

DANCE FX COMPETITION TEAM CONTRACT

Welcome to the Dance FX competition team 2025-2026. We are so happy to have you as part of our competition family!! This is our competition contract that will outline all the information on our rules, policies, procedures, and much more. Please **read** this contract thoroughly **and save it for future reference**. Let us know if you have any questions or concerns. All students and parents must sign and date the page at the end of this contract and return to the studio by Monday, September 29th

Dance FX promotes a positive environment for all dancers. Competition team requires 100% commitment from the studio, students, parents, and staff. Please make sure you are able to commit to **all** rehearsals, competitions, and other requirements outlined in this contract before committing to being a member of our competition team. We ask that the parents and dancers put their trust in Dance FX and its staff to make the best decisions for the studio and competition team as a whole. We also intend to make dance a fun, learning, and character-building program with winning results.

Dance FX has an open door policy and staff is happy to discuss and work with dancers and parents regarding any questions or concerns that may arise. Dance FX will strive to provide a fair, reasonable, and consistent competition team environment and to do what is in the best interest of the competition team as a whole. We are looking forward to a successful, rewarding experience for the upcoming dance and competition season. If you would like to speak with any of the DFX staff, please email the studio and we will set up an appointment. DFX staff will not step away from class to speak with parents.

MANDATORY

MANDATORY MEANS REQUIRED.

IT IS NOT AN ELECTIVE, IT IS AN OBLIGATION.

FULFILLING OBLIGATIONS IS PART OF BEING ON A TEAM AND FOLLOWING RULES.

MANDATORY IAX DANCE CONVENTION- Sunday, October 12th at the John Knight Center in Akron. Cost is \$190 for convention & \$30 for observer pass. Payment is due to Ms Lisa by Monday, September 8th. If you do not pay by Monday, September 8th, rates go up to \$210 for convention & \$60 for observers so let's get the discount & pay by September 8th.

MANDATORY COMPETITION TEAM PHOTO SHOOT- Sunday, October 5th from 9am-1pm- \$70 per dancer or \$125 for family. Fees due by Monday, September 22nd.

COMPETITIONS

We will be attending three competitions in 2026.

ORO- March 13-15: Avon PAC

Energy- April 17-29: Avon PAC

PAC- May 8-10: Stambaugh Auditorium in Youngstown

****Elite Performance Challenge- April 24-26: Streetsboro PAC in Streetsboro

*** We are thinking of taking ONLY SOLOS & DUETS TO THIS COMPETITION BECAUSE ENTRY FEES ARE LOW- \$130 per solo, \$65 per dancer for duet/trios.

COMPETITION FEES

FEES FOR COMPETITIONS

Group dances: \$80 per dancer per dance

Solos are \$180

Duet/trio are \$90 per dancer

Competitions do not give refunds. Therefore, competition entry fees are not refundable for ANY reason.

Beginning in the month of **October**, competition fees will be added to your monthly tuition payments for four months to ensure competition fees are paid. DFX has put this policy in place to help our parents cover these costs in a more manageable way and to ensure that we have the funds necessary to register for each competition in a timely manner. Competition entry fees must be paid to the competition 45 days before the competition date to avoid late fees. Solos, duets, & trios will be picked by staff members only.

All correspondence to our competition dancers will be done through email. Parents, please make sure you read all emails from the studio. We also will utilize the BAND APP to communicate important information, especially if it is time sensitive. **It is your responsibility to keep up with all correspondence.** As a competition parent, you are agreeing to all the time and financial commitments that are necessary and outlined in this contract. You are agreeing to pay all expenses by the assigned due dates. These expenses include but are not limited to tuition, competition entry fees, costumes, competition accessories, competition jacket and clothing, shoes, tights, hair, makeup, and travel expenses. Competition students with seriously delinquent accounts will be suspended until accounts are brought to current status.

Competition Team Rules And Expectations

The DFX staff has decided to use a point system to maintain a fair and consistent structure to our competition program. Each dancer is allowed to accumulate 5 points throughout the season. Receiving a 6th point will result in removal from the competition team. Points can be given in both competition classes and your weekly dance classes. You are a member of our competition team so you will be held to a higher standard than our recreational dancers. An accurate sheet will be kept to keep track of point accumulation. It will be kept in the office and can be viewed upon request. Dancers will not be allowed to see other dancers' points. Each dancer and parents can review their points with any of the teachers with a scheduled appointment.

Attendance

Attendance at all classes and rehearsals are **mandatory**, unless it is absolutely necessary to miss. If a student must miss due to illness or other emergency, it is the parent's responsibility to **email the dance studio**. We will not accept phone calls, text messages, or emails to miss class from the student. Generally, **UNLESS IT IS THE WEEK PRIOR TO COMPETITION**, we are happy to try and work out requests for school activities, field trips, sporting events, etc..if we are notified weeks in advance. School activities and such are planned months ahead of time. Notify Ms. Lisa immediately when there is a conflict. The DFX staff tries to be reasonable in regards to activities outside of dance. However, being on the competition team *requires a 100% commitment in the interest of the team as a whole*. Competition team members must agree to make competition team classes, rehearsals, and dance competitions their 1st priority. If you are absent and have missed choreography, it is the dancer's responsibility to learn from another dancer the missed choreography by the next week's class. *Unexcused absences will result in a point.*

Dancers are expected to arrive 10 minutes early and have appropriate clothing, shoes, hair pulled back and be ready to dance. All dancers are expected to participate in the warm up. If you are late to class, you must ask the teacher's permission to join the class. You may be asked to sit and only observe. Tardiness is not an option. Tardiness is not being ready to start your class at the set start time due to late arrival, not having shoes or dance clothes on, hair not pulled back, or sitting and talking in the student teacher area or dressing room. Your teacher should not have to come get you for class, you should be ready for your class. *Three class tardies will count as an unexcused absence and you will receive a point. If you're not wearing the appropriate shoes or dancewear, you will receive a point.*

Respect

The DFX staff will demand that you respect your teachers and all your team members. Everyone is equal. No dancer can tell another dancer what is wrong with what they are doing. Only the teachers can make corrections. Take responsibility for yourself and your actions. Discipline yourself so no one else has to. Respect your teachers' choreography; keep your opinions to yourself. Do not talk back to your teachers. *Talking back to your teacher will result in an automatic point.*

Do not gossip!!! It is rude and hurtful. Treat others as you wish to be treated. Respect other people on your team no matter what their skill or talent level is. Learn to smile and make others feel better about themselves. Put your team before yourself. *If you are caught talking about another member of your team, other dancers, or DFX staff, you will receive a point.*

Your attitude must be positive and willing to learn. Make hard work your passion. You will be given corrections, you must apply them. Change is a must, ACCEPT IT!! If your attitude is negative, you will be asked to sit out. Moody people are a detriment to the team. Could you practice next to yourself?? *If your negative attitude continues, you will be given a point.*

Cell phones are not allowed on the dance floor, on the white counter, or window sills. Cell phones should be on silent mode and kept in the dressing room or student teaching room. If there is an emergency, your parents can call the studio. *Breaking of this rule will result in a point.*

As a member of the competition team, you must dance full out in all your classes. Rehearsal time is used to prepare for performance, therefore, you must dance and perform with facials during class. Practice and Perform *in character*. Use your class time to develop showmanship and connection with the music. Dancing full out will increase our cardio and we will be able to perform stronger throughout our performances. *If the DFX staff feels you are not dancing to your ability, you will be verbally warned. If it continues, you will receive a point.*

Excessive talking is not allowed in class. This is disrespectful to the teacher and the other members of your team and costs the entire class valuable time. *Excessive talking will result in a point.*

Any **mandatory** competition team events, practices, performances, fundraising events, etc, that are missed due to an unexcused absence *will result in removal from the team.*

COMPETITION PARTICIPATION

If you miss any competition classes the week of competition, you will not be able to compete that weekend.

If you choose to take a family vacation instead of attending a competition, you will be charged a \$75 choreography fee for each dance your dancer is in for all the changes that will have to be made to the dance routines.

If you sign our competition contract and are agreeing to be part of our competition team for the 2025-2026 dance season, and you quit after October 1, 2025, you will be charged a \$100 fee for choreography changes for each dance your dancer was in and an additional \$100 for breach of contract.

You will be required to wait two full dance seasons to be eligible to return to the team and must take classes at the studio in the genre of the team you will like to dance on.

All competition dancers will be striving to perform at competition. Just because you have made the team does not guarantee you will perform at each competition. All dancers must continue to grow with their technique and showmanship. Any dancers that are lacking and are developing more slowly, will not perform at competition. Six weeks before each competition, we will have an audition. Any dancers that the DFX staff feels are not ready, will be told. We will have another audition two weeks later. If there is no improvement, those dancers will be pulled from that competition. The DFX staff is striving for all dancers to compete. The staff also feels that it is not fair to those dancers that are ready to compete at the level we want them at, should be held back by other dancers that are not at that level. The DFX staff will make those decisions.

Parents, your competition fees will not be returned due to your dancer being cut from competition.

At competitions, you are representing Dance FX. All dancers are to wear their Dance FX jackets at all times.

All dancers will maintain friendly and sportsmanship attitudes to all other dancers at competition. The DFX staff will not tolerate poor attitudes or inappropriate conduct at any time.

Competition day is very hectic. All dancers should remain together as we prepare to perform. The DFX staff needs to know where all dancers are at all times. Do not leave our dressing area without permission. At award time, all dancers are expected to sit on the stage as a team, wearing their Dance FX jackets, for the entire awards ceremony.

The DFX staff is so excited about this competition season. We appreciate your commitment to Dance FX and we will do everything we can to ensure we have a fun, productive, successful competition season.

Competition Team Contract

Please detach this paper from the contract so you have it for future reference, sign and return this page to the studio by September 29th.

***Please initial after each item below, then sign at the bottom:*

I have thoroughly read and understand the information contained in this contract. _____

I understand that failure to comply with the rules, regulations, and policies stated will result in reprimand and/or removal from the competition team. _____

I agree to attend all required classes, rehearsals, performances , and competitions and to all other terms in this contract. _____

I understand all the payment guidelines and that there are no refunds or credits. _____

I understand I need to pay all expenses outlined in this contract on the assigned due dates. _____

I understand that Dance FX is not responsible for any decisions made by competition staff or venues.

I understand that the Dance FX staff makes all decisions for the competition team and that I will abide, support, and trust their decisions. _____

I understand and acknowledge that there are certain inherent risks associated with dance activities and that personal injury may result. I agree to assume all risks associated with my child's participation in dance and related activities at Dance FX. _____

Dancer's Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____

