

BACKSTAGE

The Backstage Area is a closed area.

Only competitors for that section, teachers and officials will be allowed back stage. NO FRIENDS, SIBLINGS OR PARENTS OF PERFORMERS ARE ALLOWED BACKSTAGE.

A teacher may only remain in the wings whilst a competitor/s from their own school is performing.

Festival Adjudicator:

If the adjudicator is approached by any competitor, relative, teacher or a member of that teacher's school whilst a session in underway, disqualification of that performer will occur immediately. Only officials of the festival are able to approach or communicate with the adjudicator during sessions.

We encourage the adjudicator to liaise with competitors as they see fit during breaks, however any unfavourable conduct towards the adjudicator will not be tolerated and a competitor can be disqualified immediately if this occurs.

The festival organisers' reserve the right to change the adjudicator for any reason whatsoever.

Age Categories:

5 & Under
7 & Under
9 & Under
11 & Under
13 & Under
15 & Under
16 & Over

Age Limits:

All AGE LIMITS AS OF THE 1ST January 2025

Competitors may perform in more than one duo or trio in any events.

TROUPE AGE LIMITS:

TROUPE AGE LIMITS AS OF THE 1ST January 2025

Up to 4 students may dance down an age group for troupes – please only use students that are up to 12 months older. This will help keep smaller troupes together. Please do not abuse this Privilege!

All soloists must dance within their own age limit.

No substituting of any entrant.

In the event of the competition not taking place for any reason, no responsibility will be accepted for any loss of time or expense incurred by the competitor.

If a section has less than 3 entrants, the committee will combine that section with the next age group up in the same code of dance.

Competitors must Check in to the venue 30 minutes prior to their section commencing.

NO REPEATING ALLOWED IN ANY AGE GROUP. Routines are to be performed ‘Once’ only at the festival.

TIME LIMITS:

Solos (excluding Demi, S&D and Musical Theatre)

11 yrs & Under - 2 min 30 sec

12 yrs & Over - 3 min

Demi Character, Song & Dance and Musical Theatre

All Ages 3 min 30 sec

Duos & Trios

All Ages - 3 min 15 sec

Troupes

All ages - 5 min

PROTESTS:

Protests against any competitor or any decision must be made in writing to the “Protests Committee” within 1 hour after completion of section with a fee of \$10.00. If in the opinion of the “Protest Committee” a protest is deemed frivolous, the deposit is forfeited.

ETTIQUETTE & CONDUCT:

All dancers will say “thank-you” and curtsy/bow when receiving an award.

Any studio, dancer or parent that abuses the dressing area will be disqualified or asked to leave the event. Each studio and participant will be responsible for totally cleaning their dressing areas.

PROGRAMMING:

A full listing of performers will be forwarded to all dance teachers of their students for review in the first instance to ensure no errors or omissions have been made, teachers only have the ability to add competitors at this point at their discretion. A complimentary copy of the programme will be distributed to all studios. Individual Programs will be available for collection at Cairns Dance or at the venue.

Please be courteous to your fellow competitors. It is expected that all competitors and attendees will conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen at all times, whether within the structure of the venue or within its immediate vicinity. This includes, but is not limited to, conducting themselves as they would in any theatre so as not to disturb the performers; by not talking during performances, not using cellular phones, entering and exiting viewing areas only between entries, etc. Inappropriate behaviour will result in disqualification as determined by FNQ Tropical Dance Festival onsite Directors.

DISCLAIMERS:

Any dancer competing in a dance competition takes certain incumbent risks. Upon entering the FNQ Tropical Dance Festival event, it is agreed that all students, parents, relatives and teachers will not hold FNQ Tropical Dance Festival its staff or directors or the host facilities responsible for any injury or loss of property during the event.

MUSIC:

Music will be uploaded via the link sent to all competitors clearly marked as shown in the link provided. Music must be supplied 1 week prior to competition or the performer will be disqualified from the section missing music. FNQ Tropical Dance Festival does not accept requests for fast forwarding, pitch control, fade outs etc. Please bring a back-up copy on USB in case of an emergency.

FNQ Tropical Dance Festival sound technicians, and/or venue staff assume no responsibility for any labelling mistakes or poorly recorded music.

Live voiceover or audible announcements from an offstage source during the course of a routine are prohibited. Any voiceover elements must be included on the recorded accompaniment for that routine.

The FNQ Tropical Dance Festival will not be made responsible for any competitor's music during or after completion of festival. All music will be deleted from files at the conclusion of the event.

STAGING / CURTAINS / PROPS.

Please note – to save on time - No stationary props or decorative staging for any solo/duo/trio – only carry on props will be allowed and they must have valid reason and be used through-out the routine. Competitors are responsible for their own props and are not to be stored backstage or in dressing rooms during the festival. The FNQ Tropia Dance Festival will not be made responsible for any props during or after completion of festival.

Dangerous props are not allowed, to include, but not limited to: pyrotechnics, fire, water, swords, knives, confetti, live animals and substances which alter the condition of the stage area. Routines are not permitted to include any type of prop which has the capability of causing any injury or compromising performance space.

No Real Flowers, Fruit, Foliage, Vegetables, Straw or Cellophane props are to be used or worn by competitors.

No props or effects are to be set up on stage prior to a performance. They should be safely stored backstage for the session prior to the section to be used. Props or effects are to be removed from backstage on the completion of the section.

The stage curtain will remain open for all sections other than Troupes.

PHOTOGRAPHY, MOBILE PHONES AND VIDEOGRAPHY

Flash photography is strictly prohibited during competition due to the negative impact it places on dancers while performing. Anyone, using a camera and asked more than once to remove it from the auditorium will result in removal from the auditorium and or disqualification of their school.

Mobile Phones must be turned off while owner is seated in the house section of the theatre or backstage during competition. Mobile phone use is limited to the lobby area of the venue.

Videotaping is prohibited. Violations will result in disqualification of the individual and affiliated organization. This rule will be strictly enforced to protect the integrity of individual choreography. Unauthorised Videoing is in contravention of APRA and PPCA it also carries a substantial fine.

TEACHERS PASSES

These will be granted by personal request only, please contact the FNQ Tropical Dance Festival should you require any Teachers Passes. Passes to be worn both backstage and at the front entrance.

ALL PERPETUAL TROPHIES REMAIN THE PROPERTY OF FNQ Tropical Dance Festival and must be returned to within 1 month prior to the following years competition.

Categories

- CLASSICAL BALLET
- DEMI-CHARACTER
- TAP (ANY TEMPO)
- WALTZ TAP - Must be 3/4 time.
- FAST TAP (UP TEMPO/SPEED)
- MODERN/JAZZ (UP TEMPO & UP BEAT STYLE) - no more than 6 acrobatic movements in the routine.
- LYRICAL (SLOW BALLETIC MOVEMENT/FREE STYLE)
- CONTEMPORARY (BALLET BASED/ABSTRACT FEEL)
- HIP HOP (TRUE STREET FUNKY STYLE)
- SONG & DANCE (50% SONG 50% DANCE)
- SONG OF CHOICE (This must be singing only basic movement is allowed, no "dance") - performed without a microphone
- MUSICAL THEATRE - Can be all singing or all dancing, must be from a Musical
- OPEN - This is any styles such as National, Novelty, Glitz, Acro (Must be a new routine not performed in any other section of this competition)
- STUDENT OWN CHOREOGRAPHY (MUST BE STRICTLY THE ORIGINAL WORK & CHOREOGRAPHY OF THE COMPETITOR PERFORMING THE PIECE)
- ALL ABILITIES (This is for competitors with a disability (physical or non-physical))
- IMPROV Challenge (1 section consists of various styles, all competitors appear on stage at the same time and hear the music for the first time.
- CHAMPIONSHIPS:
 - Ballet - Perform 2 routines *1 Classical and 1 Demi Character* (Must have competed in Classical Solo to be eligible)
 - Modern - Perform 2 routines *1 Modern up temp and 1 Lyrical or contemporary* (Must have competed in Modern Solo to be eligible)
 - Tap - Perform 2 routines *1 Slow/Waltz Tap and 1 Fast Tap* (Must have competed in Tap Solo to be eligible)
 - Song & Dance - Perform 2 routines *1 Song and Soft Shoe and 1 Song and Tap* (Must have competed in Song & Dance Solo to be eligible)

THE FNQ Tropical Dance Festival IS OPEN TO ALL DANCE PERFORMERS WHO DO NOT RECEIVE A FULL TIME WAGE PERFORMING OR WORKING AS A FULL TIME PERFORMER OR DANCER.

THE FNQ Tropical Dance Festival RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DELETE, COMBINE OR SPLIT SECTIONS AS NECESSARY.

SOLO SECTIONS – SOME SECTIONS WILL BE DIVIDED INTO NOVICE AND OPEN SECTIONS.

NOVICE SOLO SECTIONS – ARE LIMITED TO COMPETITORS WHO HAVE NOT GAINED A 1st, 2nd OR 3rd PLACE IN THAT CATEGORY AT ANY AGE IN ANY COMPETITION IN THE PREVIOUS 2 YEARS UP TO 1ST January 2025

OPEN SOLO SECTIONS – ARE FOR THE COMPETITORS WHO HAVE GAINED A 1st, 2nd OR 3rd PLACE IN THAT CATEGORY AT ANY AGE IN ANY COMPETITION IN THE PREVIOUS 2 YEARS UP TO 1ST January 2025

ENTRY FEES

Fees must be paid at time of entry using the online platform.

No manual entries will be permitted.

TICKET SALES TO VIEW SECTIONS

These will be advised once pricing has been determined by the venue.

Competitors will be granted competitors pass to watch any section, however paying ticket holders will be given priority over competitors passes.

NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN: YOU SEND YOUR ENTRIES WITH THIS UNDERSTANDING, CLEARLY KNOWING ONCE ENTRIES ARE RECEIVED NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN.

Should the event be postponed due to circumstances beyond the control of the event organisers such as government restrictions (lockdown laws), an alternative date will be found. No refunds will be given if competitors cannot attend, however a credit to enter future competition will be granted. If an alternative date cannot be found and the event is cancelled, refunds will be granted.

IMPROVISATION & STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHY SOLO SECTIONS

Whilst Costumes are not compulsory, it is suggested that for Student Choreography sections, performers may wear a costume in keeping with the theme of the routine. Improvisation sections NO costume be worn however Tidy appearance, Dance/Practice wear style clothing is required. The adjudicator will chose and supply the music for all improvisation sections.

AGGREGATE CRITEREA 2025

Highest points gained in the following Genres;

(3 points 1st, 2 points 2nd, 1 point 3rd)

Classical, Demi Character, Song & Dance, Tap, Waltz Tap, Modern, Lyrical, Contemporary, Hip Hop.