

# ELITE

## DANCE PROJECT

### COMMITMENT

The Elite Dance Project competitive team is a commitment, both financially and time-wise, and every dancer (and parent) who chooses to participate must be ready to commit to the team and the work required. The competition team is similar to a sports team where the players depend on each other to work hard and be present. Each dancer must be physically and mentally present at each practice to be fair to the other dancers, instructors, and themselves. Commitment levels vary across teams.

### BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Dancers will be expected to focus and give 110% in every practice. Positive attitudes are essential! Dancers will be learning new and challenging choreography and technique, positive attitudes will help each dancer to achieve their goals. All dancers must work as a cohesive team, which means holding their team members and instructors in the highest regard.

### PARENT EXPECTATIONS

When parents and teachers work together, children tend to perform better in class and at competition.

- Recognize teachers' commitment. The teachers' commitment involves many hours of preparation beyond time spent at rehearsals and competition.
- Establish positive contact with teachers. Let the teacher know that you want your child to have the best experience possible. Ask if there is any way you can help. Getting to know the teacher and establishing a positive relationship will make it much easier to talk later if a problem arises.
- Show appreciation. When teachers do something you like, let them know about it. Teaching and creating choreography for competition is a difficult job, and most teachers hear from parents only when they want to complain.
- Don't give instructions during a competition or class. When your child is practicing at home, keep them on the right track, but leave the corrections for the teacher during the next class.
- Be positive with your child!

- Support the entire team. Praise all the dancers from your child's school. Let them know when you think they do something well.
- Encourage other parents to respect the process. Show respect for other schools and their teachers, and encourage other parents to do so as well. If a parent begins to berate another school or teacher, gently say, "Hey, that's not the way we do things here."

## **COMPETITIONS AND PERFORMANCES**

### **Requirements**

The following are requirements to be part of the team:

- You must be at least 5 years of age
- You must be currently taking required classes listed below.
- You must attend summer auditions and intensives listed (if any).
- ALL competition students must take 2 hours of conditioning a week

Competition Practices will be held on 2 Sundays before the first competition. Both dates will be a full dress rehearsal.

## **COSTS FOR COMPETITION**

- Jewelry (if required in the dance)
- Makeup - as advised that year (usually brown smokey eye)
- Costume deposit \$50/ dance ( costumes approximately \$100 each)
- Hotels, travel, food (if needed)
- Jackets are \$100 - \$110 - this includes our logo on the back and their name on the front (1 time purchase, unless if jacket is too small)
- Shoes - Appropriate dance shoes are mandatory- do not purchase any shoes in advance.

Elite Dance Project will provide shoe information at the beginning of the season.

We will be attending 3-4 competitions between the beginning of April to the end of May. Each competition is Mandatory. Usually the competitions will be during a span of 3 days (Friday, Saturday, Sunday). Times your child will be dancing will be posted 1 month before the competition date.

### **Competition/Workshop Fees**

- These vary according to the type of dance or dances your child participates in •
- Example: Solo (approximately \$95.00)
- Duet/Trio (approximately \$70 per dancer)
- Group (approximately \$45.00 per dancer)
- Line (approximately \$35.00 per dancer).
- These charges are collected by the association holding the competition, not Elite Dance Project. A charge of 10% will be added if not paid by the due date.

**Classes Wanted****Classes Required**

Jazz/ Lyrical /  
Contemporary

Conditioning, Ballet

Acrobatics

Tumbling,  
Conditioning

Hip Hop

Conditioning

Tap

Conditioning

Classes are priced as \$50.00 / class.

**ATTENDANCE**

There are no refunds or credits for missed practices.

Competition dancers are not allowed to miss class, attendance is mandatory to be able to succeed and progress. However, illnesses and sickness do occur.

If your dancer is INJURED please email the studio informing us about the injury as well as having the student come in and take notes of what is being taught in class.

If your dancer is ILL please email the studio informing us about this illness. Please do not come if they are contagious, as we do not want to spread germs in our studio.

Discipline is key. Do not allow dancers to miss a rehearsal. If they have made the commitment to be a part of the team, then they need to understand that not participating in a scheduled rehearsal lets the team down. Once a dancer is allowed to miss rehearsals, others will consider it okay to do so too and it will bring down the positive atmosphere of the entire rehearsal. Do not make exceptions, especially not for the most talented dancers. The process of cleaning the choreography is one of the hardest and most important parts of rehearsals. Dancers tend to be less enthusiastic when it comes to cleaning because of the repetition involved. Dancers should be expected to dance full out every time. There is nothing worse than trying to clean choreography on lazy dancers. Also dancing full out builds the stamina a dancer needs for a good performance.

The cleaning process is never done. There are always ways to improve a dance.

## **DRESS CODE**

### **Jazz, Lyrical, Conditioning, Contemporary**

- Fitted Clothing
- Appropriate Footwear (Jazz Shoes/Foot Undeez)
- Hair properly secured out of face
- No baggy clothing, denim, or street wear in class No pajama pants

### **Ballet**

- Any coloured Leotard • Pink Tights
- Pink Ballet Shoes
- Hair in a clean Bun

### **Hip Hop**

- Hair secured out of face
- Clean sneakers
- Any athletic pant, sweater, shirt
- No profanity, clothes must be age appropriate.

**Tap**

- Hair secured out of face
- Athletic style clothing
- Appropriate coloured tap shoe (teacher discretion)

**Boot Camp****CLASSES**

- All competition dancers are required to attend a “Competition Boot Camp”. Bootcamp is during August, making sure all students start on the same page. Dates will be posted at the beginning of summer.
- Classes include: Conditioning, technique and guest choreographers for choreography.
- Classes are taught by Elite Dance Project Staff and guest teachers.

**Summer Classes**

- Competition dancers are welcome to book summer classes to upgrade their skills during our break.
- Please email the studio to inquire about pricing.
- Parents must email the studio to request a teacher and date.

**COMMUNICATION**

Email is the major form of communication. It is necessary that we have your current email address and phone number, if any changes to your email address that occur during the year please let us know right away.

**PAYMENT POLICIES**

All monthly tuition payments are due on the first week of each month. Payments made after that will be charged a late fee of 10% of your monthly bill.

We accept payment by e-transfer, cash or cheques. Post dated cheques seem to be the easiest way of payment in the past.

## **COMPETITION CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS**

The essential elements of character building and ethics in competition dance are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship.

1. I will inform the school of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or of others.
2. I will trust the process of the teachers and bring any issues to the director.
3. I will learn and honor the school's rules and policies.
4. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage positive sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy and demonstrating support for the school's dancers and all other participating schools and students.
5. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any judge, teacher, dancer, parent, or school staff member. There will be no yelling, taunting, or profane language at any time.
6. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health or well-being of the dancers.
7. I will demand that my child treat other dancers, teachers, judges, and spectators with respect.
8. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or any other dancer for making a mistake or not winning an award.
9. I will respect the authority of the judges and competition directors during dance competitions. I will not question, discuss, or confront teachers at the competition site; instead, I will speak with teachers at an agreed-upon time and place.
10. I will refrain from coaching my child or other dancers during competitions or classes.
11. I agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action.
12. I am aware that At Elite Dance Project we have **NO TOLERANCE** for bullying. Any member of our studio caught bullying a student, parent, or teacher will be asked to leave with no refund.

13. By signing this agreement, both the parent and the child agree to have postings of photos and names on our website, Instagram, Facebook and other social media. Our social media helps with your Child's dance future, exposure and our studio's name.

### **CLOSING STATEMENT**

The focus is not simply on Competition.

It is our goal to create a passion for performance in our students rather than the feeling of only needing to win. Our passion as teachers will help your child reach their goals, challenge them and encourage them to strive to progress. Our teachers are well educated and have the knowledge to help your child reach their highest potential. With the parent and teacher working together, the dancer will be the best version of them they can be. Our studio is a family that encourages each other, helps each other in need and celebrates together!

We hope you can join our family this season on our competition team!!

### **POLICY ACCEPTANCE FORM**

Dear Parent/Guardian and Students:

Participation in the Elite Dance Project Competition Dance Team requires a solid commitment to all the policies listed in the Competition Handbook. If you accept those policies and all obligations associated with Elite Dance Project Competition Dance Team, please sign the form below.

Parent Signature:

Children Signature: