

DANCE CONNECTION

8 Rockingham Rd

Windham, NH 03087

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2023-2024

COMPANY GUIDELINES



Dear Parents and Dancers,

Congratulations on being a member of Dance Connection's Company teams. Please read through this packet carefully as it contains a great deal of important information including payment/fee dates.

IMPORTANT

Please sign in agreement with both signatures by:

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

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SECTION A:

ATTENDANCE & TARDINESS

Attendance:

Attendance is taken every day.

Attendance is a must in order for students to develop a strong character through self-confidence and an awareness of themselves both physically and mentally. Attendance also helps to achieve a greater sense of responsibility and a better appreciation and respect for the arts and the studio.

If there are multiple unexcused absences, your child will jeopardize their chance to sign up for a Winter Solo/Specialty, or to compete in their class or their solos/specialties. An unexcused absence is defined as a missed class that a parent/guardian has not called the studio. Absences are not excused for birthday parties, etc.

Only a parent or guardian is allowed to make this phone call.

Notification must be made to the front desk. Please do not text Miss Laurie concerning an absence.

If you are to miss a class due to a fall sport it is your responsibility to learn all missed choreography before the next class. If you do not know your choreography, your spot in the routine may be changed at the discretion of the teacher. Please take careful consideration before signing up for extra activities. Students who do not come to class consistently risk losing their solo, specialty, part in a routine and/or participating in competitions. They also risk their company placement.

It is expected that the student is 100% committed to dance January - June. If a student misses more than 3 days of class due to illness a doctor's note is required.

Dancers must attend the last class before any performance, competition or recital. If not, they will lose their place in the routine and will not be able to compete or be in the recital.

Sports, Band, or Cheerleading often interfere with dance class time. Please be aware that missing dance for this reason is not allowed after the fall season is completed. It is not fair to teachers and teammates who are trying to further their education in dance, and are hampered by constant tardiness or absenteeism of a student. Carefully choose your commitments.

Tardiness:

- A record will be kept of each student's tardiness. Tardy means being more than 5 minutes late for class. Excessive tardiness will not be tolerated. The teacher has permission to NOT allow any student into their class if they are consistently more than 5 minutes late.
- Once classes have begun and the door is shut, a student may not enter until they hear the music stop or the teacher opens the door.

Cell Phones:

Cell phones and Apple watches are NOT ALLOWED in the classroom. There is a phone at the front desk if you need to make a phone call or have a parent leave a message. If a cell phone or Apple watch is taken into a classroom the teacher will have permission to take the device until the end of the student's classes for the day.

CLASSES AT OUTSIDE STUDIOS

Students who wish to participate in additional conventions and/or classes other than with Dance Connection, must receive written consent from Dance Connection's studio owner. Requests are to be made in writing.

SECTION B:

CLASS DRESS CODE

It is **MANDATORY** for all company students to follow studio guidelines for the dress code. The dress code will be strictly enforced. Students will be given up to two (2) warnings for failing to meet dress code requirements. After a second warning for insufficiently following the dress code the student will be asked to not participate in class. This may impact the student's eligibility to continue with their solo or specialty.

BALLET CLASSES

Black tank or camisole leotard and any color sports bra
Pink tights - convertible
Hair in bun - NO loose hair (gel and/or hairspray is necessary)
Capezio Canvas Ballet Shoe – Canvas split sole, Capezio Hanami Ballet Shoes, light pink
(Peewee, Mini, Youth, Squirt, Junior, Senior)

NON-BALLET CLASSES

Black tank or camisole leotard and any color sports bra
Tan tights or no tights
Black leggings can be worn (accent color is allowed, but should be 95% black)
Optional:
Black lycra shorts
DC black camisole fitted shirt
Fitted solid dark color camisole shirt (black, navy, or dark grey)
Hair in braids, bun or ponytail - NO loose hair

Tap Shoes

PeeWee/Mini/Youth - BLOCH Tap-on Tap Shoe - Tan
Squirt/Junior/Senior - BLOCH Tap, Flex Tap Shoe - Black

Jazz Shoes

PeeWee/Mini/Youth/Squirt - Balera Slip-on Jazz Shoes - Caramel
*Dance Connection will be sizing for the Jazz shoes August - September 30th and ordering them. Please see the front desk for more information

HIP HOP

White low top sneakers (CLEAN)
Sweat pants – please make sure they are loose fitting
Shirt - please make sure it is loose fitting
Hair in braids or ponytail

SHOES

Students must have proper shoes for every style class by October 2, 2023.
Please bring all shoes to every class.

** Students cannot participate in Ballet, Tap or Hip Hop class without proper shoes and will be asked to sit out.

In All Classes:

No big jewelry (earrings/bracelets/necklaces), oversized t-shirts, sweatshirts or sweatpants.
Hip Hop Exception: shirts, sweatshirts, and sweatpants can be worn in class.

EQUIPMENT

All Squirts, Juniors, and Seniors are required to purchase ankle weight and hand weights.

Squirts: 1-2 lbs Junior/Seniors: 2-5 lbs

Dancers must have these weights at all classes by October 2, 2023

SECTION C:

PERFORMANCE DRESS CODE

Company students must look uniform when representing the Dance Connection at competitions and conventions.

All Company students must have or purchase from APP Imprints (the store on our website) or purchase thru Dance Connection:

1. Dance Connection Navy Blue Company Jacket
2. Navy Blue Company Shirt
3. NEW STYLE Dance Connection Black Tank Top (this must be purchased by all Dance Connection Company Members, the previous black tank top has been discontinued)
4. Black "V" waist, boot cut, Jazz pants (this needs to be purchased thru Dance Connection)

The first 3 items must be ordered online on the Dance Connection website on the "DC Store". Please watch the website for opening and closing dates. Payment is made at the time of the order. APP IMPRINTS will process credit card payments. THE DANCE CONNECTION WILL NOT BE ORDERING OR TAKING PAYMENTS.

The 4th item must be ordered thru Dance Connection by October 30, 2023. Sizes will be available to try on at the front desk

All orders are non-refundable and cannot be returned or exchanged.

DC will NOT carry extra performance attire.

In addition, Company students are responsible for having:

- Solid Black Lycra Shorts
- Solid Black (thick) Racer Back Sports Bra (Squirts, Youth, Juniors and Seniors mandatory)
- Solid Black no-show socks
- Solid Black Sneakers

Nail Polish – Students may have no polish on fingernails and/or toenails for any competition or outside performance. The only exception to this policy is a classic French white manicure or clear polish. Any student found wearing fingernail and/or toenail polish will not be allowed to perform.

Piercings – Students performing group pieces will only be permitted to wear piercings if provided with their costumes. All other piercings (multiple ear piercings, belly button rings, and facial piercings) must be removed prior to performance or replaced with clear studs for piercings. Solos and Specialties will be decided by the teacher and student(s) performing.

Tattoos – No visible tattoos at any performance.

SECTION D:

COSTUMES/MAKEUP:

COSTUMES

Company students will have approximately 2 - 7 costumes.

First payment for costumes is due on October 20, 2023.

The second payment is due on November 6, 2023.

These costumes are for regular classes and **do not include solos or specialties.**

Solo and specialty costumes will be added to the October 20th payment.

Costumes are \$125.00 each.

The following is a list of how many costumes your child will need. Please see the breakdown on when payment is due.

PeeWee Company Appx 2 Costumes 1 costume Oct 20th/1 costume Nov 6th

Mini Company Appx 3 Costumes 2 costumes Oct 20th/1 costume Nov 6th

Squirt Company Appx 7 Costumes 3 costumes Oct 20th/4 costumes Nov 6th

Youth Company Appx 2 Costumes 1 costume Oct 20th/1 costume Nov 6th

Junior Company Appx 7 Costumes 3 costumes Oct 20th/4 costumes Nov 6th

Senior Company Appx 7 Costumes 3 costumes Oct 20th/4 costumes Nov 6th

MAKEUP

Makeup can be purchased at Amazon.com, Walmart, Target, Rite Aid, or CVS

EYES: Maybelline New York #20 - Velvet Crush Eye Shadow (4 colors in 1 case)

Black Eyeliner - any type

Black Mascara - any brand (must be waterproof)

Fake Eyelashes - Squirts, Juniors, and Seniors only

CHEEKS: Covergirl #117 Plum Plush Blush

LIPS: Covergirl Outlast Lip color #560 Wild Berry

Covergirl Outlast Lip color #598 Forever Fawn

SECTION E:

COMPETITIONS/CONVENTIONS:

COMPETITIONS

Not every Company level will enter a routine in a competition. A Company team must show that they have worked hard and the routine must be clean and at competition level in order to enter.

Each competition has a fee per student/per routine to enter - approx. \$75/student/routine.
All competition fees are non-refundable.

Currently:

Mini, Squirt, Junior and Senior Companies will be competing in approximately 3 competitions in the Spring of 2024.

PeeWee Company will be competing in 2 competitions

Youth Company will tentatively be competing in 1 competition

Tentative dates will be available by mid October. Please check our website.
A detailed competition bill will be provided in December, with payment processed January 1, 2024.

CONVENTIONS

Conventions are very important to enhance the technique and style of a dancer. They also give students the learning experience to retain choreography quicker. Listed below are two Conventions.

All Mini, Squirts, Junior, and Senior students are required to participate in ONE Convention, but they can do both if they desire.

New Peewee Company students do not have to sign up for a convention.

Sign up for these conventions will be on the same page as the signature agreement page for the Company Guidelines.

Deadline to sign up for conventions is August 29th, 2023.

Payment will be processed on Sept. 10th, 2023.

Convention dates and fees:

October 29th, Danvers, MA Dancer Fee: \$185.00 Observer Fee: \$35.00

January 13th, Danvers, MA Dancer Fee: \$185.00 Observer Fee: \$35.00

If you would like to participate in a third Convention, please contact Miss Laurie in writing via Dance Connection email dcnhwindham@gmail.com

There will be a 4% processing fee added to all convention payments.

SECTION F:

SOLOS/SPECIALTIES

Solos/Specialties are reserved for those students who participate in a minimum of 5 Summer Workshop classes and all Company required classes or their equivalent, as determined by the studio owner.

Summer Solo/Specialty

Students that were taught their solos and/or specialties during the summer through October 31, 2023 have the option of competing 3 extra competitions in the winter. Summer Solos/Specialty students must compete in at least 2 of the 3 competitions that are offered.

Competition Dates:

January 12th - 14th- Danvers, MA

February 16th - 17th - Concord, NH

March 8th - 10th - Nashua, NH

* Payment is due October 25, 2023 for these 3 competitions. A detailed bill will be available by October 10, 2023.

** You will be charged for all 3 competitions unless Dance Connection is informed in writing by September 20, 2023.

*** The first competition will include a 2-day convention along with competition.

Winter Solo/Specialty

Students may also sign up for a solo/specialty during the winter.

These will take place from approximately November 15, 2023 thru March 15, 2024.

Sign up for these will be available on the website starting November 1, 2023.

SECTION G:

OUTSIDE PERFORMANCES & COMPANY DUES

ALL Company students are required to participate in all outside performances.

These are not optional events. Being part of a Company means that you perform in competitions as well as outside performances. These outside performances will have a 5 minute routine that will be choreographed and rehearsed during the dance year. These rehearsals will sometimes be during class but other times are at a separate time that the entire Company can rehearse.

COMPANY DUES and EXTRAS

In addition to your monthly tuition, there is an annual non-refundable Company Dues fee of \$250.00.

This fee covers the cost of administration work, extra rehearsals, blocking rehearsals, teacher fees, pep rally extras and all other expenses associated with outside performances.

This fee does not include transportation costs to or from performances.

For your convenience this fee will be broken up into 10 payments of \$25.00 with the first payment September 1, 2023.

SECTION H:

SUMMER WORKSHOP

Summer Workshop is MANDATORY for all Company students to remain on the Company at the Dance Connection.

Summer Workshop is beneficial to all dancers to maintain the dance skills learned during the past year. It also keeps the dancers flexible and dancing up to their full potential.

Summer Workshop will be held mid-June thru August. In order to remain on a DC Company team you MUST participate in 4 classes during the summer. If you would like to perform a solo or specialty in 2024/2025 you must participate in 5 Summer Workshop classes Mid-June thru August. Sign up for classes will be in April. You will only be allowed to sign up for a maximum of 5 classes so please check your summer schedule.

If Private Classes are needed to complete the 4 or 5 classes to comply with Company Guidelines, the Private Class fee is in addition to the Summer Workshop fee.

PAYMENTS

All students' accounts must be current with no running monthly balances in order to perform in outside activities, compete or receive costumes.

SECTION I:

COMPANY AGREEMENT SIGNATURE PAGE

Being a dancer on a Dance Connection Company team is a privilege. It is a privilege that has been granted due to your hard work, persistence, a positive attitude and being a positive role model. A competition dancer may be asked to step down if they are not holding themselves to the high standards that gave them this privilege to perform on a Dance Connection Company team. In order to ensure this Company placement, please make sure to adhere to the policies and procedures of Dance Connection.

Please return to the previous form to accept and sign the guideline rules and to choose a convention date. Thank you!