



Brindabella Dance Festival

2026 RULES

DATES:

Friday 25 September 2026 to
Sunday 04 October 2026.

(Note: Friday 25 September 2026 will only be
used if needed)

Troupes: Weekend of 26- 27 September 2026

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES:

Friday 17 July 2026 or until Capacity Reached.

*The Committee will notify of entries closed via our
Facebook page – Brindabella Dance Festival
Canberra.*

*Entries on a first paid first served basis, a staged
approach to entries may be necessary.*

Online entries only – fees and charges may apply

The Brindabella Dance Festival Inc Committee (the Committee) will take all steps necessary to ensure that the event is compliant with rules and guidelines issued by the ACT Government and The Venue Administrator at the time of the event.

The hosting of this event is subject to change. This event may be cancelled or modified at any time without notice.

Any amendments to the planned running of Brindabella Dance Festival 2026 will be taken as accepted upon entry. Refunds will not be given if the format is changed, and the dancers are given the opportunity to dance under a new plan.

1. General

- a) The Brindabella Dance Festival is open to amateurs only with exception to the 18 and over and Adult Troupe and Adult Solo Sections. An amateur is any school aged person whose main source of income is not derived from dance (i.e: being a paid performer or choreographer for professional dance events).
- b) The Brindabella Dance Festival is a family eisteddfod. Music, choreography and costumes must be suitable for family viewing. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.
- c) The definition of School Aged is intended to mean a dancer who is enrolled into Primary or Secondary schooling or the equivalent (Pre School to Year 12)

2. Age

- a) Solo, Duo/Trio Age: is as at the first day of competition of the eldest dancer. (see cover page for dates). See Syllabus for definition.
- b) Troupe Age: is age as at 1 January year of competition of the eldest dancer.
- c) The eldest dancer of a troupe in 15 & over may not be older than 19 by the start of the competition unless they are enrolled in year 12 or equivalent.
- d) The Committee reserves the right to request proof of age (supplied at competitors' expense), and can, at their discretion, withhold any prizes until this is produced.
- e) Competitors may only enter in their own age group (dancing up an age group is not permitted unless there is not an appropriate section within the competitor's age group).
- f) Duos/Trios – age is taken of the eldest dancer eg a brother and sister duo where the brother is 15 and the sister is 7 the duo must be entered in 15 years and over.
- g) Groups – Age is taken of the eldest dancer.

3. Category Definitions

- a) **Specially Restricted** – means a competitor who has NEVER placed 1st 2nd or 3rd at any competition in any age category for that genre up until your entries have been placed and paid. A 1st, 2nd or 3rd placing in a specially restricted section moves your dancer to restricted.
- b) **Restricted** – means a competitor has not won **first place** in that category in any competition up until your entries have been placed and paid.
- c) **Open** – competitors who have won first place in a restricted section at any previous competition in that discipline in any age category. This section is still open to those who have not won a 1st place in that genre, and who choose to compete at this level.

- d) **Troupes** – must contain a minimum of four competitors. A maximum of four entries per section per studio.
- e) **School Groups** – To qualify as a school group, the routine must be learned at school in a school environment, not as part of a dance school environment. The group may contain students from a dance school.
- f) **Improvisation** – Music will be chosen by the Adjudicator. The competitors in this section are sequestered and not able to hear the music whilst sequestered. Competitors are taken separately to the backstage area and have one opportunity to hear the music once through and compose their routine. They then perform on stage to the Adjudicator immediately. Dress requirements for improvisation are plain dance attire, scrunchie, flower or hair ribbon, tights and shoes where appropriate to the style. No costumes or hair bling or large logos.
 - i. Ballet, Lyrical and Contemporary:
 - a. Girls - simple leotard with optional ballet skirt,
 - b. Boys - plain top and shorts or ballet pants
 - ii. Tap and Jazz:
 - a. Girls - simple leotard with optional shorts,
 - b. Boys - plain top and shorts/pants
 - iii. Hip Hop:
 - a. Plain top and shorts/pants
 - iv. Any Style:
 - a. Dancer's discretion (no costumes)

4. Duo/Trios

- a) An individual may enter a duo/trio with a different partner. The maximum number of times an individual can enter the same duo/trio section is two.

5. Student Choreography

- a) The routine must be totally choreographed and performed by the student.
- b) No teacher assistance may be given. We rely on your honesty for this section.
- c) The student may enter a maximum of 2 student choreography routines, providing they are of different dance styles.
- d) The time limit for student choreography routines is a maximum of 2 minutes.

6. Championships

- a) Competitors must have qualified in the general sections as referred to below.
- b) There must be a minimum **of two competitors** in a Championship for it to proceed. In the event that only one competitor is entered the Committee reserves the right to cancel the section or move the competitor up an age grouping if available.
- c) Duo/Trio sections are not qualifying sections for Championships.

6.1 Classical Ballet Championships –

Classical Ballet Championship - 12U, 14U & 15O

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Open Classical Ballet, and**
- ii. **Any One (1)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Demi Character,
 - b. Open National Character; **and**
- iii. a **ballet improvisation** section

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform two solos; a Demi-Character and then a Classical.

Only one item may be repeated. A change of costume and/or music does not constitute a change of routine.

Classical Ballet Championship – 10U

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Open Classical Ballet, and**
- ii. **Any One (1)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Demi Character,
 - b. Open National Character;
 - c. Open Lyrical **and**
- iii. a **ballet improvisation** section

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform one solo being either a Classical, Demi-Character.

Your championship routine can be repeated in this age group.

Classical Ballet Championship – 8U

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Any One (1)** of the following sections
 - a. Open Classical Ballet
 - b. Open Demi-Character,
 - c. Open Lyrical, **and**
- ii. **One (1) Any Style improvisation** section.

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform one solo being a Classical Ballet, or a Demi-Character.

Your Championship Routine can be repeated in this age group.

6.2 Tap Championship 12U, 14U & 15O

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Any Two (2)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Slow Tap,
 - b. Open Waltz Tap,
 - c. Open Fast Tap;**;and**
- ii. A **tap improvisation** section

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform two solos, dance A being a slow or waltz routine and dance B is a fast or speed tap.

One item may be repeated. A change of costume and/or music does not constitute a change of routine.

6.3 Jazz Championship 12U, 14U & 15O

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. **Any Two (2)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Jazz,
 - b. Open Broadway Jazz,
 - c. Open Musical Theatre;**;and**
- ii. A **jazz improvisation** section

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform two solos, dance A being a Broadway Jazz and Dance B being a Straight Jazz routine.

One item may be repeated. A change of costume and/or music does not constitute a change of routine.

6.4 Contemporary/Lyrical Championship 12U, 14U & 15O

- i. **Any Two (2)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Contemporary,
 - b. Open Lyrical;**;and**
- ii. A **lyrical improvisation** section; **and**
- iii. A **Contemporary** improvisation section.

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform two solos, Dance A will be a Contemporary and dance B the Lyrical.

One item may be repeated. A change of costume and/or music does not constitute a change of routine.

6.5 Entertainment Championships

Entertainment Championship – 12U, 14U & 15O (no repeat dance)

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

i. **Open Broadway or Open Musical Theatre, and**

ii. **Any One (1) of the following sections:**

- a. Open Jazz,
- b. Open Tap,
- c. Open Hip-Hop,
- d. Open Acrobatics
- e. Open Song and Dance
- f. Open Song and Tap; **and**

iii. **Any Two (2) of the following Improv sections:**

- a. Jazz
- b. Tap
- c. Hip-Hop

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform one solo **of high entertainment value**, not previously performed. Dance styles can be Broadway Jazz, Musical Theatre, Fast Tap, Acrobatics, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Student Choreography, Demi-Character or Song and Dance (any style). **Straight Jazz, Classical, Lyrical and National Character routines cannot be performed in this section.**

The entertainment championship section will be adjudicated on entertainment value and originality.

Entertainment Championship – 10/under (repeat dance permitted)

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

i. **Any two (2) of the following sections:**

- a. Open Jazz,
- b. Open Broadway Jazz,
- c. Open Musical Theatre,
- d. Open Fast Tap; **and**

iii. **Any one (1) of the following Improv sections:**

- a. Jazz
- b. Tap
- c. Hip-Hop

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform one solo **of high entertainment value**, (repeat dance permitted for 10/u and 8/u performers). Dance styles can be Broadway Jazz, Musical Theatre, Fast Tap, Acrobatics, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Student Choreography, Demi-Character or Song and Dance (any style). **Straight Jazz, Classical, Lyrical and National Character routines cannot be performed in this section.**

The entertainment championship section will be adjudicated on entertainment value and originality.

Entertainment Championship – 8/under (repeat dance permitted)

To qualify, competitors must perform in:

- i. Any **One (1)** of the following sections:
 - a. Open Jazz,
 - b. Open Broadway Jazz,
 - c. Open Tap; and
- ii. the **Any Style Improvisation section.**

On Championship Day:

Competitors will be required to perform one solo **of high entertainment value**, (repeat dance permitted for 10/u and 8/u performers). Dance styles can be Broadway Jazz, Musical Theatre, Fast Tap, Acrobatics, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Student Choreography, Demi-Character or Song and Dance (any style). **Straight Jazz, Classical, Lyrical and National Character routines cannot be performed in this section.**

The entertainment championship section will be adjudicated on entertainment value and originality.

6.6 - Technical Championship 18 years and over.

- i. To qualify, competitors must have performed in two previous Open sections in the categories of Contemporary, Lyrical, Classical
- ii. To qualify, competitors must have performed in the 18yrs + Lyrical improvisation section.

On Championship Day:

- iii. Competitors will be required to perform two solos of their choice from lyrical, contemporary or classical. Dance A and dance B must not be the same genre.
- iv. One item may be repeated. A change of costume and/or music does not constitute a change of routine.

Example of Championship Entry

Qualifying routines:

- 18+ contemporary
- 18+ Classical Ballet
- 18+ Lyrical Improvisation
- **CHAMPIONSHIP DANCES**
- Dance A – Contemporary (Repeat Dance)
- Dance B – Lyrical (Unseen)

6.7 - Theatrical Championship 18 years and over.

- i. To qualify, competitors must have performed in two previous Open sections in the categories of Jazz, Broadway/Musical Theatre, Tap, Hip Hop.
- ii. To qualify, competitors must have performed in the 18yrs + Jazz improvisation section.

On Championship Day:

- i. Competitors will be required to perform two solos of their choice from any theatrical style, Jazz, Broadway, Musical Theatre, Tap, or Hip Hop. Dance A and dance B must not be the same genre.
- ii. One item may be repeated. A change of costume and/or music does not constitute a change of routine.

Example of Championship Entry**Qualifying routines:**

- 18+ Jazz
- 18+ Tap
- 18+ Jazz Improvisation
- **CHAMPIONSHIP DANCES**
- Dance A – Tap (Repeat Dance)
- Dance B – Jazz (Unseen)

7. Open Class Award.

- a) Dancers must enter their correct age group eg: 12 and under or 13 and over.
- b) Age is as of first day of competition (see cover page for dates).
- c) There are NO pre qualifying entries required.
- d) Please wear appropriate dance/class/audition attire, hair neatly groomed and performance makeup encouraged for older dancers.
- e) Bring all type of dance shoes clearly labelled.
- f) Dancers to keep number pinned to them at all times during class for easy identification by adjudicator.
- g) Adjudicator decision is final.
- h) Spectating available with ticket purchase
- i) All spectating of the Open Class MUST be done in complete silence whilst class is running.
- j) The committee or any of its representatives may ask you to leave the auditorium from spectating this event at their own discretion and no ticket refunds will be given.

- 8.** This section is intended to be in an audition style format. Dancers will be assessed on their class etiquette, presentation, ability to learn and perform the choreography and class content as well as their potential & technical execution.

9. Copyright

- a) The law of Copyright applies to the Brindabella Dance Festival. It is the responsibility of each competitor to adhere to the Act. Your studio APRA number must be included on your entry. This number is available from your studio teacher.

10. Entries

- a) All entries to be lodged on-line by the closing date (see cover page for dates). Payments to be made electronically at the time of submitting the entry. Without payment your entry will not be honoured
 - i. Please note: an APRA/AMCOS music playing fee will be added for each item at time of entry (improvisations included).
- b) If entries are not paid (even in the event of closing prior to the listed date) the entry will not be honoured, entries must be paid in full to be included in our program.
- c) If the Festival is cancelled as a result of any catastrophic/unforeseen event, refunds will be offered minus administration and banking fees for those who have not danced.
- d) No other refunds will be given once entries are received unless the Committee cancels a section.
- e) No late entries will be accepted.
- f) Competitors may enter each Solo Section once only, with the exception of Student Choreography sections. However, if Sections are combined and the competitor is required to perform more than once it will be the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that costume changes do not delay the festival proceedings on the day.
- g) Routines must be entered in the correct sections, (e.g. a Broadway Jazz cannot be performed in the Jazz section unless there is no Broadway section offered, or unless the Committee decides to combine sections). Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
- h) The number of entries in each section may be limited depending on total number of overall entries. In the unlikely event that limits are imposed competitors will be included in order of entries being lodged and PAID.
- i) Dancers may NOT enter more than 1 routine per genre. Eg. A restricted dancer is not permitted to enter a Jazz routine in the Restricted and Open sections of their Age groups. They are also not permitted to dance up unless that category is not available and at the discretion of the committee.
- j) Ageing up, a new costume, or new routine does not return an Open dancer to Restricted nor does the absence of placing in Open sections. Please refer to the rules at the top defining Specially Restricted and Restricted dancers.

11. Social Media

- a) The Brindabella Dance Festival is run by a volunteer committee who make all efforts to ensure that the Festival is a fun and friendly environment for all. We welcome feedback and opportunities for improvement. Such feedback must be given directly to the Committee either in person or by email to brindabelladf@yahoo.com.au.
- b) Any dance teacher, representative, dancer, parent or friend that posts negative or inappropriate comment regarding Brindabella Dance Festival on social media including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram may be excluded from competing without refund and may be banned from entering future Festivals.

12. The Committee:

- a) Reserves the right to refuse anyone entry.
- b) Reserves the right to amend the program at any time.
- c) Reserves the right to combine or cancel sections should they deem necessary.
- d) Reserves the right to add age groups dependent on entries received.
- e) Will do all in its power to maintain the advertised adjudicator however it reserves the right to make any changes deemed necessary.
- f) Invests the Adjudicator with the power to withhold any prize if he/she does not consider the standard of competition warrants one.
- g) ONLY the approved executive members of the committee, as directed by the President may approach the Adjudicator.
- h) Reserves the right to adjudicate in any protests and their decision is final.
- i) All powers of the legal entity incorporated as Brindabella Dance Festival Inc. have been delegated to the Committee as elected from time to time.
- j) Will make the final decision on any issues that are not covered in the Rules.

13. Dance Style Definitions

For clarification, the Committee provides the following guidance as to styles of dance:

- a) **Classical Ballet:** traditional formal style of ballet. The Brindabella Dance Festival does not stipulate the age that Competitors may dance en pointe. However, any competitors who choose to dance en pointe will be expected to have the required technique and ability to dance safely en pointe. The Adjudicator may at his/her discretion ring the bell and request a dancer to change shoes and perform at the end of the section for critique only.
- b) **Broadway Jazz:** The dance is performed to jazz style music either modern day or traditional, with an ode to traditional Jazz and cabaret style. Broadway is a particular style of dance, and the Adjudicator will expect to see Broadway style steps in the routine. Miming is permitted.
- c) **Musical Theatre:** A routine that is inspired from an actual musical, where the dancer portrays a character and executes technical dance elements in an entertaining way often incorporating mime.
- d) **Lyrical:** also known as modern expressive, lyrical dance uses movement to express strong emotions such as love, joy and anger. This style of dance is usually to music with lyrics and the lyrics inspire the movement and expression. It is characterised by fluidity and grace.
- e) **Contemporary:** is a style of expressive dance that draws from both classical ballet technique and other dance genres including modern, lyrical and jazz. Contemporary dance stresses versatility and improvisation, unlike the strict, structured nature of ballet. Contemporary dancers focus on floor work using gravity to pull them down to the floor. This dance genre is often done in bare feet. Contemporary dance can be performed to many different styles of music and is characterised by its versatility.
- f) **Fast tap:** tap to a fast piece of music with fast timing. Competitors may enter straight tap in this section.
- g) **Slow tap:** done to a ballad or slow piece of music, usually has a lyrical quality to the routine.
- h) **Waltz Tap:** tap dance to 3/4 time music.

- i) **Troupe Variety/Production Number:** A spectacular dance performance which may include a variety of music and dance styles. It can incorporate singing and can also be in a musical theatre style. Miming is permitted. Generally the performance is longer than 5 minutes.
- j) **Song and Dance** (including song and tap and song and soft shoe): performance must be relatively equal in both song and dance. Competitors cannot just sing.
- k) **National Character:** must comprise traditional dance movement from one specified nation/country.
- l) **Acrobatics:** A style of dance that combines dance technique with precision acrobatic elements. Incorporating 3 or more inverted tricks and/or contortion skills.
- m) **Jazz:** Either commercial or traditional style Jazz routine (not Broadway or Musical Theatre) incorporating Jazz technique with a focus on dance technique and choreography over tricks.
If a **JAZZ** routine contains more than three *INVERTED* tricks, including but not limited to handsprings, aerials, walkovers we recommend you enter it to the Acrobatic section to avoid potential disqualification.

14. Adjudicator

- a) The Adjudicator's decision is final.
- b) Any competitor who has been taught regularly by the Adjudicator within the preceding six months will not be eligible to compete and must withdraw immediately or be disqualified. This excludes workshop classes and/or industry briefings.
- c) Any competitor currently represented by an agency affiliated with the Adjudicator must declare this to the Committee prior to entry.
- d) The Adjudicator has the right to withhold a prize if he/she does not feel a sufficient standard has been reached.
- e) The Adjudicator must not be approached by any competitor/parent/teacher for any reason or that competitor will be disqualified.
- f) The Adjudicator may apply a penalty if time limit is exceeded.

15. Behind Stage Doors

- a) Parents and carers are not permitted behind the stage doors. This is a restricted competitor-only area, and supervision will be provided by authorised Brindabella Dance Festival personnel.
- b) During improvisation sections, the green room will temporarily become a competitor-only area. Parents, carers and teachers must remain outside the green room during these sections.
- c) For 6/U sections one studio teacher may be permitted, at the discretion of the backstage manager only.
- d) Anyone causing a disturbance backstage may be asked to leave by the backstage manager and must comply.
- e) There is to be no spectating backstage, entry to backstage will be directed by the backstage manager.
- f) **THERE IS STRICTLY NO RECORDING OF ANY ONSTAGE DANCERS FROM THE WINGS UNLESS APPROVED BY AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER.**

16. Competitor Breakdown

- a) In the case of a competitor breakdown, a repeat of the routine is allowable at the sole discretion of the Adjudicator. However, the competitor will not be eligible for any prize except highly commended, at the discretion of the Adjudicator.

17. Dressing rooms

- a) Rules regarding Dressing Rooms can be found at Attachment A.

18. Safety and disclaimer

- a) Brindabella Dance Festival Child Safety & Wellbeing Guideline can be found at Attachment B.
- b) Every care will be taken for the safety of competitors. However, parents and guardians, including teachers are also required to supervise their children when they are not backstage (i.e. in the dressing rooms, theatre foyer and surrounds).
- c) Basic first aid facilities will be available. Please inquire at the canteen, backstage or ask a Committee Member. Any accidents or injuries must be reported and all first aid will be administered with the assistance of the Venue staff.
- d) Brindabella Dance Festival Inc, the Committee, the Members and all parties involved with the Brindabella Dance Festival will not accept any liability for loss, damage, injury or inconvenience that might occur to any person or goods as a consequence of their participation in the Festival or attendance at it.

19. Music

- a) The Brindabella Dance Festival is a family eisteddfod. Music, choreography and costumes must be suitable for family viewing. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.
- b) Music must be registered **ONLINE** – instructions for this will be provided once entries are complete. Only MP3 Format will be accepted.
- c) All music must be uploaded and checked into the music system by the date specified in the Syllabus.
- d) Each competitor understands that a small fee will be applied at completion of upload. The Committee reserves the right to change the format in which music is received prior to the competition start date.
- e) It is the responsibility of the competitors to ensure that the correct music files have been uploaded to each routine.
- f) Backstage staff only will operate all music equipment.
- g) All music must be cured and cut appropriately for the routine.
- h) Vocals are permitted to Tap music, however please ensure they do not overwhelm the tapping.
- i) Competitors may not accompany pre-recorded vocals in song and dance routines.

20. Perpetual Trophies

- a) Perpetual Trophies may be awarded in some sections.
- b) Where a perpetual trophy is awarded, the trophy will remain in the possession of the Brindabella Dance Festival.
- c) The Brindabella Dance Festival will add the name of the awardee to the trophy.

21. Photography

- a) There is strictly no photography or videoing in dressing rooms, changing areas, backstage or in the theatre.
- b) To protect the privacy and safety of all children and young people attending Brindabella Dance Festival, photography and video recording by audience members is not permitted inside the theatre during performances. This includes the use of mobile phones, cameras and other recording devices. Brindabella Dance Festival engages a professional photographer to capture performers throughout the event, with photographs made available to families where appropriate. This approach helps ensure images of children are captured and distributed in a safe and controlled manner and supports our commitment to child safety and privacy.
- c) Everyone attending Brindabella Dance Festival must also follow the Festival's Photography and Video Rules.
- d) Failure to comply with this WILL result in disqualification of the routines the offending person is associated with.

22. Prompting

- a) No prompting is permitted in any section other than 5/U and 6/U sections.

23. Protests

- a) The Adjudicators decision is final.
- b) The Committee reserves the right to adjudicate in any conflict and their decision is final.
- c) Protests must be lodged within thirty minutes of the section's adjudication. The protest must be in writing, handed to a Committee Member and must be accompanied by a \$50.00 fee, which is non-refundable if protest is not upheld.

24. Program

- a) Brindabella Dance Festival uses competition management software to take online entries and develop the program.
- b) Once finalised, changes to the program, such as incorrect section entered, are at the discretion of the Committee. Where a change is permitted an administration fee of \$10 per change will be charged, exception is if the error is the fault of the Committee.

25. Refunds

- a) Refunds will not be given unless the Committee **cancels** a section completely, or you qualify for a medical refund. Medical refunds require a doctor's certificate. A \$65 administration fee will be held, and the balance refunded.

26. Teachers

- a) One Teacher may accompany 6/U solos/duos/trios and any age troupe backstage. At the discretion of the backstage manager.
- b) If distressing other competitors, Teachers may be asked to leave by backstage manager and must comply immediately.
- c) Teachers are STRICTLY forbidden to record or photograph any other dancer/s that are not their own from the wings.

27. Theatre

- a) No eating, drinking or smoking in the theatre.
- b) Fire Exits must be kept clear at all times.
- c) No entry/exit is allowed to/from the Theatre Auditorium when a dancer is on stage.
- d) In circumstances where the theatre seating is full, non-paying competitors must give up their seat for a paid ticket holder.
- e) Dancers without a valid spectator ticket will not be given entry, unless there is sufficient seating available. These dancers may also be asked to leave to make way for paying spectators.

28. Tickets

- a) Session – applies to troupe days - morning, afternoon or evening sessions only.
- b) Open Class Award – applies to Open Class Award sessions only.
- c) All tickets must be shown before entering the Theatre.

29. Video

- a) Absolutely no videoing or recording is permitted in the theatre.
- b) No use of mobile phones to video record or capture photographs allowed in the theatre or backstage.
- c) Only the official videographer nominated by the Committee is to be used.
- d) Failure to comply with this may result in disqualification.

30. Conditions of entry:

- a) You understand that failure to comply with the direction of the Committee and or the venue staff, will result in immediate removal from the premises and competition without refund.
- b) You agree to take on the responsibility of those accompanying you the entrant, including but not limited to extended family or friends and dancers that may attend as patrons, siblings, parents, and teachers; ensuring they follow the directions of the Committee and or Venue Staff while in the premises.
- c) You understand that patronage may be limited, and you may not get to spectate all routines.
- d) You- understand that updates will be published on the Brindabella Dance Festival Facebook page as Brindabella does not have the capacity to individually chase/email updates.

31. Indemnity

All attendees, including but not limited to, Dancers, Parents/Carers, Teachers, Directors, Volunteers and Patrons, indemnify and keep indemnified Brindabella Dance Festival Inc. and its Committee Members and operators on both a commercial and personal basis against all actions, suits, proceedings, claims, demands, costs, and expenses whatsoever which may be made against the registered non for profit and or its volunteer members in carrying out the duties and requirements in terms of the event and these rules.

- a) Competitors and anyone who is accessing the dressing rooms must follow any sign-in and sign-out procedures put in place by Brindabella Dance Festival (Festival) for dressing room access. These records may also be used to account for competitors in the event of an emergency or evacuation.
- b) Parents, carers and spectators must not enter dressing rooms or other designated changing areas unless permission has been given by the Committee and a wrist band/lanyard has been issued. Where permission has been given, the wrist band/lanyard must be clearly displayed on the body of the permitted person
- c) Anyone that requires access to the dressing rooms or designated changing areas, must be registered on entry to the Festival and will require evidence of a current Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) registration, otherwise access is limited to competitors and authorised Brindabella Dance Festival personnel.
- d) Parents or spectators **not** are permitted in dressing rooms or other designated changing areas, without approval from the Committee.
 - i) **Troupe Weekend:** Parents, carers and spectators are not permitted in dressing/change rooms. Each studio may nominate and register teachers or studio representatives to supervise and assist their dancers in the dressing/change rooms.
 - ii) Teachers and studio representatives who are given access to dressing/change rooms must be registered with Brindabella Dance Festival, will be required to provide evidence of a current Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) registration and must display the dressing room access pass on their person.
 - iii) **Solo Week:** Each soloist may have one studio representative or parent/carer to assist in dressing/change rooms. Anyone that requires access to the dressing rooms, must be registered on entry to the Festival and must display the dressing room access pass on their person, otherwise access is limited to competitors and authorised Brindabella Dance Festival personnel.
- e) No changing is permitted in the auditorium, auditorium toilets, public areas or any area not designated by the Committee as a dressing/change room.
 - i) **Designated Changing Areas:** Where required, Brindabella Dance Festival will provide a designated changing area to ensure all dancers have access to an appropriate and comfortable space, including a designated area for male dancers.
 - ii) Brindabella Dance Festival will provide a designated change area to support dancers, where it is not appropriate to provide access to the general dressing rooms or other back stage areas for their Supervising Adult.
- f) **There is strictly no photography or videoing in dressing/change rooms at any time.** This includes the use of mobile phones, cameras or any other device to photograph or record another person.
- g) Dressing/change rooms are for changing, preparing and waiting for performances. Rehearsing routines, practising choreography or performing acrobatic tricks is not permitted in dressing/change rooms or hallways.
- h) Competitors, teachers and studio representatives must behave respectfully and follow any directions given by Brindabella Dance Festival Committee Members or Venue Staff while using the dressing/change rooms.

- i) Dressing/change rooms must be left **clean and tidy** at the end of each studio's use. Where a room is left in an unacceptable condition, the Committee may withhold prize money and/or invoice the responsible studio for reasonable cleaning costs.
- j) Anyone who does not follow the dressing/change room rules may be asked to leave the area. Serious or repeated breaches may result in further action at the discretion of the Committee.

Keeping Children Safe

Brindabella Dance Festival (Festival) is committed to providing a safe, friendly and welcoming environment for all children and young people attending our Festival.

We ask everyone attending our Festival to help us create an environment where children feel safe, supported and respected.

Who This Applies To

Our child-safety expectations apply to everyone attending or involved with the Festival, including competitors, parents and carers, teachers, studio representatives, Committee Members, volunteers, contractors and spectators.

Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP)

Committee Members, volunteers and others working directly with children are required to hold a current Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) registration.

Teachers and studio representatives who are given access to dressing rooms, backstage or other restricted areas will be asked to provide evidence of their WWVP registration.

If the required WWVP registration cannot be provided, the Committee may refuse access to these areas.

Looking After Our Dancers

All children, teachers and studio representatives must be signed in at the check-in desk. In the case of an evacuation, this information will be used to ensure all attendees can be accounted for.

Children must be appropriately supervised while attending the Festival. Parents/carers, teachers and studio representatives are responsible for supervising their dancers in all areas of the venue, including the holding area, stairs and green room, unless behind stage doors or otherwise advised by Brindabella Dance Festival officials

Restricted competitor-only area: For the purposes of these rules, this refers to the area behind the stage doors. It also includes the green room while improvisation sections are taking place. Other venue areas, including the stairs, holding area and green room at all other times, are not considered restricted areas. In these areas, dancers remain under the supervision of their parent, carer or teacher.

Please do not leave children unattended in public areas within or outside the venue.

Treating Children with Respect

Everyone attending Brindabella Dance Festival is expected to treat children and young people with kindness and respect.

Bullying, harassment, intimidation, discrimination, inappropriate behaviour or any behaviour that makes a child feel unsafe or uncomfortable will not be accepted.

Adults should respect children's personal space and privacy and avoid unnecessary or inappropriate physical contact.

Dressing Rooms & Backstage

Dressing rooms and backstage areas are restricted areas and access will be controlled by the Festival.

Only competitors and authorised adults may enter these areas. Parents, carers and spectators must not enter unless permission has been given by the Committee and a wrist band/lanyard has been issued.

Where permission has been given then the wrist band/lanyard must be clearly displayed on the body of the permitted person.

Photos & Videos

There is strictly no photography or video recording permitted in dressing rooms, changing areas, backstage or inside the theatre.

To protect the privacy and safety of all children and young people attending Brindabella Dance Festival, photography and video recording by audience members is not permitted inside the theatre during performances. This includes the use of mobile phones, cameras and other recording devices. Brindabella Dance Festival engages a professional photographer/videographer to capture performers throughout the event, with photographs and video available to families where appropriate. This approach helps ensure images of children are captured and distributed in a safe and controlled manner and supports our commitment to child safety and privacy.

Everyone attending Brindabella Dance Festival must also follow the Festival's Photography and Video Rules.

The privacy and dignity of all children and young people must be respected at all times.

If You Have a Concern

If you see something that concerns you, or a child tells you that they feel unsafe or uncomfortable, please speak to a Brindabella Dance Festival Committee Member as soon as possible.

Children and young people are also encouraged to speak to a trusted adult or Committee Member if something doesn't feel right.

We will take child-safety concerns seriously and deal with them as sensitively and appropriately as possible.

What Brindabella May Do

If there is a concern about the safety or wellbeing of a child, the Committee will take whatever reasonable steps are needed to keep that child safe.

Depending on the situation, this may include contacting a parent/carer, restricting someone's access to backstage or dressing rooms, asking someone to leave the venue, contacting Venue Staff or seeking assistance from the appropriate authorities.

If there is an immediate safety concern, protecting the child will always come first.

Everyone Has a Part to Play

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility.

By entering, participating in or attending Brindabella Dance Festival, we ask that you follow these child-safety requirements and any reasonable directions given by the Committee or Venue Staff.

Anyone who does not follow these requirements may be asked to leave a restricted area or the Festival. Serious or repeated concerns may result in further action by the Committee.