

## RULES OF THE COMPETITION

1. This competition is for amateurs and students who do not derive the main part of their income from the teaching or performance of dance. Entries arising from novice, County or other Championship classes are not eligible.
2. The age of competitors is taken as on 1st January 2011. Accuracy in birth dates is essential. Incorrect age may lead to disqualification and, in cases of doubt, a birth certificate may have to be produced.
3. The Committee may combine Sections or Classes when entries are small, divide a class when entries are large, and have the power to make any other regulations or interpret or qualify any of these rules as the occasion may arise. The Committee reserves the right to refuse any entries.
4. The Competition does not accept liability for the infringement of copyright, recording or performing rights arising out of any competitor's accompaniment or performance. It contributes to a Group Licence to cover payment of fees for the use of recorded music at its events. Teachers and choreographers using tapes created from commercial recordings are advised that they are responsible for seeking permission to re-record from the recording companies concerned.
5. Photography, filming, video or tape recording, and the use of mobile phones during any performance is prohibited. However, by entry to the Competition, competitors agree to perform before the cameras of the media or agents of the Competition. By entry to the Competition, teachers agree to the filming of that entry if selected for the Gala Matinee and, if choreographed by a third party, confirm they have their permission for the filming of that choreography during the Gala. Copies of the recording of the Gala may be offered for sale to participants.
6. The Adjudicators' decision is final and no discussion or correspondence concerning such decision may ensue. The Adjudicators reserve the right not to award any Place when, in their opinion, the standard of dance is insufficiently high, or to individuals who infringe these rules.
7. Communication with the Adjudicators concerning any matters relating to the Competition by competitors, teachers or other interested parties prior or during the Competition is strictly prohibited.
8. The stage and stage wings are out of bounds to all except authorised persons and competitors about to perform. Competitors who have danced may be asked to leave the wings and return three numbers before the end of the class. Authorised persons include one assistant from each school who may accompany children under 7 years and older competitors for the sole purpose of wardrobe or properties.
9. Competitors must dance in correct programme order, report to the stage steward ten minutes before they are due to dance, and be ready in the wings before their number is announced: absentees risk disqualification.
10. Music must be on an audio-cassette tape, CD or mini-disc and handed in at the music collection point at least ten minutes before the class starts. **Tapes and discs must be clearly marked in advance and on the side to be played, with the Class number, Entry number and School Code** as shown against the competitor's name in the Programme.

All media must have *nothing else but a single recording* at the beginning of the CD or MD and if on tape, should be pre-set. Competitors are expected to have back-up (preferably in a different medium) available for use in the event of a problem with their

music. CDs should be marked only with an authentic CD marking pen. When labels are stuck on they can take some of the CD content with them when they are removed.

11. It is not permitted to enter the same dance class in more than one Regional Final, even if different dances in that technique have been qualified. The age of the eldest competitor in a Duet, Trio/Quartet or Group determines the correct age group.

A minimum of 5 and maximum of 24 dancers constitutes a Group. A School with a Group placed 1st at the National Finals may enter a Group with the same choreography in the next competition, but thereafter not for the subsequent TWO competitions, regardless of the placing achieved on the second occasion. Competitors may perform ONCE only in their age group in each dance technique in any section apart from groups; they may perform in only **FIVE** Duets and **FIVE** Trio/Quartet Sections **OVERALL**. Schools may enter **TWICE** in their age group for each dance technique in a Group Section. Entries for the National Finals are made at the Regional Finals. Groups must be entered in the same age class as that entered for Regional Finals.

12. **SUBSTITUTION** - Every dance routine performed in the Competition must be the same one that qualified at a Nominated Festival, in an ordinary section. Solo dancers may not be substituted, but in the event of the unavoidable absence of a partner, ONE substitute will be allowed in a Duet, Trio or Quartet and up to 40% in a Group. Rule 11 will still apply and the Organisers must be notified in writing before the commencement of the Final. Group entries for the National Finals must be submitted with a list of all dancers on the form provided.
13. Time limits for dances must not be exceeded. Times will be checked FROM the first note or word of the accompaniment, or - if it should occur first - the first movement of the dancer, TO the dancer's last movement at the completion of the dance. Overtime dances at Regional Finals will be ineligible for an Honours mark. (Cassette tapes tend to stretch with frequent use and should be time-checked regularly). A musical exit may be included on the recording, provided it falls within the time limit.
14. Props are discouraged. The weight limit is 20kg. The time allowed to set-up or remove props, scenery or staging is limited to 20 seconds.
15. When requested in advance, the steward will announce the title of the dance and a short synopsis not exceeding 30 words is permitted. Words over that amount may be edited by the Regional Director. Spoken or recorded narratives after the steward's announcement will be included within the time limit for the dance.
16. The Adjudicators take into account the whole performance including the choice and interpretation of the accompaniment, the quality of recordings and suitability of recorded vocals.
17. Pre-recorded music used in ANY Song & Dance performance must NOT include any singing or chanting on the cassette. Pre-recorded music used in ANY tap sections must not include any recorded tap or similar sound effect.
18. Pointe work is not allowed for any competitor under 13 years old. Fixed tap (single sound) only may be used for tap dancing. Acrobatic, gymnastic and street dance are acceptable when combined with a strong dance technique. Contortion is not permitted.
19. The use of strobe lighting, smoke, pyro and naked flame during any performance is not allowed. All sets and props must be rendered fire-resistant before arrival at the theatre.

# CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

CHAIRMAN: Cynthia Carr  
SECRETARY: Linda Lear  
REGIONAL DIRECTORS: As listed in Syllabus

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The All England Dance Association (AED) is concerned about the welfare and safety of all its participants and will do everything possible create an ethos in which children feel secure.
- 1.2 This Policy relates to children under the age of 18 years and those vulnerable adults of any age who are identified to the Organisers prior to their arrival at the Finals.
- 1.3 The AED Committee will ensure that all members of the Regional and Nationals Finals teams, who will wear identifying badges, are aware of the Child Protection Policy procedures and can be approached to direct any child or adult with a problem to a committee member who will offer assistance. The Committee will ensure that appropriate support is provided to all members of the team.

## 2. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 This Policy is provided to inform and involve parents/guardians/carers and teachers in order to ensure, as far as it is reasonably practical, a safe environment at the Finals.
- 2.2 Where parents/guardians/carers are not personally attending with their children, AED draws their attention to all aspects of this Child Protection Policy and requires them to be satisfied that their children will be accompanied to the Regional and/or National Finals and adequately supervised by responsible adults acting on their behalf.
- 2.3 This Policy makes it clear that All England Dance expects parents/guardians to be responsible for ensuring that performers under 18 have adequate supervision at all
- 2.4 Once in the wings of the stage, performers will be supervised by All England Dance personnel, who have been voluntarily checked through the Criminal Records Bureau. At National Finals, there will be theatre staff on duty backstage during all performances.

## 3 PROCEDURES

- 3.1 Where problems or concerns are expressed by children or adults, these will be documented and dated. The Regional Director will decide what action needs to be taken and may seek advice from appropriate agencies. Guidelines on confidentiality will be observed.
- 3.4 The Regional Director will make brief notes as soon as possible after any incident and retain these, confidentially and securely, for future reference.

## 4. IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 This Child Protection Policy is included in the syllabus supplied to teachers/parents who will be required to sign the Entry Form to confirm they have received and understood the Policy.
- 4.2 We will regularly review our policy in line with legislation and good working practices.