



TROUPES

DANCE SYLLABUS 2026

Date: Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th August 2026

PERFORMING ARTS & CULTURE CENTRE

CESSNOCK

Adjudicator: TBA

Entries through Comps-Online

Closing date for TROUPE entries – 26th July 2026

(or once capacity is reached)

Director of Dance: Moya Waters

Contact: 0406409804

Email: abermaineisteddfoddance@gmail.com Website: <https://www.abermaineisteddfod.org.au>

TROUPES

DATE FOR 2026:

SATURDAY 29th & SUNDAY 30th AUGUST

ENTRY FEES * per section	
TROUPE ENTRY	\$30
INCLUSIVE TROUPE ENTRY	Free
PROGRAM (compulsory)	\$7

OUR TRADITION

The Abermain Eisteddfod is the longest running eisteddfod of its kind in NSW. It was established circa 1917, and in 1965 it grew to be the largest eisteddfod in NSW, even rivalling the Sydney Eisteddfod.

Historically, the Abermain Eisteddfod holds immense significance in the hearts and minds of so many local dances. It has offered a platform for dancers to showcase their talents, gain constructive and professional feedback and most importantly opens minds to the beauty and possibilities of dance.

The Abermain Eisteddfod is not for profit and operated by a dedicated committee of volunteers.

All prize money is raised or donated by local families and businesses to ensure the 'community' tradition continues.

OUR VENUE

Performing Arts & Culture Centre Cessnock (PACC), 198-202 Vincent Street Cessnock 2325

The PACC is an amazing venue to showcase the competitors' talents. A 466-seat theatre to cater for the masses with the charm of feeling like an intimate setting for the smaller numbers. Professional quality sound system, lighting and ample change areas – simply put, there is nowhere better!

A large stage – 8 metres wide x 6 metres deep (with a further 3 metre 'apron' at the front of stage) with professional quality Tarkett flooring.



RULES & REGULATIONS

Please read carefully

AGE ENTRY

Troupe entries are calculated as the average age of the troupe as at the first day of the competition – **Saturday 29th August 2026**. E.g. 10.4 rounds down to 10/U and if 10.5 rounds up to 11 and they will be 12/U.

TIME LIMIT: 5 minutes

ADJUDICATION

Adjudicators are industry professionals and carefully chosen to judge at the event. The adjudicator's decision is final – no protests will be accepted.

The adjudicator will be announced prior to the event. In the event an announced adjudicator cannot attend, Abermain Eisteddfod reserves the right to engage a different adjudicator for the event.

The Adjudicator must not be approached by any competitor/parent/dance teacher for any reason.

AMATEUR STATUS

The competition is open to amateurs only; an amateur being defined as one whose regular income is not primarily derived from the exercise of his or her talents in which they are competing.

ARRIVAL

Doors will open one hour prior to the competition's scheduled start time.

AGE-APPROPRIATE PERFORMANCE / COSTUMING

We clearly understand the wide range of styles and appropriateness that dancers are exposed to in different settings including social media and TV.

We have the expectations that every performance be in good taste for viewing by a 'family friendly' audience.

ATTENDEES

ALL attendees, participating performers, teachers, parents and friends are expected to display good sportsmanship and encouragement of others. People who do not comply with these rules will be withdrawn from the competition or asked to leave. Our focus is always on the dancer's best performance and a safe and supportive atmosphere.

BACKSTAGE / SIDESTAGE RULES

- No person other than competitors in the current sections will be allowed backstage with exception to 5/U & 6/U sections. However, teachers may accompany your competitors to the backstage holding area.
- Props stored backstage must not obstruct passageways and must be removed from the backstage area as soon as possible following the performance.

DRESSING ROOMS

Due to child protection laws, please use the Dressing Rooms provided. These are to be left clean & tidy. Abermain Eisteddfod accepts no responsibility for items left in dressing rooms.

ENTRIES and ALTERATIONS

- The comps-online system for entries will enable you to make all your entries online in one transaction. To enter, go to www.compsonline.com.au or follow the comps-online link on our website www.abermaineisteddfod.com.au .
- By registering for this event, participants acknowledge that they have read and understand the rules and regulations of the event, and they have in turn informed all parents as to the same requirements.
- Entry fees are non-refundable except when the event is cancelled.
- The Abermain Eisteddfod reserves the right to cancel, move or extend the competitions in accordance with the number of entries or unforeseen circumstances. In the event of cancellation, all funds will be returned promptly.
- The Abermain Eisteddfod will not release scores from participating performers to any other studio.
- If insufficient entrants in a section, the committee reserves the right to amend or combine a section at their discretion.
- Acceptance of an entry by the Eisteddfod Committee is conditional upon the competitor agreeing that their name may be published in the Eisteddfod Program, in results published in the media and on the Abermain Eisteddfod website and social pages.
- Competitors must be present at the beginning of a session as withdrawals may alter the order of appearance. Due to this, it is unwise to anticipate exact performance times.
- Please review your entries carefully – no alterations or additional entries will be accepted after the close of entries on **26th July 2026**.

FLOORING

All performances take place on Tarkett Flooring. Ideal for all genres. **No Resin is to be used.**

MUSIC UPLOADS

Music must be submitted via the music uploads platform no later than 1 week prior to the commencement of the competition. Competitors will be notified of the date for commencing uploads as soon as it becomes available. Please ensure you keep a backup of your music on a phone or USB in the event of an error.

LIABILITY

Abermain Eisteddfod, its staff and the venue, will not be responsible for any accident or injury. All competitors and spectators enter at their own risk. No responsibility will be taken for any accident, injury or loss of property, This also applies to the cars parked in the grounds of the venue.

PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO

Due to legal requirements related to privacy and child protection, the use of cameras or recording devices by individuals is strictly prohibited inside the theatre.

Photos and/or video etc. taken by Committee Members or appointed professionals may be posted on the Abermain Eisteddfod social media pages, promotional material and website.

If you do not give permission, please advise the Dance Convenor or an official Committee Member well in advance of the commencement of the Eisteddfod.

Photos may be taken in front of the media boards found at the back of the venue or in the foyer.

A professional videographer and photographer will be available at the event – performances and photos can be purchased at the event.



REPEATS

No Repeats are permitted.

TAP SHOES

Tap covers are always required when inside the building.

TEACHERS ENTRY

Teachers are granted free entry into the venue. As a requirement of the venue, you will be asked to sign in and provide a current Working with Children Check. Passes are nontransferable.

THEATRE

No eating/drinking or smoking are permitted in the theatre. Fire exits must be kept clear. No entry/exit is allowed in/out of the theatre when an act is on stage. Please turn your mobile phone off or on silent while in the theatre.

AWARDS

Prizes include Cash, Trophies, Certificates and more.

All Awards are subject to entries.

All prize money has been kindly donated by local families and businesses in the spirit of keeping the tradition of Abermain Eisteddfod moving forward – Now in its 109th year!

OVERALLS

- Trophies / Awards for all section placings.
- **Adjudicator's CHOICE Award:** Junior & Senior
- **Adjudicator's ENCOURAGEMENT Award:** Junior & Senior
- **Abermain Sportsmanship Award:** Junior & Senior
- **Most Outstanding Overall Tap Troupe:** Junior & Senior
- **Most Outstanding Overall Troupe:** Junior & Senior
- **Most Entertaining:** Junior & Senior
- **Most Memorable Costume:** Junior & Senior
- **Most Outstanding Choreography:** Junior & Senior
- **Highest Performing Studio:** Aggregate score of four entries across a min. of three age groups.
- **Heart & Soul Award:** Junior & Senior

TROUPE ENTRIES

OPEN SECTIONS						
CLASSICAL	CONTEMPORARY	HIP HOP	JAZZ	LYRICAL	ANY STYLE	TAP
15/O	15/O	15/O	15/O	15/O	15/O	15/O
14/U	14/U	14/U	14/U	14/U	14/U	14/U
12/U	12/U	12/U	12/U	12/U	12/U	12/U
10/U	10/U	10/U	10/U	10/U	10/U	10/U
8/U	8/U	8/U	8/U	8/U	8/U	8/U
6/U	6/U	6/U	6/U	6/U	6/U	6/U
5/U	5/U	5/U	5/U	5/U	5/U	5/U

INCLUSIVE SECTION FOR TROUPES WITH INDIVIDUAL NEEDS						
Multiple Entries accepted						
13/O	12/U	Any Genre, Any Style - This section is free to enter				

We are using

Music Uploads

For our Music and Voice Critiques

All music will now be uploaded direct and managed by the team at Music Uploads. No more CD's USB's or Emails
If you do not have an active storage plan you will need to sign up at musicuploads.com.au


