

**Section Naming List:**

Do Your Own Thing (U5)  
Classical Ballet  
Repertoire Variation Section  
Character Ballet  
National Character Ballet  
Lyrical  
Contemporary  
Straight Jazz (fast/ commercial jazz)  
Broadway Jazz (musical comedy, cabaret/characterization)  
Hip Hop Dance  
Tap  
Fast Tap  
Song & Tap  
Song & Dance  
Theatrical Presentation  
Acrobatic

**CHAMPIONSHIP SECTIONS - If numbers permit**

Tap Championships 12/U15, 15 & OVER

One dance consists of medley

Modern Championship 12&U15, 15&OVER

Two separate dances

STRAIGHT JAZZ & LYRICAL OR CONTEMPORARY  
(NO BROADWAY ACCEPTED)

Classical Championship 12&OVER

Two separate dances

CLASSICAL & CHARACTER

Theatrical Championship 12&OVER

Two separate dances

BROADWAY JAZZ & SONG & TAP

(NO STRAIGHT JAZZ ACCEPTED)

TROUPE, DUO & TRIO AGE GROUPS as follows from Jan 1 current year  
6&U, 8&U, 10&U, 12&U, 15&U, OPEN AGE

SOLO AGE GROUPS FROM JULY 1 of current year

U6, 6/U8, 8/U10, 10/U12, 12/U14, 14/U16, 16/U19, 19&O (numbers permitting)

ALL CHAMPIONSHIP DANCERS MUST QUALIFY IN  
APPROPRIATE SECTION, AND MUST COMPETE IN OPEN.

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all new ammendments effective for 2026

1. ALL SOLOIST ages are from the 1st JULY IN THE COMPETITION YEAR.
- 1A. ALL DUO, TRIOS & TROUPES ages are from the 1st JANUARY IN THE COMPETITION YEAR.
2. Competitors must compete in the order that they appear in the program. ALL COMPETITORS MUST BE CHECKED IN IN PERSON by the start of the section. In the event that the competitor arrives at the venue after the performance scheduled order, the performer may dance at the end of the section for CRIT ONLY
3. All competitors compete at their own risk.
4. Minimum number of competitors for troupes is 4.
5. All competitors in solos must check in at the front desk on arrival, Teachers of troupe items must also check in at desk.
6. No prompting allowed.
7. Only the teacher of the competitor on stage will be allowed side stage. This does not include your student helpers.
- 8A. By entering these competitions you agree to give permission for your child/troupe to be photographed or videoed.
- 8B. By entering these competitions you agree to abide by all rules and guidelines in all areas that are set by CanDance Australia.
9. No entries will be recorded unless accompanied by FULL FEES through the TRYBOOKING links provided each competition.
- 9A. NO CHANGES WILL BE MADE TO PERFORMERS ENTRIES ONCE THE CLOSING DATE HAS PASSED. PLEASE BE SURE THAT YOU ENTER THE CORRECT SECTIONS, PLEASE CHECK CHAMP QUALIFYING ENTRIES TO AVOID DISQUALIFICATION. IT IS NOT CANDANCE AUSTRALIA'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK FOR YOU
10. ALL ENTRIES ARE NON REFUNDABLE.
11. Unless open age entrants you must conform to event age limits.
12. Performances are solos unless a section allows more than 1 dancer.
13. Correct genre must be entered in correct section. Disqualification/penalties may occur if not compliant with rule.
14. Adjudicator's decision as to whether or not an item presented by a competitor complies with conditions of the section shall be final and not subject to discussion.
15. Entrants perform at their own risk. Entrants agree that they are of good health and fitness and physically able to participate in a section upon entry.
16. A person is to only perform once in the section.
17. A different item is required for each section.

18. Schools with students of the wrong age in age specified sections will be disqualified.
19. ANY Protests of any kind are to be made in writing within fifteen minutes of results, accompanied by a deposit of \$50-00, which will be forfeited if the protest is deemed frivolous.
20. TRICK PROTEST: In the event of unseen additional tricks (RULE) it must be brought to the attention of CanDance Australia staff before the end of the section but before adjudication to affect the placing results.
21. Anyone acting disrespectfully towards other performers, competitors, teacher etc will be asked to leave the venue and will self disqualify themselves or their children. SEE Code of Conduct
22. If the stage is left bare at any time the item is classed as finished.
- 22B. If a performer runs off the stage during a performance, they may be eligible for a Highly Commended placing only.
- 22C. In the event a competitor's music malfunctions, they may reappear using a backup, but it must be IMMEDIATELY, the backup music must be on the side of the stage and ready to go.
- 22D. All performers are encouraged to re appear if they run off.
23. THREE TRICK RULE (as below) If more than three tricks performer may be eligible for a Highly Commended placing only. PLEASE also see rule 19A
24. TIGHTS MUST BE WORN WITH ALL BOY LEG AND LEOTARD LEG LINES. Competitors will not be allowed to perform without. Penalty will apply
25. Girls are permitted to wear short or romantic tutus for classical ballet solos.
26. Plagiarism on any genre's choreography is prohibited. Including film clips, theatre works & Ballets or Repertoire work (unless in the Repertoire section). All entered performances must be original.
27. No parents are allowed backstage. Competitors may be disqualified if this rule is not adhered to.
28. The use of the house curtain is not allowed.
29. No PUBLIC photography or videoing of any type permitted. Anyone found videoing and taking photos of any competitor will result in instant disqualification from the section. THIS RULING IS NOT NEGOTIABLE.
30. Any dispute/question not provided for by these General Rules will be finalized by the Artistic Director, this decision will be final. All entries are received subject to this provision, and shall not be subject to any appeal at law.

31. Communication with the Adjudicator either by competitors, teachers or other interested parties during the competitions is strictly prohibited. The CanDance Australia reserves the right to disqualify a competitor in breach of this rule.
32. All rules and conditions are subject to the Artistic Director's discretion. This does not include Adjudication rulings. The Adjudicators decisions are final.
33. Any teacher/student leaving a dance school is not allowed to present work from that school, unless they have obtained permission and notified CanDance Australia that the principal teacher has allowed them to do so, otherwise all work presented must be new. A written formal letter stating that permission is given is to be submitted for any work taught by a previous teacher. This must be submitted before CanDance Australia will let the competitor appear on stage. This is to protect all concerned that permission has been appropriately obtained.
34. No one is permitted in the theatre without purchasing a current session ticket.
35. CanDance Australia competitions are only open to girls and boys that are attending a dancing school, this excludes all full time tertiary dance students without exception, unless a formal written request is submitted before the entry closing date.
36. The teacher of the item is not allowed to perform the item.
37. Principal Teachers and Teachers whose main income is derived from teaching/working in a dance school are not permitted to compete in any CanDance Australia competition unless permission has been granted by formal written request before the closing of the competition entry date.
38. No naked flames or lighted candles will be permitted on stage.
39. Straw bales used as props must be wrapped in clear plastic.
40. All Championship trophies will only be awarded on Presentation Night.
41. All crit sheets to be collected by the end of the competition. Anything unclaimed will not be kept.
42. Insurance: As competitors are not covered by Public Liability Insurance we advise all dancing schools and parents to ensure that competitors are privately insured for any injury incurred during the competitions. VENUES are covered by a license from APRA for the performance of photo copies of copyright works may be an infringement of the Copyright Act. CanDance Australia will not be liable for any Copyright infringement. Any Mechanical royalties that may be payable for the performance of recorded copyright material is the responsibility of the performer.

### 43. SPECIALISED SECTIONS

Once a competitor has competed in a Championship section, they will not be eligible to return to any related novice section AGAIN.

NO CHANGES WILL BE MADE TO CHAMPIONSHIP PERFORMERS ENTRIES ONCE THE CLOSING DATE HAS PASSED. PLEASE BE SURE THAT YOU ENTER THE CORRECT QUALIFYING SECTIONS TO AVOID DISQUALIFICATION, AND THAT YOU ALSO DANCE THE CORRECT GENRE... IT IS NOT CANDANCE AUSTRALIA'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK FOR YOU

1. Championships – where numbers permit.

Entrants must compete in the 2 related open qualifying sections.

Modern Championship – to qualify must compete in at the open sections of contemporary or lyrical and straight jazz(FAST).

Modern Championship consists of 2 dances, being a Lyrical or Contemporary and a Straight Jazz(FAST)

Classical Championship – to qualify must compete in open classical/repertoire variation and character section.

Classical Championship consists of 2 dances, being a Classical Ballet and a Character Ballet.(Repertoire dance are not permitted in Championship section)

Tap Championship – to qualify must compete in open tap and fast tap section.

Tap Championship consists of medley using at least 2 of the 3 rhythms, fast section and slow or waltz.

Theatrical Championship – to qualify must compete in open Song & Tap and Broadway.

Theatrical Championships consist of 2 dances, being a Song & Tap and a Broadway

2. Once you have entered into a Championship in any Australian competition you must not compete in the Novice corresponding sections wherever the method is applicable.  
Please note this includes Song and Tap and Song and Dance Solo's.
3. Championship age groups are 12/U15 and 15 and over. (number permitting)
4. Classical and Theatrical are 12 YEARS AND OVER. (number permitting)
5. ALL COMPETITORS MUST BE CHECKED IN, IN PERSON BY THE START OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP SECTION OR THEY WILL BE DISQUALIFIED AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO APPEAR.

44. ACROBATIC AND ACROBATIC ELEMENTS CLARIFICATION.  
 MAXIMUM NO OF PERFORMERS IN AN ACRO TROUPE IS 12 ON STAGE  
 - DUE TO SAFETY  
 ACRO section must be 75% acro 25% dance.  
 Acrobatic tricks or elements in all other genres MUST be restricted to 3 tricks.  
 SOLOS: 3 TRICK MAXIMUM  
 DUOS: 3 TRICK MAXIMUM - May be done in a strict follow on cannon.  
 If tricks done separately, tricks will be counted for each as in a solo performance  
 TRIOS: 3 TRICK MAXIMUM - May be done in a strict follow on cannon.  
 If tricks done separately, tricks will be counted for each as in a solo performance  
 TROUPES: 3 TRICK MAXIMUM - May be done in a strict follow on cannon.  
 If tricks done separately, tricks will be counted for each as in a solo performance
45. HIP HOP DANCE performance refers to street dance primarily performed to hip hop music, may include break dance elements and moves. This will include and allow any balances and tricks that are within the break dance and hip hop style.

#### MUSIC AND RECORDINGS

1. Music must be playable via iPod.  
IPOD/IPAD PREFERRED.
2. Vocals optional on backing tracks unless otherwise excluded i.e.: vocal, song and dance, song and tap and theatrical presentation, during the singing portion of ANY routine.
3. In theatrical presentation minimal speech dialogue may be entered into, but must be relevant to the items meaning for it to be eligible for competition.
4. EXPLICIT language must be removed from all recordings.
- 4B.1 In the event a competitor's music malfunctions, they may reappear using a backup, but it must be IMMEDIATELY. the backup music must be on the side of the stage and ready to go.

#### PROPS AND SCENERY & LIGHTING

1. Solo, Duo and Trio performances, no scenery allowed. Simple hand held props, i.e. basket, doll, flowers etc, are permitted only if actually used in the routine. LARGE props not permitted for solo/duo/trio work.  
 Props, i.e. small tables, chairs and dressing tables may be used but must be able to be moved by one person and be removed from the side of the stage immediately after the item has finished due to Occupational Health and Safety requirements. There must be no debris, residue or substance from an entrants performance or costume requiring the stage to be cleaned.
2. The use of the house curtain is NOT allowed for any performance.  
(SECTION 1 RULE 23)
3. RE: TROUPES - NO SCENERY ALLOWED. Steps, riser and props classed as hand held (performer moveable chairs etc.) allowed but must be set within a 45 sec time limit.
- 3A. ANY LARGE TROUPE PROP WITH ANY WEIGHT IN IT MUST HAVE WHEELS FOR SAFE TRANSPORTING THROUGH THE VENUE AND TO ASSIST IN SPEEDY SET UP AND REMOVAL.
4. All stage lighting is set to a white wash for all performers.

## NOVICE GUIDELINES

1. Novice sections are opened to competitors who have not received a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in the last two years of competition in that particular genre within Australia. This applies whether or not you have gone up an age group. Once you have received a 1st, 2nd or 3rd in any competition you must compete in OPEN for the following 2 years.
  - 1A. 1st PLACE NOVICE RULE. Where there 4 or less competitors in a section ONLY the first place winner MUST go up to Open for the following 2 years.
  - 1.B In the event there is only 1 competitor in the novice section, if a 1st Place is giving the entrant does not have to go into the OPEN SECTION.
  - 1C. In the event that there is four or less competitors the 1st PLACE NOVICE RULE will apply.  
In the event that a competitor has entered novice and then competes and receives 1st,2nd or 3rd place in a competition after CanDance Australia entry closing date, the competitor is eligible to compete in novice for the entered set of comps only.
  - 1D In the event that you receive a Bid to a National Competition outside CanDance Australia, This will also push you into the NOVICE RULE NO 1 for that genre.
2. There are no NOVICE sections in U6 Solos.
3. There is no NOVICE section in National Character, Theatrical Presentation, Acrobatic, Repertoire or Vocal
4. Novice section 16 & Over are available if numbers permit.
5. Novice sections available if numbers permit, in all age groups.
6. Programme CODES : AC age combined
  - : C novice and open combined
  - : N novice
  - : F/A first appearance
- 6.A Any sections with the code AC or C remove the NOVICE rule as the sections have been combined, and it not a true NOVICE section. 1st Place winner must still move up to open.

## FIRST APPEARANCE SOLO GUIDELINES

1. F/A solos are open to performers that have not performed solos on stage previously at this or any other competition. (please see next rule)
  - 1.A Performers may stay in F/A for 2 consecutive CanDance Australia comps.
2. For the year 2025 if you were a first time soloist entered in July 2025 in 2 or less items you will be eligible to enter the F/A section with 2 genres for October 2021 as your second consecutive competition.
3. Once you have completed your eligible time in the F/A sections you will then move into NOVICE.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

CanDance Australia team, performers, teachers and patrons have the right to be treated with respect. Zero tolerance of aggression and violence is vital in providing a safe and healthy CanDance Australia event. Aggressive and violent behaviour toward any member of CanDance Australia is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Violence and aggression is any incident in which someone is threatened, abused, assaulted or harassed in circumstances arising out of, or during the course of, their time of the event and includes:

Intimidating behaviours involving an actual or implied threat to safety, health or well being.

Verbal or psychological abuse/harrasment including all types of correspondence

eg: all social media, phone calls and any written messages. Breach of this will have you removed and blocked from all platforms and access without notice.

Physical attack, such as pushing, shoving, tripping, grabbing, hitting, pinching, scratching, or any other type of direct physical contact. Assault, such as attacking with a weapon (thrown object, furniture etc.)  
Sexual harassment and sexual assault.

CANDANCE AUSTRALIA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REQUEST THAT AGGRESSIVE OR ABUSIVE PERSONS LEAVE OUR EVENT. REFUSAL TO LEAVE UPON REQUEST MAY RESULT IN THE POLICE BEING CALLED. ALL OTHER MATTERS NOT ON SITE WILL BE REFERRED TO AUTHORITIES.

## Section Naming List:

Do Your Own Thing (U5) - Any style or genre permitted

Classical Ballet - Based on strict ballet technique  
Repertoire - A work from a ballet

Character Ballet - Characterisation of a story based on strict ballet technique

National Character Ballet - a country's national folk dance -

Lyrical - based on the classical lines with emotional content

Contemporary -  
a form of modern dance where the movement depicts emotion or tell a story, a stronger form of dance than Lyrical

Straight Jazz - is a very energetic and fast paced style that incorporates elements of commercial, street jazz and hip hop.

Broadway Jazz - defined as the incorporation of ballet, jazz and modern dance styles into a routine that is dance from a Stage or Movie Musical, performed to a cabaret piece or a strongly theme musical arrangement. Broadway jazz can often be character/era driven.

Hip Hop Dance - refers to street dance primarily performed to hip hop music, may include break dance elements and moves.

Tap a style of dance characterized by using the sound of tap shoes striking the floor

Fast Tap - tapping at a fast speed

Song & Tap - a song followed by a tap routine

Song & Dance - a song followed by a dancing routine

Acrobatic - 75% acro & 25% dance

Theatrical Presentation - a song performed /presented as in a musical show or on stage for the entertainment of the audience members

The Entertainers - entertaining piece of any genre with a few restrictions - please contact CanDance Australia for details

Stage Presentation - A Variety section open to ALL - 20min time limit - please contact CanDance Australia for details

**SOLOS**

DO YOUR OWN THING  
U5 3mins

CLASSICAL BALLET  
U6, 6/U8 & 8/U10 2mins  
all other ages 3mins

REPETOIRE  
12/U15, 15&O 3mins

CHARACTER SOLOS  
Solos 3mins

NATIONAL CHARACTER BALLET  
Solos 3mins

STRAIGHT JAZZ  
Solos 3mins

BROADWAY  
Solos 3mins

HIP-HOP / ACRO  
Solos 2.5mins

LYRICAL / CONTEMPORARY  
Solos 3mins

TAP SOLO/FAST TAP  
U6, 6/U8 & 8/U10 2mins  
all other ages 3mins

SONG & DANCE SOLO  
U6, 6/U8 & 8/U10 3.5mins  
all other ages 4mins

THEATRICAL PRESENTATION  
Solos 3mins

SONG & TAP SOLO  
U6, 6/U8 & 8/U10 3.5mins  
all other ages 4mins

TAP CHAMPIONSHIPS  
One combined dance  
12/U15 4mins  
15 & OVER 4mins

MODERN CHAMPIONSHIP  
Straight Jazz & Cont/Lyrical  
Solos 3mins

CLASSICAL CHAMPIONSHIP  
Classical & Character  
Solos 3mins

THEATRICAL CHAMPIONSHIP  
Song & Tap & Broadway Jazz  
Solos Broadway 3 mins  
Song & Tap 4mins

**DUOS / TRIOS**

4&U, 6&U, 8&U DUO/TRIOS  
ALL 3mins

CLASSICAL or CHARACTER  
10&U, 12&U, 15&U, Open Age  
ALL 3mins

STRAIGHT JAZZ (fast)  
ALL 3mins

BROADWAY  
ALL 3mins

HIP HOP / ACRO  
ALL 2.5mins

LYRICAL / CONTEMPORARY  
ALL 3mins

TAP  
ALL 3mins

SONG & DANCE /SONG & TAP  
10&U, 12&U 3.5mins  
15&U, Open Age 4mins

THEATRICAL PRESENTATION  
10&U, 12&U 3.5mins  
15&U, Open Age 4mins

**VOCAL SECTIONS**

VOCAL SOLOS  
ALL 3mins

**TROUPES**

ALL AGES  
  
CLASSICAL  
CHARACTER  
NATIONAL  
LYRICAL  
CONTEMPORARY  
JAZZ  
BROADWAY  
TAP  
THEATRICAL  
ACROBATIC  
ENTERTAINERS  
  
ALL 4mins  
  
SONG & TAP 5mins  
SONG & DANCE 5mins  
  
STAGE PRESENTATION  
OPEN AGE 20mins

