

2024-25 Competition Teams Handbook



Our Mission & Culture

Our culture is shaped by the behaviors and attitudes of everyone associated with TND. We expect the following from every student, family member, and member of our staff:

- Exhibit positivity, respect, kindness, and patience toward everyone.
- Emphasize the JOURNEY as much as the PERFORMANCE, focusing on student GROWTH over WINNING.
- Set constructive goals without making comparisons.
- Create an inclusive environment where all students and families feel welcome and valued.
- Show GRATITUDE and GRACE to everyone.
- Strive for excellence in both dance training and academics.

Team & Apprentice Requirements

Teams are formed through auditions, and membership is a privilege. Dancers are challenged to their full potential and given opportunities to showcase their talents competitively. We aim to provide the highest quality training in a positive, modest, and age-appropriate environment.

Elite Team

The Elite Team is for serious dancers aged 12-18 who are committed to dance as their sole extracurricular activity. Key requirements include:

- **Training Schedule:** Minimum of 3 days per week, including two Saturday PBT classes per month, with possible rehearsals on weekends.
- **Competitions and Conventions:** Participation in 4 regional competitions, One-Day convention, and a convention/competition per season, plus a national competition every other year.
- **Summer Requirements:** Attendance at required Elite summer open classes and ballet & dance camp intensives in June and July.

Competition Team

The Competition Team is for students who prioritize competitive dance as their main extracurricular activity. Key requirements include:

- **Training Schedule:** 2 days per week, including a Saturday PBT class once a month, with rehearsals and choreography sessions on some weekends.
- **Competitions:** Participation in 4 regional competitions and 1 national competition every other year.
- **Summer Requirements:** Attendance at summer open classes and the dance camp intensive in July. Ballet Intensive is recommended but not required.

Apprentice Team

Apprentice Team members balance dance with other activities, training weekly with additional rehearsals as needed. They participate in 4 competitions and summer classes, along with the July dance camp intensive. The formation of an Apprentice Team depends on interest each year.

Petite Performance Team (PPT)

New for 2024-25, this team consists of staff-selected dancers training 2 hours weekly. PPT members represent TND at community events, parades, and possibly a local competition in the spring. This team is ideal for those not ready for the full commitment of competitive dance.

NOTE: Failure to meet the above listed commitments may result in removal from the team. Members cannot compete for other studios while on the TND team.

General Dress Code

Refer to the [Competition Supply Notice](#) for detailed requirements for classes, performances, and competitions.

- **Black Tank Leotard & Tights:** Required for all classes and rehearsals on Mondays and Thursdays.
- **Black Chiffon Wrap Skirt:** Worn for Christmas Shows.
- **Black Boy Shorts:** worn over leotards for classes such as tap, jazz, acro, etc.
- **Hair:** Must be pulled up and away from the face; in a bun for ballet classes.
- **Jewelry:** All personal jewelry should be removed for classes and rehearsals
- **Shoes:** Refer to the link above
- **Resistance Band:** Required for JR, Pre-TN, SR, and Elite Teams - kept in dance bag.
- **Cell Phones:** Must be silenced and remain in a closed dance bag or placed in the classroom box.

Fees and Payment Plans

Monthly Tuition

- ~~Apprentice Team: \$120/month~~
- Petite Performance Team: \$105/month
- Junior Team: \$140/month
- Pre-Teen Team: \$150/month
- Senior Team: \$170/month
- Elite Team: \$210/month

Payment Options - click to view [Competition Payment Log](#)

1. **Traditional:** Pay tuition, entry fees, costumes, etc., as they come due.
2. **Full Pay for Season:** Pay all tuition and duet/trio fees by 8/5/24 for a 5% discount.
3. **FLEXPAY:** Divide total annual costs over 8 months (Oct.-May). Late payments over 30 days without communication may lead to cancellation of costume orders and competition entries. NOTE: AUG & SEPT tuition are due traditionally. *Flex Pay does **NOT** include the following: competition costume deposit (due Sept. 9), Production, Tap Line, Specialty, and/or Group Choreography Fees, Solo Choreography fees, Entry Rehearsal fees via Sign-Up Genius, Duet/Trio Fees with outside choreographer, Christmas Performance Fee, Spring Recital Costume, Spring Performance Fee, Rhinestone Fee, Make-up/Eyelash Packages, Competition Jewelry, Private/Semi-Private lessons, National Entry Fees, National Instructor Travel Stipend, and optional competitions or conventions.*

Additional Costs

- **Summer Training:** Covers required summer open classes and dance camp intensive.
 - Payment: 50% due early June, balance due mid-July.
- **Competition Deposit:** Paid with summer fees. Credited to final competition entry fees.
- **Entry Selections & Requirements:** Invitations for solos, duet/trios, specialty groups are based on student strengths and per your responses on the spring questionnaire. Participation is mandatory for in-class group entries and Production.
- **Optional Classes:** Students may take optional classes in ***contemporary/lyrical, hip hop, acro-contortion***, jumps/tricks/turns, pointe, and acro-gymnastics. All optional classes will be an additional \$10 per month per class. Classes listed in ***bold italics*** will have a mandatory competition entry associated with the class and may also have a comp costume fee.

Production and Tap Line Entries

- **Choreography Fee:** Approx. \$70 for Production, \$55 for Tap Line. Students will learn the choreography during a weekend in Oct or early Nov - attendance is mandatory.
- **Rehearsals:** Weekly, mandatory attendance from Nov-May (Thur 6:30-7 pm). We aim for all dancers to participate in the Production entry, seeking private and corporate sponsorships to cover each dancer's Production entry fee or reduce the cost of the entry fee for every competition we attend.

Group and Specialty Entries

- **In-Class Entries:** Rehearsed during regular classes; no extra fees.

- **Out-of-Class Entries:** Includes groups like Production, Tap Line; \$10/month rehearsal fee from Nov-May will apply.
- **Specialty Entries:** Dancers for specialty group entries will be selected by Ms. April and the choreographer. A Choreography fee and rehearsal fees (\$10/month) will apply. Choreography dates/times will be announced in Aug and attendance is required in order to participate in the specialty entry. Weekly rehearsals will be held from Jan-May.

Costumes, Jewelry, Make-Up, and Rhinestones

- **Costumes:** Additional ballet costume for Spring Recital; \$90 per competition costume.
- **Jewelry & Make-Up:** Required rhinestone accessories and competition make-up and eye lashes can be purchased through TND or from approved vendors. Make-up and eye lash requirements will be announced soon.
- **Rhinestone Fee:** Covers rhinestones, glue, and labor for each competition costume that requires adornment.

Rehearsals and Performances

- **Mandatory Rehearsals:** Possible during Thanksgiving & Christmas Break and MLK Day.
- **Competition Dress Rehearsal:** Held at Henry Performing Arts Center; \$25 fee per student.
- **Performance Requirement:** Participation in Christmas Shows, Spring Recitals, and Competition Showcase is MANDATORY, barring extenuating circumstances, which will be handled on an individual basis.

Attendance & Punctuality

Competition Team dancers are expected to be on time and in attendance at all competitions and TND performances. Weekly class attendance and punctuality is expected. Dancers should reserve absences for illness, injury, emergencies, and mandatory school events. Excessive tardiness or absences from classes and rehearsals may result in your dismissal from the Team. Please notify TND via email or telephone if your child will not be in attendance or possibly late. Attendance will be documented for all classes and rehearsals for the 2024-25 Season.

Annual Photo Shoot

Competition Team dancers have the opportunity to participate in an annual photo shoot with headshots, group shots, etc. Photos are used to promote TND and the competition teams.

TND Jackets & Gear

A new team jacket will be designed for the 2024-25 season, with additional gear options. Interested in helping? Join the Competition Gear Committee or volunteer for any of our committees to offer your assistance - [Sign-Up Genius](#).

Parental Commitment and Behavior Policy

- **Commitment:** Active participation and communication with TND instructors and staff are essential. Do not use dance as a form of discipline! This affects all dancers on a Team.
- **Behavior:** Respectful behavior and positive attitudes are mandatory for all students, parents, and staff. Disruptive behavior or negative communication (verbal, written, physical, etc.) may result in immediate dismissal. Bullying will NOT be tolerated.
- **Decorum:** No special friends at classes or competitions. This can be a distraction for the dancer and others. Adhere to studio rules on attendance and behavior at all times; this includes events, performances, and competitions.
- **Opening Season Parent Meeting:** Attendance is **required** for a parent with a child participating on Team - **Thur., Aug. 1 @ 7:15 pm at Tumble 'N Dance.**

Healthy Dancers & Additional Class Opportunities

- **Diet and Exercise:** Encourage healthy eating, regular exercise, and hydration. Limit junk food and soft drinks.
- **Progressing Ballet Technique:** Mandatory for Pre-TN/SR/ELITE Teams; optional for JR dancers @ a \$5 drop-in rate. The class will be held weekly on Saturdays from 11:45-12:45.
- **Jumps/Turns/Tricks Class:** Required for Elite dancers; encouraged for Pre-TN/SR dancers (\$10/month fee). This class is held AUG-OCT on Thur 6:30-7:00 during the Production time slot.

Fundraising & Sponsorships

- **Fundraisers:** Three optional fundraisers will be organized during the season.
- **Sponsorships:** Families may solicit sponsorships to offset expenses. Please submit a [TND Sponsorship Form](#) along with the monetary donation to receive credit.

Parental Volunteers & Ambassadors

- **Class Mom Volunteers:** Organize and assist during TND performances.
- **Parent Ambassadors:** New for 2024-25, recruiting parents to help with open houses, mentorships, and promoting TND. More info to come...

Contact Information & Private Facebook Page

Concerns or issues should be communicated directly to Ms. April. Comp families will be invited to the *TND Practice Page* for team promotion, announcements, and reminders.

By following these guidelines, Tumble 'N Dance aims to ensure a successful and enjoyable year for all students, parents, and staff. Your support is greatly appreciated. Let's have a great Season 36!

