

**Please read carefully. Failure to comply with the rules below could result in disqualification.**

## REGISTRATION

Entries are accepted on a first come, first serve basis and are limited to the amount of performance time available. Studio Directors determine the level of each dancer. The competition level of each routine is determined by the level of the dancers registered. All entries must originate from a studio, independent entries are NOT accepted. Failure to comply with our rules may result in disqualification. Only credit cards or certified cashier's checks (made payable to Elite Dance Challenge, LLC) will be accepted. Entries are not considered complete without full studio payment. All studio entries must be submitted together. **No entries will be processed without full payment.**

**A \$20 late-fee**, per change, will be assessed for to any changes after the schedule has been released. **Elite Dance Challenge also bears the right to refuse the entry of any studio at their discretion.**

Studios will be notified of the event schedule approximately 10-days prior to the event (**ONLY** if they have paid in full for the event). Each studio will be given a deadline date to contact our office by **EMAIL** with any corrections to dancer names, routine names, and number of dancers in a routine. Carefully review the entire schedule. **\*\*Any registration/schedule changes 5-days before event will result in a charge. There will be an Accommodation Fee for any special requests – emailed, called-in, or submitted via the registration system portal.**

## PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO RECORDING

Video recording and photography of any kind is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. Photography and video are only allowed during awards ceremonies. We have put this rule in place to protect the intellectual property of the choreographers. More importantly, we enforce this rule to protect children from having their images used inappropriately without their consent. We urge all studio owners, teachers, and parents to keep our performers photographically safe. EDC reserves the right to remove media being used or those using it from the event. Failure to comply with these rules could result in the routine point deductions and/or disqualification of dancer(s) and/or studio(s). **Teachers - it is your responsibility to inform your dancers and families of this rule. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.**

## ENTRY FEES

Elite Dance Challenge releases prices to Director's only for both Regional and National Entry Fees. Please call 401-739-2640 or e-mail [info@elitedancechallenge.net](mailto:info@elitedancechallenge.net) and we will be happy to send you that information.

## PERFORMANCE LEVELS

Studio Directors determine the level of each dancer based upon the following criteria. Please check level placement for all dancers.

Recreational – EDC recommends this competition level for **beginning** dancers who have little or no experience competing and/or compete in 5 or less routines. A dancer in this division may only compete 1 solo.

Intermediate – EDC recommends this competition level for **intermediate or 'on the rise'** dancers and is recommended for dancers who have had approximately 2 – 5 years of experience and/or compete in no more than 8 routines. **\*\*\*This is the ONLY level that is eligible to compete for Petite, Junior, Teen, Miss/Mr. Emerging Artist Titles.** Intermediate dancers may compete 2 solos.

Competitive – EDC recommends this competition level for **experienced dancers** who have competed for more than 5 years and/or compete in 9 or more routines. A competitive dancer may compete no more than 3 solos. **\*\*\*This is the ONLY level that is eligible to compete for Petite, Junior, Teen, Miss/Mr. Elite titles.**

Pro-Am – Teachers or professional dancers must enter the Pro-Amateur level.

Adult – A performer that is 20 and over.

Parent – A parents and/or parents with students. Routine competes for adjudication.

When determining the performance level of a dancer, please keep in mind you can only choose one of the six levels. In other words, a dancer cannot be Intermediate in one dance style and Competitive in another. The level you place a dancer in on your student roster list in our online system will carry though every dance he or she is in.

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** Because NO competition can possibly know how many hours a child dances or how many years they have danced, teachers are left to their own sound judgment when entering routines. However, the judges may elevate routines that are obviously under-placed. All decisions are Final.

If your studio has more than one competition team, that does not mean that one of the teams have to be placed in the Intermediate Level. It is possible that both teams could/should be entered in the Competitive or Intermediate Level. Our levels should not be used as a tool to simply keep your groups from completing against one another. Each dancer/group placement should be based upon qualifications of that team. The spirit and intent of our Performance Levels is to provide dancers with the opportunity to compete against other dancers with similar experience and training. It is NOT designed so that Intermediate dancers can win more categories.

## AGE DIVISIONS

All Regional and National ages are as of January 1, 2024.

Tiny	3 – 5 years
Mini	6 – 8 years
Young	9 – 12 years
Teen	13 – 15 years
Senior	16 – 19 years
Adult	20+ years

- **Studio Directors must be prepared to present birth certificates should a protest arise.**
- Any person who is visible once the routine has started and prior to the end of the routine will be considered a performer and is subject to age division and group size rules.
- Any routines in the Adult, Pro-Am, or Parent category are not eligible for Overall High Score Awards – Specifically – Recreational, Intermediate or Competitive Overall High Point Solo/Duo/Trio or Recreational, Intermediate, or Competitive Overall High Point Group/Line/Production OR Judges Choice Awards: Outstanding Choreography, Outstanding Entertainment, Showmanship, Technical Excellence, and Emotional Execution.

Entry Divisions		Time Limits	
Solo or Solo & Title	1 dancer	Solo or Solo & Title	2:45 minutes
Duo/Trio	2 – 3 dancers	Duo/Trio	2:45 minutes
Small Group	4 – 9 dancers	Small Group	3:00 minutes
Large Group	10 – 16 dancers	Large Group	4:00 minutes
Line	17+ dancers	Line	4:00 minutes
Production	17+ dancers	Production	8:00 minutes
Modeling	1 dancer	Modeling	1:30 minutes

Extended time is available for purchase for group entries that exceed the time limit. Maximum extra time allowed is 1 minute.

## PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

\*Note: Please make sure that all routines with more than two acro passes are entered into acro or open categories. More than two acro passes are not permitted in Ballet, Pointe, Tap, Jazz, Modern, Contemporary or Lyrical categories.

An acro pass is defined as a combination of two or more acro tricks. One single cartwheel or one single handspring, etc. constitutes a trick, not a pass.

Performance Categories	
Category	Definition
Acrobatic/Gymnastics	Controlled acrobatic or gymnastics movements involving flexibility and balance. Routine must include dance technique, choreography, and fluid moves.
Ballet	Routine must consist of ballet technique, classical steps and movements, performed in soft shoes.
Clogging	Routine consisting of clogging technique and performed in clogging shoes.
Contemporary	Routine consisting of contemporary jazz and lyrical technique.
Fashion Modeling	Contestants model Sports attire. (No Swimsuits)
Folkloric	Routine using ethnic styles of dance such as Polkas, Hawaiian, Spanish, Celtic, etc.
Formal Modeling	Contestants model formal attire. (Prom Gowns)
Hip Hop	Routine using primarily hip hop technique or street style moves from at least one of the various styles; no jazz technique.
Inspirational	Dancers with life challenging abilities.
Jazz	Routine using primarily jazz technique.
Lyrical	Routine must emphasize control utilizing the lyrics and mood of the music.
Modern	Interpretive dance using such principles as space, force, weight and time. Dancers demonstrate balance, extensions, isolations and control.
Musical Theatre	Designed primarily for musical comedy and Broadway dancing. Mime, lip sync singing, etc. are allowed.
Open	To encompass any form of dance not already listed or which is a combo of two or more performance categories.
Photogenic	Contestants must electronically upload their photos into the registration system. <b>Photogenic entries must be registered prior to the competition. NO photogenic entries may be added to the competition on the day of the event.</b>
Pointe	Routine containing pointe technique. At least 50% of the performers must be on pointe.
Song and Dance	Routine must consist of both singing and dancing in any category. Music may only have back-up vocals.
Student Choreography	Any style of dance choreographed by a student. Students must be age 19 or younger to participate.

Tap	Dancers wear tap shoes and execute tap technique. May be performed with or without music accompaniment. Tap sounds may not be recorded.
Vocal	Any type of vocal performance using one handheld microphone provided by Elite Dance Challenge. <b>Accompaniment may only be instrumental.</b>

## TITLES

### Intermediate Level Title – Emerging Artist Title

An intermediate level soloist may enter up to two regional solo routines for the regional title. Each title entry's score is based on the performer's overall performance ability, personality, and entertainment skills, in addition to technique. Each title winner will receive a large trophy, crown and gift. Note: You do not have to win a 2023 Emerging Artist Regional Title to compete for a 2023 Emerging Artist National Title. Title solo scores do carry over into the dancers high score age category. For Example – A dancer competing for the title of Emerging Artist Miss Elite will also be eligible for overall high score in the Senior Intermediate Solo category.

Regional / National Title	Age Divisions
Emerging Artist Petite Miss Elite / Emerging Artist Petite Mr. Elite	8 & Under
Emerging Artist Junior Miss Elite / Emerging Artist Junior Mr. Elite	9 – 12
Emerging Artist Teen Miss Elite / Emerging Artist Teen Mr. Elite	13 – 15
Emerging Artist Miss Elite / Emerging Artist Mr. Elite	16 – 19

A **competitive** level soloist may enter up to two regional solo routines for the regional title. Each title entry's score is based on the performer's overall performance ability, personality, and entertainment skills, in addition to technique. Each title winner will receive a large trophy, crown and gift. 2023 National Title Winners are not eligible to compete for a 2024 Regional Title within the same age division. Note: You do not have to win a 2024 Regional Title to compete for a 2024 National Title. Title solo scores do carry over into the dancers high score age category. For example – a dancer competing for the title of Miss Elite will also be eligible for the overall high score in the Senior Competitive Solo category.

Regional / National Title	Age Divisions
Petite Miss Elite / Petite Mr. Elite	8 & Under
Junior Miss Elite / Junior Mr. Elite	9 – 12
Teen Miss Elite / Teen Mr. Elite	13 – 15
Miss Elite / Mr. Elite	16 – 19

Petite Miss/Mr., Junior Miss/Mr. Elite, Teen Miss/Mr. Elite and Miss/Mr. Elite contestants can **ONLY** be entered in the competitive level.

## ELITE MODELING

Formal and Fashion modeling events are set up in T formation. The T formation is executed as followed - enter from stage right, pose, walk to the center of the stage, pose in the center of the stage, walk to the front to the stage, pose, walk up-stage turn front to acknowledge the judges, walk towards stage left, pose, then exit stage left.

Modeling Categories:

Formal Modeling – Party dress or formal gown attire (prom wear). Dress can be short or long. Boys should wear blazer/slacks, suit or tuxedo. Pageant poses and front circle for judges is acceptable. **NO RUNWAY MODELING.**

Fashion Modeling – Sports or fashion wear is acceptable. Props such as hats, gloves, and jackets are encouraged. No swimsuits allowed.

Photogenic – Contestants must electronically upload their photos into the registration system. **Photogenic entries must be registered prior to the competition. NO photogenic entries may be added to the competition on the day of the event.**

\*\*Recreational, Intermediate, and Competitive are all combined in modeling.

A winner and runner-up will be selected in every age division in every category. If you enter all three categories (formal modeling, fashion modeling, and photogenic) your scores will be combined to determine the Overall Elite Modeling at a Regional or National. \*We will award a Baby Overall Model (0-2) and Ages 3 & Up Overall Model.

## JUDGING GUIDELINES

A highly qualified panel of judges will judge each entry and their decisions will be final. Contacting or speaking to judges is strictly prohibited at all times in order to give a fair chance to all participants. Each performance will be evaluated on the following elements:

- |    |                |           |
|----|----------------|-----------|
| 1. | Technique      | 30 Points |
| 2. | Stage Presence | 20 Points |
| 3. | Choreography   | 20 Points |
| 4. | Execution      | 20 Points |
| 5. | Difficulty     | 10 Points |

There is a maximum of 100 points per judge. The judges will also take into consideration whether routine are age appropriate and placed into the correct performance level.

## Deductions

- Time: 1 point will be deducted for every 5 seconds over the time limit
- Props: 1 point will be deducted for a prop that was not included on the prop list while registering or during schedule review.
- Props must be moved on and off the dance floor in a timely manner. If a judge feels that the removal of a prop takes too long points may be deducted.
- # of Dancers: 5 points will be deducted if a routine contains more dancers than the amount registered.

## ADJUDICATION SCALE

Recreational		Intermediate / Competitive	
Elite Platinum	N/A	Elite Platinum	300 – 288
Platinum	300 – 270	Platinum	287.99 – 276
Elite Gold	269.99 – 255	Elite Gold	275.99 – 264
Gold	254.99 - 237	Gold	263.99 – 252

## HIGH SCORE AWARDS

High score awards will be given out to Recreational. 1<sup>st</sup> Place winners in recreational level at both regional and nationals will now receive scholarships. Intermediate level winners. will receive scholarships at Regionals and cash at Nationals for high score awards.

\*\*\*\*Competitive level winners will receive cash at Regionals and Nationals for high score awards.

	Recreational		Intermediate		Competitive	
	Regionals	Nationals	Regionals	Nationals	Regionals	Nationals
<b>Solo</b>	\$50 Scholarship	\$75 Scholarship	\$75 Scholarship	\$100 Cash	\$100 Cash	\$125 Cash
<b>Duo/Trio</b>	\$50 Scholarship	\$100 Scholarship	\$75 Scholarship	\$125 Cash	\$100 Cash	\$150 Cash
<b>Small Group</b>	\$100 Scholarship	\$125 Scholarship	\$100 Scholarship	\$150 Cash	\$125 Cash	\$175 Cash
<b>Large Group</b>	\$125 Scholarship	\$150 Scholarship	\$125 Scholarship	\$175 Cash	\$150 Cash	\$200 Cash
<b>Line</b>	\$150 Scholarship	\$175 Scholarship	\$150 Scholarship	\$200 Cash	\$175 Cash	\$225 Cash
<b>Production</b>	\$175 Scholarship	\$200 Scholarship	\$175 Scholarship	\$225 Cash	\$200 Cash	\$250 Cash

## REVIEW YOUR ENTRIES

It is the responsibility of each studio to review your entry submissions prior to the entry deadline to ensure that all routines were entered, that all dancers are represented, all birthdates, levels, and categories are correct. If a studio finds that they forgot an entry after the final schedule is released (10-days prior to the event), any entries accepted will be assessed a \$20 late fee per entry and will perform at EDC's discretion for adjudication only. There is no guarantee that late entries can be accepted based on the time constraints of the competition. No entries will be accepted once the program is printed. **\*\*Any registration/schedule changes 5-days before event will result in a charge.**

## SCHEDULING

Elite Dance Challenge does not have a set schedule. Schedules are formatted based on the number and type of entries received to best serve the majority of participants. We do not have this breakdown until all of the entries have been processed. We do this so we can try to have all the days of the regional end at a reasonable time, especially Sundays, when students have school the next day. We would rather go later on a Friday or a Saturday and let everyone leave earlier on Sunday. This would not necessarily be possible if we followed a pre-determined schedule.

Schedules are emailed approximately 10-days prior to each event.

### Scheduling Requests

**There will be an Accommodation Fee for any special requests – emailed, called-in, or submitted via the registration system portal.** Scheduling requests must be included in the comment box upon registration. Once the schedule is created, NO STUDIO, TEACHER, OR PARENT may request a performance to be re-scheduled. We highly recommend that studios be flexible and be able to perform at any point during the competition weekend. Be advised that we DO NOT split up divisional categories (i.e. all Teen Competitive Solos will perform in one session). Please be realistic with requests and take into consideration that your request may conflict with others and **may not** be accommodated. There are no refunds for conflicts that cannot be accommodated. **If a routine cannot perform during their allotted time and award ceremony, their routine will be eligible for adjudication only, but not an overall score or category placement.**

## MUSIC

**Studios are now REQUIRED to upload their music online after completing their registration.** Music must be uploaded in the online registration portal at **least two weeks** prior to your scheduled event. Please contact our office if you have any issues while uploading. We still ask that you bring a backup option (USB, iPod, iPad) to the competition in case there is an issue with the uploaded music.

## PROP RULES

For safety measures, all props (free standing or hand held) are restricted to a maximum height of 10 feet. The use of safety railing is allowed. Hanging backdrops and special lighting may not be used. Dangerous props such as fire, swords, knives, and use of live animals are prohibited. Helium balloons are only allowed if they are weighted and permitted by the venue. If the weight of the prop exceeds the

maximum weight limit of a built stage or the director feels the weight of the prop is a safety hazard, the dancers will not be allowed to use the prop.

Fire (including candles, matches, lighters), fireworks (including sparklers), explosives, swords, knives, guns or toy guns, weapons and use of animals are strictly prohibited. Toy weapons are acceptable. However, toys may not fire projectile objects or have blunt points or sharp edges. **No form of liquid, gel, powder, glass objects, aerosol cans of any type (including hairspray or spray paint) may be used that will physically alter the surface of the marley floor. Prohibited items include: water (on body, costume, or prop), wet paint (on body, costume, or prop), fake blood, fake snow, silly string, bubbles, confetti, streamer or confetti cannons, loose feathers, candy, chalk, crushed cork, flour, loose glitter (on body, costume or prop), sand, sawdust, dry ice, etc. Any act that uses a substance that is not permitted and creates a safety hazard on the marley floor may result in a point deduction and/or disqualification.** Please contact the EDC office if you need further clarification on our prop and set rules.

Props and/or sets must be set up and removed as quickly as possible. Make sure there is enough people setting the props to ensure it is done within the 2-minute total time limit for setting and striking props on the stage. No person setting props should wear a studio T-shirt or jacket. Students should not set props.

Props must be loaded in and out of the venue on the same day they are used. Storing props in the wings or backstage is NOT allowed. Elite Dance Challenge will not be responsible for props left overnight or unattended. Any special request for the assembling of props must be discussed with the Competition Director prior to the event or upon arrival at the venue. All props backstage MUST be labeled with the studio name for identification purposes.

If the stage is littered after your performance your studio is responsible for an immediate and expeditious removal of any debris. Failure to follow these safety measures may result in the routine being classified "adjudication only."

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please be ready to perform at least 1-hour prior to your performance time. Dancers must check in with our Stage Manager and perform in the scheduled order unless our Stage Manager grants special permission. ONLY legitimate costume changes of less than three routines and costume malfunctions will be accommodated. Failure to comply with any of these directives may result in the routine being classified "adjudication only." The wrongful holding of numbers may result in disqualification. Any studio that delays the competition because they are rehearsing will have points deducted from their total score. Should an event run ahead of its scheduled time, performers should still plan to be ready to perform early.

One wireless hand-held microphone is available at each competition. No stands or lavaliers. **EDC does not allow any outside microphones of any kind.**

All participating teachers, dancers, and spectators are expected to display good sportsmanship. Failure to comply could result in immediate disqualification and loss of privileges to participate at future EDC Competitions. This includes attempting to recruit students from other studios to attend yours at one of our events.

Dancers may only compete with one studio per event.

Dancers may not be registered for solos in multiple levels.

**Cowbells and airhorns are not allowed – points will be deducted.**