

*Southern Association of Dance Masters*  
★Southern Stars Competition★

**Rules and Scoring Policies**

**Competition Entries**

The Southern Stars Competition is open to students of both Southern Association of Dance Masters (SADM) member teachers and non-member teachers. Studios are limited to a maximum of *eight* total entries, of which only *three* may be solo entries. Competition entry fees are determined by the board of directors and may be subject to change. Please see the competition entry form for specific entry fees. Competition entry forms and fees must be postmarked by the specified date.

★ **Categories of Dance**

Eligible competition entries are divided into the following dance type categories:

Solo/Duet/Trio	one, two, or three dancers, respectively
Group	four or more dancers, no maximum limit
Production	minimum fifteen dancers, no maximum limit

Dancers may participate in more than one dance, however, a single student is limited to only *one* solo entry.

★ **Style of Dance**

All types of dance are invited to participate in the Southern Stars Competition, including, but not limited to: ballet (including pointe), tap, jazz, hip-hop, lyrical, character, theatre dance, and gymnastics.

★ **Time Limits**

All competition entries are required to comply with the following time limits. There is no minimum time limit for entries. *The prescribed time limits include any musical tag designed to allow the dancer to exit the stage.*

Solo/Duet/Trio	2 min. 45 sec. maximum
Group	3 minute maximum
Production	7 minute maximum

Any props required by the dancers may be pre-set on the stage area before the routine begins. However, props may not be set by anyone wearing clothing bearing the teacher's name or studio logo or other identifying insignia.

The official timer is started when the music begins and is stopped when the music ends. Any additional time for the tag is added to the total time.

A ten point deduction from the entry's *average score* will be taken for any entry exceeding the maximum time limit.

Competition entrants who leave the stage after a performance begins, for any reason other than technical, will be disqualified.

★ **Age Divisions**

The Southern Stars Competition is divided into four age divisions, allowing the competitors to be scored against a relevant group of peers. The age divisions are:

Junior	ages 7 to 10
Intermediate	ages 11 to 13
Senior I	ages 14 to 15
Senior II	ages 16 to 21

For entries comprised of more than one dancer, the *average age* of the dancers should be used to determine the appropriate age division. **Note:** *Average age calculations resulting in decimal places of 0.5 or greater should be rounded to the next highest age.* A sample average age calculation is shown below.

<i>Dancers' Ages</i>							<i>Calculated Average Age</i>	<i>Rounded Average Age</i>	<i>Age Division</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>			
12	12	14	13	11	10	13	12.14	12	Intermediate
14	16	16	15	15	17	16	15.57	16	Senior II

Please use the age of the dancer at the date of competition to average the group's ages, keeping in mind an individual's birthday may occur between the date of entry and the date of competition. ***Absolutely no dancer under the age of 7 or over the age of 21 may enter competition,*** even if the resulting average age of the other group members places the group in one of the specified age categories.

All dancers must be registered at the corresponding SADM convention and wear their convention wristband during the competition.

## Competition Scoring Procedure

Entries in the Southern Stars Competition receive scores and awards based on the following scoring procedure. Throughout the competition, entries remain anonymous. The judges are provided the entry number, name of music, and dance style and category only.

### ★ Scoring Criteria

Each competition entry is critiqued in seven different categories. As each competition entry performs, judges award points to each of the scoring categories, up to the maximum number of points specified for that category:

Overall Impression	20 points
Choreography	15 points
Difficulty	15 points
Stage Presence	15 points
Technique	15 points
Costume	10 points
Music	10 points

Judges are provided a scoring guideline, advising them of the range of scores within each category to attain the various awards. A sample of the Judges' Scoring Guidelines is available in Appendix A.

All judges' score sheets will be provided to the competition entrant's teacher at the end of the competition. In addition, the judges are asked to provide comments about the competition entry during the performance. Notes will be attached to each judges' score sheet and provided to entry's teacher at the end of the competition.

### ★ Scoring Procedure

Scores are calculated by the scoring panel, board members of SADM assigned specific portions of the scoring procedure. The final total and average scores may be performed by hand or by computer. All calculations are double-checked for accuracy. For each competition entry:

1. Each individual judge's score sheet is totaled.
2. The individual total score from each judge is combined with that of the other judges. This is the **total score**.
3. The total score is divided by the number of judges. This is the **average score**. The average score is calculated to the nearest tenth and is *not* rounded to the nearest whole number.

### Sample Scoring Calculation:

Entry	Routine	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4	Total	Average
14	That's Entertainment	83	82	84	78	327	81.8

### ★ Award Level Assignment

Southern Stars Competition entries are awarded recognition based on the entry's *average score* (see above for score calculation) in one of four award levels:

Brilliant	92 to 100
Dazzling	84 to 91.9
Radiant	76 to 83.9
Shining	below 76

Awards are distributed by age division. Trophies are awarded to all competition entries, one trophy per entry. The total number of award recognitions and/or trophies given at a single competition is not limited and may be earned by as many competition entries as deemed worthy by the judging panel.

*Sample Award Assignment:* (based on the sample calculation above)

Entry	Routine	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4	Total	Average	Award
14	That's Entertainment	83	82	84	78	327	81.8	Radiant

**Note:** Average scores are calculated to the nearest tenth. Entries must earn the minimum average score depicted above, *without rounding*, to be awarded that award level. (For example, scores of 83.1 and 83.9 will both be awarded "radiant" awards.)

### ★ Highest Score Recognition

At each Southern Stars competition, *Super Nova* recognition and trophies will be awarded to the entries earning the most points. Trophies will be awarded to the solo, duet, *or* trio **and** the group *or* production number earning the most points in each of the four age divisions. In the event that more than one entry earns the same high score, the "tie" will not be broken. Instead, each entry will receive a Super Nova award. For age divisions with more than ten entries competing for the same Super Nova award, second and third place ribbons will be awarded.

All Super Nova winners must score in the Brilliant or Dazzling award levels.

Summer convention Super Nova award winners will be invited to perform during the floor show at the convention banquet.