



## **~2020 Rules & Regulations~**

The Star Dance Alliance is a combined effort from the industries leaders in talent competitions who strive to provide not only a high-quality experience, but ease in registration.

- Although each competition is run in its own way, all of the SDA competitions provide a quality competition arena to our customers in every aspect.
- A combined registration system that allows studios to enter/update their roster one time a year, and easily transfer routines from competition to competition.
- Streamlined Rules and Regulations that make it easier for studios to keep age divisions, group sizes and competition levels the same for each competition.
- Routines may qualify at any SDA Regional Competition for all of the Star Dance Alliance National Championships.
- SDA Star Dollars are awarded to Advanced Level Champions.
  - Regional winnings may be redeemed for any SDA 2020 National Championship or for a 2021 Regional Competition from the issuing competition.
  - National winnings may be redeemed for a 2021 Regional Competition from the issuing competition.
  - Star Dollars may NOT be used for the World Dance Championships, World Dance Pageant, Power Pak or Wild Dance Intensive
- SDA Power Rankings – [www.stardancealliance.com](http://www.stardancealliance.com)
  - Every routine that competes at a SDA Regional Competition, and is awarded as the ‘Regional Champion’ in their division, is automatically entered into the Power Rankings. Routines are entered into the rankings with the score that their routine was given at that regional event. You can track the Power Rankings weekly at [www.stardancealliance.com](http://www.stardancealliance.com)
- Power Pak – [www.powerpakdance.com](http://www.powerpakdance.com)
  - Invitations & Scholarships are awarded at all of the SDA Regional Competitions.
- Wild Dance Intensive – [www.wildaboutdance.com](http://www.wildaboutdance.com)
  - Scholarships are awarded at all of the SDA Regional Competitions.
- World Dance Championships – [www.worlddancechampionship.com](http://www.worlddancechampionship.com)
  - Golden Ticket Invitations to the World Dance Championship are awarded at all SDA Regional and National Competitions to top scoring routines.
- World Dance Pageant – [www.worlddancepageant.com](http://www.worlddancepageant.com)
  - Scholarships are awarded at all of the SDA Regional Competitions.

## **REGISTRATION**

- Entries will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis and will be limited to the amount of performance time available.
- NO entries will be processed until they are PAID IN FULL.
- NO PHONE, FAXED or MAILED entries will be accepted.
- All entries must include the correct names and ages of all contestants.
- The name of a routine may NOT be the same name as the dance studio.
- It is IMPERATIVE that your roster be entered/updated with the the CORRECT PERFORMANCE LEVEL and CORRECT DATE OF BIRTH when inputting your registration data. This WILL NOT be able to be changed after the schedule is completed.
- All fees MUST be paid by credit card or e-check. No personal/studio checks, cashiers checks or money orders will be accepted.

## **GENERAL DIVISIONS / TIME LIMITS**

**IMPORTANT: Any person who is actively participating in a routine for ANY amount of time is counted as a performer and must be registered as such. This includes any person who can be seen by the judges for any amount of time, and any person who may be in a costume that covers their face.**

### **Solo – (1) Performer**

*Time Limit - 2:45 minutes*

*Fashion Modeling & Compulsory Time Limit – 1:30 minutes*

- Solos MUST compete in the competition level in which the dancer is registered originally on the studio's roster. (The only exception is Compulsory, Fashion Modeling & Vocal Solos, which must compete in the Advanced Level).
- Soloists are limited to entering a maximum of three (3) solo performance categories and may not compete against themselves in any category. (Soloists may compete in the Compulsory, Fashion Modeling and Vocal Category in addition to the dance categories).
- A contestant cannot place more than once for high score in the Solo division.

### **Duet/Trio - 2-3 Performers**

*Time Limit - 2:45 minutes*

- No Duet/Trio may compete against themselves in the same performance category with the same performers. There must be a 50% difference in performers to be in the same age group of the same category.

### **Small Group – 4-9 Performers**

*Time Limit - 3:00 minutes*

### **Large Group – 10-19 Performers**

*Time Limit - 4:00 minutes*

### **Line - 20 or more Performers**

*Time Limit - 4:30 minutes*

*\*Maximum of 6:00 minutes extended time may be purchased. Any line over 6 minutes MUST be entered in the Grand Line Division.*

### **Grand Line – 20 or more Performers**

*Time Limit – 7:00 minutes*

- Grand Lines compete in the **ADVANCED LEVEL ONLY**, and have NO specific performance category (*Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, etc.*).
- Average age will determine the age at which this routine competes. This division allows age 20 & over performers to compete and not be placed in the Adult Division.

**EXTENDED TIMES:** Solos, Duet/Trios, Groups & Lines may purchase an extended time of 30 seconds at \$3/per performer. Grand Lines may purchase an extended time of 1 minute at \$3/performer. To register for extended time, please check the box on the routine that indicates “Request Extended Time” on your online studio account.

**Note:** Routines that are over the time limit, that have not registered extended time, will result in automatic point deduction of one point or a fraction thereof for every 5 seconds of overtime if extended time has not been registered for that routine.

## **AGE DIVISIONS**

*AGES ARE DETERMINED BASED ON THE DANCERS AGE ON JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2020.*

DIVISIONS: 4 & Under; 5-6 Yrs; 7-8 yrs; 9-11yrs; 12-14 yrs; 15-16 yrs; 17-19 yrs; 20-29 yrs; 30-39 yrs; 40-49 yrs; 50 yrs and over. NOTE: JAZZ, TAP, LYRICAL, CONTEMPORARY AND OPEN CATEGORY CONTESTANTS WILL ENTER THE FOLLOWING SINGLE AGE DIVISIONS: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19.

DETERMINING AGE DIVISION: Duets/Trios, Groups and Lines will compete at the average age division determined by averaging the age of all members of the group. Do not use decimals or round up. Example: If the average comes to 11.8, they will compete in the 11-year old age division. NOTE: If there are any substitutions of any performers for National Championships, the ages must then be re-averaged and the group must then compete at the age division that the average is as of the first day of championships they are attending.

ADULT AGE DIVISION: Any routine with a performer 20 years or older will compete in the Adult Division (*with the exception of the Grand Lines*). All adult performers MUST compete in the Advanced performance level and are not eligible for High Score Awards. If enough routines are entered in the Adult Category, a special High Score Award may be awarded at that regional. Adult dancers may include Teachers, Professionals, Parents, etc.

PROOF OF AGE: All performers are required to have proof of ages on hand at every SDA competition. Failure to provide a birth certificate or driver’s license if an age division is challenged will result in disqualification of that routine.

HIGH SCORE AGE DIVISIONS: High Score Awards will be given out in the Petite (8 & Under), Junior (9-11), Teen (12-14) and Senior (15-19) age divisions.

**\*Age Bump Rule (Duets, Trios & Small Groups only)** – The oldest performer in a duet, trio or small group may only compete (1) age division lower than his/her age. Example: A routine with a 15 year old performer may only compete in the Teen (age 12-14) or Senior (age 15-19) divisions regardless of the average age. *Example: A 15 year old small group performer may never compete in the Petite (8 & Under) or Junior (9-11) age division.*

## COMPETITION LEVELS

Studios are required to assign a competition level for EACH performer when they are entering their roster in the registration system. Please be certain that you are entering your performers in the CORRECT PERFORMANCE LEVEL. *NOTE: DANCERS MAY ONLY BE REGISTERED AT ONE LEVEL...Any dancer found to be registered in more than one level may be disqualified.*

Dancer's levels WILL NOT be able to be changed by the studio once entered.

SOLOS and DUET/TRIOS MUST COMPETE AT THE LEVEL IN WHICH THEY ARE REGISTERED ON YOUR ROSTER.

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*** - It is at the judges discretion to move any routine that they feel is placed in a level below their ability to the level in which they feel is necessary. All judges decisions are FINAL. If the judges determine that a routine should be moved to a different level, and that level has already competed, the routine will then be eligible for adjudication only.

**ANY ROUTINE THAT IS BUMPED TO A HIGHER COMPETITION LEVEL AT ANY SDA COMPETITION FOR ANY REASON WILL REMAIN IN THAT HIGHER LEVEL FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON THROUGHOUT ALL STAR DANCE ALLIANCE COMPETITIONS.**

### LEVEL ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are suggestions to be used in determining the appropriate level placement of each competitor. Because no competition can possibly know how many hours a child dances or for how many years they have danced, it is left to the teachers own sound judgement when entering level placement for their students.

**ADVANCED Level:** This competition level is for *top-level competitive* dancers who perform at an advanced technical level. All entries will be adjudicated, and will receive High Score Awards. *\*\*\*This is the ONLY level that is eligible to compete for Title and receive Prize Monies. In addition, only advanced dancers are eligible to receive the Highest Level Adjudication.*

**INTERMEDIATE Level:** This competition level is for the *intermediate or 'on the rise'* dancers, and is recommended for dancers who have had approximately 2-5 years experience. Entries will be adjudicated, and will receive High Score Awards within this level.

**NOVICE Level:** This competition level division is for *beginning* dancers who have little or no experience competing. Dancers may only be considered 'novice' dancers for a maximum of 3 years.. Entries will be adjudicated, and will receive High Score Awards within this level.

**Small Groups and Duet/Trios -** The highest level of dancer in a routine will determine the level of the routine. *Example: 1 Advanced Dancer and 8 Intermediate Dancers will determine the routine to be in the Advanced Level. One Intermediate Level dancer and 8 novice dancers will determine the routine to be in the Intermediate Level.*

**Large Groups and Lines -** No more than 1/3 of the dancers in a routine may be a higher performance level than the level that the routine is entered. *Example: If a routine has 12 dancers - 4 advanced, 4 intermediate & 4 novice, the routine will be placed in the 'advanced' level because 1/3 or more of the dancers are advanced.*

## **IMPORTANT NOTES ON COMPETITION LEVELS –**

\*No dancer that is registered in the ‘advanced’ level will be permitted to dance in ANY ‘novice’ level routine.

\*No level changes may be made at the door.

\*No Solo may be bumped to a higher competition level than the level in which the performer is entered on the 2020 studio roster.

\*Groups/Lines may be placed in a higher competition level than the average of the participants, but never a lower level. This must be done PRIOR to the competition. Note: Any routine that is bumped to a higher level at any SDA competition will remain in that higher level for the remainder of the season throughout ALL Star Dance Alliance Competitions.

## **GENERAL RULES**

- PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO RECORDING from any electronic device is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Failure to abide by this rule can result in Disqualification for the studio. If anyone is found photographing or video recording in the competition auditorium, we reserve the right to delete the video footage. Teachers... it is your responsibility to inform your contestants and parents of this rule.
- NO SMOKING is permitted in any of our venues.
- All dance divisions are permitted to have up to 25% acro/gymnastics tricks in them. *NOTE: The Cheer & Character divisions may contain up to 50% acro/gymnastics.*
- Special stage or house lighting will not be provided or changed for any performance.
- A panel of well-qualified judges will score contestants. All decisions of the judges are final.
- All contestants grant permission to the Star Dance Alliance to use their photographs and/or videos for promotional reasons.
- Sportsmanlike behavior is expected from all contestants, teachers and families at all times. Failure to display proper decorum could result in immediate disqualification. This includes attempting to recruit students from other studios to attend yours at one of our events.
- The Star Dance Alliance and the hosting venue are not responsible for personal injury or property loss.
- Please note that every venue is unique and has its own set of rules concerning outside food & beverage, use of helium balloons, etc.

## **PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES**

**Acro/Gymnastics** - A routine that contains primarily gymnastic tricks, including, but not limited to walkover, front/back limbers, handstands, headstands, cartwheels, etc. There should be a blend of gymnastics and dance together.

**Ballet** - A routine consisting of classical steps & ballet technique. Ballet shoes must be worn.

**Baton** - Routine using baton(s) and baton technique .

**Character** - A routine that portrays a character that is easily recognizable.

**Cheerleading** - A routine that has a combination of strong, sharp movements, vocal cheering and dance. May contain up to 50% acro/gymnastics.

**Clogging** - A routine which uses clogging technique.

**Compulsory** – (*Advanced Level/Solos Only*) A performance of pre-determined, specified dance techniques. (Please see details listed on next page)

**Contemporary** – A routine that combines both lyrical and modern movements.

**Drill Team** - A group performing military type moves with precision marching and may incorporate any type of dance.

**Fashion Modeling** – (*Advanced Level/Solos Only*) Must include Runway "T-style" Modeling Technique

- FORMAL- Any party dress or "After 5" attire.
- SPORTSWEAR- Casual skirts, pants, etc., select sport, skiing, tennis, horseback riding, etc.
- SWIMWEAR - Any swimwear or swimsuit & cover-up.

**Folkloric** - Routine incorporating ethnic styles of dance such as polkas, Hawaiian, Spanish, etc.

**Hip Hop** - A dance that consists of the latest street dance style, as seen in current dance videos.

**Jazz** - A routine that utilizes jazz technique such as splits, isolation, leaps, etc.

**Lip Sync** - A routine that utilizes pantomime techniques and mimics voices on pre-recorded music.

**Lyrical** - A routine that is performed to the lyrics or mood of the music.

**Modern** - A routine containing a contemporary style of dance.

**Musical Theater** - A routine performed to the music of a Broadway musical or a movie musical.

**Open** - A routine that is a combination of any of the other categories; a routine that does not exactly fit any of the definitions of any other category. (No Vocals permitted)

**Photogenic Contest** - Contestants should submit a 5x7 or larger photograph the FIRST DAY OF COMPETITION to the registration desk. The photo must be of only one person. Photogenic contestants must be a registered competitor in that competition and may register more than one photo.

**Pointe** - A routine that consists of ballet/pointe technique. Pointe shoes must be worn.

**Pom Pon** - A routine combining dance with the use of pom pons for at least 80% of the routine.

**Production** - This category may be entered ONLY in Line division and must have a minimum of 20 performers. The time limit for this category is 6 minutes.

**Song and Dance** – A routine that combines dancing and singing. This is a vocal routine...lead vocals may not be lip synched and may have back up vocal accompaniment only. We will provide two handheld, wireless microphones. No personal/studio microphones, headsets, etc. will be permitted.

**Tap** - A routine utilizing tap technique and must be performed with tap shoes only.

**Vocal** – (*Advanced Level Only*) A performance of any type of vocal presentation. Accompaniment must be pre-recorded. (No lead vocals may be recorded; backup voices only will be permitted). We will provide two handheld, wireless microphones. No personal/studio microphones, headsets, etc. will be permitted to be hooked into the sound system.





## 2020 REGIONAL ADDENDUM RULES & REGULATIONS

*Please read carefully the following addendum rules and regulations to the Star dance alliance rules. Failure to comply could result in disqualification. These rules are in addition to those upheld by the Star Dance Alliance Competitions.*

### **Registration Process**

**ONLINE SYSTEM:** Entries must be entered in our online registration system 21 days prior to the competition date. For a complete breakdown of our pricing structure, please visit your online account Dashboard.

**PAYMENTS and FEES:** All entry fees must be paid via our online registration by credit card or Echecks. Personal and Studio Checks are not an acceptable form of payment. We will only accept certified funds or money orders if a credit card is unavailable. You are not considered a registered contestant unless we have received PAYMENT IN FULL. If you have not paid by one of these methods, you run the risk of your routines being pulled from the competition.

Regional Entry Fees are located on our website on your studio dashboard. Admission is free to spectators and the general public is welcome. No refunds will be issued under any circumstances.

**CHANGES:** The studio must make all changes and edit to entries, via their online account. Changes may be made online until entries are frozen for scheduling, approximately 21 days prior to the competition. Any entries that require changes once the schedule is completed will incur a \$5 fee, per change.

Independent Entries are welcome.

### **Adjudication of Awards**

**POINT SYSTEM:** Each entry will be competing against a pre-determined amount of points and will be reflected in our STAR scoring program

**DIVISIONAL 1st PLACE AWARDS:** If there is only one entry in a division, a 1st place trophy will be awarded if the performer received 4 STARS or higher. If there are 2 or more entries in a category, a competitive first place award will be presented to the entry with the highest score.

Any routine receiving 4 Stars or higher are eligible for the National Championships. All prizes will be awarded to the teacher or director.

**JUDGES CRITIQUES:** All judges will be on a video or audio critique system. The Studio Director will be able to access score sheets and critiques through the studio's online registration account.



## Adjudications Breakdown

### **\*HIGH SCORE AWARDS PER COMPETITIVE DIVISION:**

The Advanced, Intermediate & Novice Division High Score Awards will be presented in the following age groups: 8 & Under, 9-11, 12-14 and 15-19 age divisions for Solos, Duets/Trios, Small Groups, Large Groups, & Lines. Grand Line will only be awarded in the Advanced Division and in the 11 & Under and 12 and Over Age Divisions. 20 & Over Division can only be entered in the Advanced Division and will be awarded only in small groups, large groups, and lines. The Compulsory Division will be awarded Advanced Scores in 11 & Under and 12-19 age groups.

### **\*STAR DANCE ALLIANCE AWARD and GOLDEN TICKETS:**

In addition to regular High Score Awards, The Star Dance Alliance will be awarding the following:

**Advanced Division:** A High Score plaque will go to the highest scoring group routine in the following age categories: 11 & Under Grand Line, 12 & Over Grand Line, 8 and under, 9-11, 12-14, and 15-19. Winners in the Advanced Division will also automatically be ranked in the Star Dance Alliance Power Rankings located on [www.stardancealliance.com](http://www.stardancealliance.com) and will be awarded Golden Ticket Invitations to the World Dance Championship.

**Intermediate Division:** High Score plaque to highest scoring group routine in the following age categories: 8 & Under, 9-11, 12-14, & 15-19. The winners will also be awarded Golden Ticket Invitations to the World Dance Championship.

**Novice Division:** High Score plaque to highest scoring group routine in the following age categories: 11 & Under and 12-19. The winners will also be awarded Golden Ticket Invitations to the World Dance Championship.

### **\*OUTSTANDING GROUP BALLET AND TAP AWARDS:**

In the Advanced Division only, we will award the highest scoring Ballet and highest scoring Tap routine a plaque of achievement in the 11 & Under and 12 & Over Age Divisions.

### **\*STARPOWER TITLE AWARDS:**

**HOW IT WORKS:** The Title Competition is judged completely separate from the dance portion of the performer's solo. A competitor can receive a total of 50 points maximum from the judges. The Title Competition is judged more on overall presentation and everything is weighed equally (talent, overall presentation, etc) with only one score.

**TITLE AT REGIONALS:** Starpower will be hosting a Title competition at each regional, incorporated into the solo competition. If you wish to have your routine judged for Title, please check the appropriate box while registering your solo online. You may enter as many solos as you wish to be judged for Title. All entries will be judged for Title during the performance of their routine during the Regional Competition.

\*Little Mr. and Petite Miss Starpower - Ages 8 & Under

\*Junior Mr. and Junior Miss Starpower- Ages 9 – 11

\*Teen Mr. and Teen Miss Starpower - Ages 12 – 14

\*Mr. and Miss Starpower – Ages 15 – 19

Any Regional Title Champion may not compete the same routine at another Regional Event. However, they may compete at another regional event in the same year with a different routine.

**TITLE AT CHAMPIONSHIPS:** At all seven 2018 National Championships you may enter the Title division in the same manner as for the regionals. You do not have to enter Title on the Regional level to be eligible to enter Title at the Championships.

Championships will have the Battle of the Title for the top 3 Title scores in each Title division. The winners will be recognized as the National Title Champions. You may not vie for the SAME National Title two years in a row.

**\*ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS:**

The judges and directors will present this award to the Small Group, Large Group or Line deemed “Most Entertaining” for both 11 & Under and 12 & Over. All Divisions are eligible for this award.

**\*CHOREOGRAPHY AWARDS:**

This award will be presented to the teacher of a Small Group, Large Group, or Line for both 11 & Under and 12 & Over. All Divisions are eligible for this award.

**\*OUTSTANDING COSTUME AWARDS:**

This award will be presented to entrants who receive the highest scores based on design, overall impression, fit, etc. in the 11 & Under age division and the 12 & Over age division. One award will be presented to the best Duet/ Trio and Group/Line Costume combined. All ages will compete against each other for all Dance Levels combined, i.e., Advanced, Intermediate, & Novice for this award. If you wish to enter the costume division, please check appropriate box when you register that routine online. The participant must be a registered Starpower contestant during the current competition season. All entries in the costume contest will be judged during the performance of their routine. There will not be a special presentation of costume contestants. Make sure to enter the costume competition at least a 1/2 hour prior to your performance.

**\*PHOTOGENIC AWARDS:**

This award will be presented to the solo contestant judged most photogenic in the 11 & Under age division, and in the 12 & Over division. You must enter the Photogenic Contest on the day of the Competition at the Registration desk and must be a registered competitor during the current competition season to compete. Please bring a recent 5” x 7” or 8” x 10” in black and white or color. Please also write name, address, height and weight on the back of photo. **You may enter more than one photo, but only one award will be given.** Contestants will be responsible for obtaining their photo from the registration desk after the photogenic awards are presented. Starpower is not responsible for loss or damages to any photograph submitted.

**\*VOCAL HIGH SCORE AWARDS:**

Vocal Category entries are eligible for Vocal High Score Awards. High score awards will be presented in three separate divisions: Solos, Duets/Trios, and Groups.

Note: Vocal entries are not eligible to enter any of the Starpower Title Divisions No additional sound equipment or microphones may be used or connected to the Starpower sound system. Starpower will provide One (1) wireless hand held microphone in each competition room at each Regional. (No headset microphones)

**\*SPECIAL AWARDS:**

Special Award Ribbons will be created by the judges for routines and individuals that will be awarded at the beginning of each awards ceremony.

**\*POWER PAK:**

Power Pak **Invitations** will be given to deserving dancers selected from solos and duo/trios in the Advanced Division only. Power Pak **Scholarships** will be given to deserving dancers selected from any solo, group, or line from the regional weekend.

**\*WORLD DANCE PAGEANT:**

WDP Scholarships will be given to deserving dancers selected from any solo, group, or line from the regional weekend.

**\*WILD ABOUT YOU:**

WILD Scholarships will be given to deserving dancers from any group, or line from the regional weekend.

## Star Dance Alliance & Star Dollars

**STAR DOLLARS:** Star Dollars can be applied to a regional of your choice in 2020 or 2021 ONLY at the issuing competition. (EXAMPLE: You won Star Dollars at Starpower. You may only use the Star Dollars at another Starpower Regional the same year or the following year. The Star Dollars will not be good at Nexstar, Imagine, Believe, Dream Maker or Revolution Talent Competition towards Regional entry fees.)

For National Championships, Star Dollars can be used at a Championship at Starpower, Revolution Talent Competition, Believe, Imagine, Dream Maker or Nexstar ONLY in the same year it was received. (Example: You won Star Dollars at Starpower 2020. You may only use the Star Dollars for Championships at a 2020 National Championship of your choice). In the Small Group, Large Group and Line divisions, if there are fewer than 5 entries in a General Division, Star Dollars will not be awarded.

**ADVANCED Level** will be *awarded* STAR DOLLARS in the following categories: Solos, Duet/Trios, Small Groups, Large Groups, Lines, Grand Lines, 20 & Over (Groups & Lines Only)

**INTERMEDIATE Level** is not eligible for STAR DOLLARS but will receive High Score Plaques and/or trophies.

**NOVICE Level** is not eligible for STAR DOLLARS but will receive High Score Plaques and/or trophies.

## National Championships

**QUALIFYING FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS WITHIN THE SDA:** You will also qualify for any National Championship in the Star Dance Alliance by attending any SDA Regional Event. (Example: You attend a Starpower Regional Event. You then qualify to attend a National Championship for Starpower, Nexstar, Believe, Imagine, Dream Maker or Revolution Talent Competition). Each routine that is registered for a National Competition must qualify at a regional event. Routines may never bump down a level to compete at Nationals and must compete at the same level they qualified for regionally or higher. Under extreme circumstances and upon the approval of Starpower, a video may be submitted, along with Regional entry fees, to qualify for Championships.