



# S.A.D.M. Competition Guidelines

## Time Limits

Category	Number of Dancers	Maximum Time
Solo	1	2:30 minutes
Duet/Trio	2–3	2:30 minutes
Small Group	4–9	2:45 minutes
Large Group	10–19	3:00 minutes
Line	20+	5:00 minutes
Grand Line	20+	7:00 minutes

Extra time may be purchased for an additional fee.

These are **maximum** time limits; there are **no minimum time limits**.

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## Age Divisions

- **Minis** – Ages 4–6
- **Junior** – Ages 7–9
- **Intermediate** – Ages 10–12
- **Teen** – Ages 13–15
- **Senior** – Ages 16–18
- **Adult** – Ages 19 & up

Age divisions are determined by the **average age** of all performers in the routine. If the average includes a decimal of .5 or higher, it is rounded up to the next age division (e.g., 9.5 → Intermediate).

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## Dance Styles

Ballet • Jazz • Lyrical • Hip Hop • Tap • Contemporary • Musical Theatre • Acrobatics • Modern

## Scoring

Award	Point Range
Platinum	92–100 points
High Gold	84–91 points
Gold	76–83 points
Silver	75 points & below

### Overall Awards:

- A **1st place** award is presented to the highest-scoring routine in each age division and category (solo, duet/trio, group, production).
- **2nd and 3rd place** awards will only be presented if there are **10 or more entries** in that category.

### Judges' Awards:

- One **Judges' Choice Costume Award** and one **Judges' Choice Choreography Award** will be given at each awards ceremony.
- Judges may also present **special recognition awards** at their discretion.

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## Scoring Criteria (100 Points Total)

- **Technique:** 40 points
- **Stage Presence & Performance Quality:** 30 points
- **Musicality & Timing:** 20 points
- **Choreography & Staging:** 10 points

Judges may deduct points for **inappropriate music, movement, or costumes** not suitable for the competition environment.

## Music

- Music must be **submitted in MP3 format** at least **10 days prior** to the competition.
  - All music must be **age-appropriate, clean, and free of profanity**.
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## Props

- Dancers are allotted **1 minute 30 seconds** to set up and remove props.
  - Props must remain in the designated **staging area** and may **not be stored in the wings**.
  - **Dangerous props, liquids, paints, and powders** are strictly prohibited.
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## Competition Rules

- Each **studio/member** may enter a maximum of **10 total routines**, with no more than **5 solos** (limit: **1 solo per dancer**).
- **All teachers and dancers** must be registered for the SADM Convention and present during the competition. Dancers must wear **convention wristbands** during performances (teachers excluded).
- **Proof of age** must be available for all performers. Failure to provide documentation in case of an age protest may result in **disqualification**.
- Teachers are responsible for ensuring dancers are **lined up backstage** and ready to perform.
- **Leaving the stage** after a performance has begun (for reasons other than technical difficulty) will result in a **10-point deduction**.
- **Professional dancers** or those currently performing in a professional dance company may not compete.
- **Tumbling Rule:** If a routine includes **more than three acro/tumbling tricks**, it will be placed in the **Acro or Open category**. No tumbling passes are permitted in the **Ballet** category.

*(An acro/tumbling trick is defined as any movement where the dancer's heels pass over their head.)*

- **No refunds** will be issued under any circumstances.
- Changes to entries made within **5 days of competition** will incur a **\$5.00 change fee per entry**.
- SADM, SADM Dance Competition, and all **hosting venues** are not responsible for lost or stolen property.
- **Sportsmanship** is expected from all dancers, teachers, and family members. Unsportsmanlike behavior may result in disqualification.
- **No videotaping or flash photography** during routines. First offense will result in a **1-point deduction**; subsequent violations may result in **disqualification**.
- A **competition lineup** will be distributed approximately **1 week prior** to the event.
- A **3% service fee** applies to all online credit card payments.