

CONTRACT for Competition Team Dancers and their Guardians: 2015-2016 Season

Welcome to the competitive dance experience at the Leslie School of Dance! For the dancer who loves to perform, the Dance Intensity program provides an opportunity to learn, advance, showcase, and compete. Team activities include competing in dance competitions, performing in the Leslie School of Dance annual recital at a company level, and performing at other venues during the year, in addition to team bonding experiences such as team rehearsals and lock-ins.

Competition team requires a higher level of commitment for both the dancer and the parents than the average dance class. This packet has been put together to hopefully outline what is expected of the competitive dancer and their families.

The following are policies necessary for a smooth and productive year. It is of the utmost importance that each dancer and guardian read and understand the agreement **before** making a decision to participate on the Dance Intensity Competition Team. Please make all family members aware of our policies to avoid conflicts during the year. This includes anyone who may drive the dancer to and from practices/performances, pay for tuition/fees, or attend performance events. Once you make the decision to participate, you will be expected to abide by the following rules for the remainder of the 2015-2016 Competition Season.

1. FULL YEAR COMMITMENT.

Dance team members are committed to a full dance season when they sign on to be a competition team member. Quitting mid-year is detrimental to everyone on the team, so please consider this carefully before committing to the program. A tentative schedule of events is included.

2. PERFORMING WITH OTHER DANCE GROUPS.

Members of Dance Intensity will not perform with any other dance studios. The only exception: High School Dance teams.

3. ATTENDANCE.

The most important issue for team members is attendance. We understand that things do happen – a dancer gets hurt, there is a family emergency, etc. but a family emergency is not a birthday party, an outing to the zoo, or another family member's sporting or other event. If you are not at a team practice, the **whole** team suffers. If you miss a team practice, you are not improving your skills, and you will fall behind the other dancers on the team. If you miss a team practice, you are not learning the routine. Partnering, formations, synchronization, and all other components of the routine can only be properly rehearsed with all dancers in the piece. If you are missing at a performance or a competition, the whole dance has to be restaged.

The commitment to competition teams means attending all scheduled competition team classes and being available for **ALL** competitions and **ALL** performances. If you are involved with other programs that require specific time commitments, we will need to know about any other commitments you may have. Most school programs, such as dance teams, cheerleading, sports programs, etc. have dates available at the beginning of a season. Practice times are also usually established at the beginning of the season. Sometimes this type of involvement can be accommodated. However, if they will consistently create absences for team commitments, the directors may require a decision regarding a choice between Dance Intensity and other programs. If you are involved with other school or sports programs, please schedule a meeting with the

directors before signing and returning your team contract in order to determine if your other commitments will conflict with our competition program.

- The dancer or the parent must call/email/text to notify the instructor of an absence prior to the missed competition team class. This is a courtesy to the choreographer so they may plan accordingly. This is also a studio safety policy.
- Dancers are allowed to miss a team practice for the following: illness, school, religious holiday/event, family, and injury. Any other reason for missing class is unacceptable.
 - For planned family events/school trips, seven (7) days notice is expected
 - For illness/emergencies, two (2) hours notice should be given.

All students must make up missed competition team class with a ½ hour private class at a cost of \$30. Any student who does not make up the missed class in a timely fashion or is absent more than 6 classes (excluding "excused" absences) will be excused from the team without a refund. If a director feels a dancer is falling behind due to missing rehearsals the dancer may be asked to schedule a private lesson to catch up.

Note: School (academics) comes first! We understand that things come up that may occasionally conflict. Competition Teams emails are sent to you continually during the year. If you receive a performance calendar with a practice/performance date where you have already scheduled something **important** (vacations, school academic activities), let us know IMMEDIATELY (by the next day) and we can work with you. If we do not hear from you, it is assumed that you will be there.

4. COST

- **Costumes:** A costume will be required for each routine. We will try (where possible) to make "simplified" costumes or to combine costumes for multiple dances. We will strive to maintain reasonable costume costs. Competition Team Members are required to have matching shoe styles, so you may have to purchase additional shoes.
- **School Fees:** Competition Team fees are **\$20 per month** to cover choreography for group numbers. There will also be a **weekly mandatory class (\$12 per class)** for the team to work together on technique, stretching and strengthening, as well as performing choreography from all solos and group numbers. Class times TBD.
- If you wish to do a solo, duet or trio, the prices are as follows per routine:
 - Trio choreography is \$125 per person with an additional \$25 studio fee per person.
 - Duet choreography is \$150 per person with an additional \$25 studio fee per person.
 - Solo choreography is \$250 with an additional \$25 studio fee.

The above prices entitle you to (10) half hour sessions. If you would like additional sessions or prefer less, you also have the option of paying the choreographer \$30 per half hour with an additional \$5 studio fee per half hour.

- **Competition Fees:** These vary organization to organization. As soon as we have the rates charged, we will let you know. However, once registered and paid, they are non-refundable. If the dancer, for any reason (illness, absent from class prior to the competition) is not able to participate in the competition, her fees cannot be refunded by our studio because the Competition does not refund the fees to us.
- **Fundraising:** The Team may decide to hold fund raisers to earn money toward competition fees and/or costumes. Only those who participate in the fund raisers will reap the benefits.

5. TARDINESS

Please be 5-10 minutes early to each class. It is necessary for dancers to participate in warm-up prior to and at the beginning of every class to prevent injury. Students more than fifteen (15) minutes late (without a prior excuse from the choreographer) must make up the missed time in a private lesson at the expense of the student.

6. COSTUMES AND MAKEUP

All dancers are required to wear dance makeup for performances. This makeup is not to be worn outside of performance venues. You will be supplied with a list of required makeup.

All dancers will be required to purchase one costume per routine.

Costume pieces cannot be replaced if lost. Only **entire** costumes can be ordered in the event of a misplaced item. Please be aware that the ship date for costumes is approximately 8-12 weeks after the order date.

Dancers must have all costume pieces, shoes, makeup, hair accessories, and hairstyle to perform. If a dancer is missing any of the prior mentioned items, he or she will not perform in that routine. Costuming is a part of the group score and deductions will be made if dancers perform with obvious missing pieces or ill-fitting costumes. This includes runs/holes in tights. Deductions are also taken for messy hair or hairstyles that fall out of place.

7. COMPETITION

Members must be respectful to competitors and show sportsmanship.

Do not speak with the judges unless prompted to do so.

Members must be courteous and respectful to teammates. Ill behavior towards team members will not be tolerated.

Guardian:

I, _____, agree to follow the above mentioned policies for the 2015-2016 year. I understand that if I, my family, or my dancer fails to comply with the policies set forth in this agreement, my dancer forfeits his or her place on Dance Intensity

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Dancer:

I, _____, agree to follow the above mentioned policies for the 2015-2016 year, and to give 100% effort in all rehearsals, performances, and events. By signing this contract, I understand that if I choose not to abide by any of the above listed guidelines I choose to forfeit my spot on Dance Intensity.

Dancer Signature: _____

Date: _____