



BRINDABELLA DANCE FESTIVAL COVID-19 PLAN

Annexure to BDF Eisteddfod Rules 2022

The purpose of this plan is to minimise the risk of exposure to, and community transmission of, COVID-19 on Erindale Theatre and adjoining premises, during the Brindabella Dance Festival. This plan details actions to be undertaken on Erindale Theatre premises to minimise the risk of exposure to COVID-19 during the pandemic, and how to respond to a COVID-19 infection.

Brindabella Dance Festival will follow all directions provided by ACT and all rules stipulated by Erindale Theatre Management.

Parents/Carers please share the attached [Dancers Guide](#) with your performer to ensure that they are aware of their obligations when performing at Brindabella Dance Festival.

If you have any questions about how we are working together to keep everyone safe, come and find one of the Brindabella Committee members.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ENTRIES ARE ALWAYS AT YOUR OWN RISK – BRINDABELLA DANCE FESTIVAL INC ACCEPTS NO LIABILITY ON COVID RELATED MATTERS. ALL MEASURES HAVE BEEN WELL THOUGHT OUT AND PUT IN PLACE FOR AS MUCH PROTECTION OF OUR ATTENDEES AS POSSIBLE AND WELL IN LINE WITH THE CURRENT ACT GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS RELATING TO COVID-19.

DUE TO THE EVER-CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CURRENT PANDEMIC, THIS COVID PLAN IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. ALL ACT HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT DIRECTIONS SUPERSEDE THIS PLAN AND TAKE PRECEDENT ABOVE ALL.

ATTENDANCE OF BRINDABELLA DANCE FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 2022 IS AT YOUR OWN RISK. THE ONUS IS ON THE PATRONS TO DETERMINE IF ATTENDANCE TO THIS EVENT IS RIGHT FOR YOU.



Advice sought:

The BDF President (Alyson Azzopardi) contacted ACT Government COVID-19 Business Hub help line – 6205 0900.

Advised that dance is not a prohibited activity under the current health direction for the ACT. Advised that there are no restrictions currently limiting this event. Advised that although capacity limits and physical distancing are not legally required, they are only a recommendation.

Advised that under the current Health Direction Brindabella Dance Festival can proceed in the required format providing an updated COVID-19 plan is readily available upon request.

Reference:

The Brindabella Dance Festival (BDF) have implemented this plan in line with:

Australian Capital Territory: Entertainment, live performance, arts and cultural activities guidelines for reopening: <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/faqs/faqs-changes-to-restrictions/arts-culturalactivities>

PAC Australia: Guidelines for COVID-Safe Theatres <https://paca.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Guidelines-for-COVID-SafeTheatres-FINAL.pdf>

Safe Work Australia: How to clean and disinfect your workplace <https://swa.govcms.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/how-to-clean-disinfect-yourworkplace-covid19.pdf>

Infection Control Training <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covid-19-infection-control-training>

Active Leisure Centre - ALC COVID-19 Safe Plan

And as directed by **Erindale Theatre** – ET Covid-19 Plan

Venue:

Brindabella Dance Festival will commence on Saturday 24th September 2022 and conclude Saturday 1st October 2022 at the Erindale Theatre (ET), McBryde Cres, Wanniasa ACT 2903

Erindale Theatre:

ET have provided their own independent COVID-19 plan which is incorporated into this plan.



Brindabella Dance Festival Inc:

Brindabella Dance Festival have taken into consideration the current COVID-19 Climate within the ACT, along with the current rules and regulations.

This covid-19 management plan takes precedent of our previous 2.2 version attached to this plan.

Unless otherwise directed by ACT Government or Erindale Theatre Brindabella Dance Festival in conjunction with Erindale Theatre encourage and or require the following to be adhered to whilst in attendance of the event:

- **Regular sanitisation of hands of all persons in the building**
- **Regular cleaning and sanitisation of surfaces and high traffic areas**
- **Mask wearing inline with current ACT Government requirements**
- **Do not attend if you are Covid-19 Positive and in or meant to be in an isolation period**
- **All spectators and dancers to register details upon 1st arrival as required by ET**

In the event of an outbreak, or changes in the ACT Government restrictions and requirements, amendments to this plan can and will be made without notice to remain compliant with Government Regulations and to help keep our community safe.

At any time our Covid-19 Level 2.2 Management Plan may be put into place.
(see following pages)



BRINDABELLA DANCE FESTIVAL COVID-19 PLAN

LEVEL 2.2 amended to suit 2021 requirements

Annexure to BDF Eisteddfod Rules 2022

Brindabella Dance Festival:

BDF have taken every measure possible to research and inform themselves of obligations and requirements together with the venue. It is considered reasonable that BDF would be able to run troupes and solos at BDF2022 in accordance to this COVID-19 plan with medium risk.

BDF have determined together with ET and ACT Government that allocating each studio their own designated area for the entire event is reasonable COVID-19 management under the current requirements.

The success of this plan significantly relies on BDF's entrants, participants, spectators and volunteers abiding by the strict rules and process put in place to protect our community. BDF will have no option but to remove any individual on the premises seen not to be complying without warning.

COVID Safe Procedures:

- Mandatory mask wearing for all persons aged 12 years or older. Persons under 12 years old are encouraged to wear a mask, but it is not mandatory. Dancers 12 years or older are exempt while performing on stage ONLY.
- Contact tracing at the front and rear entry points of the building
- Regular checks of each room/area to ensure COVID safe practices are being maintained
- Age blocked program to limit numbers in venue and to allow time for additional cleaning
- Promote good hygiene practices throughout the event
- Density limits apply as per ET directive only
- Physical distancing will be encouraged in all common areas
- Adapt the theory of "get in dance and get out" – (AUSDANCE/AIS)
- Each studio will be allocated a space and that space will be theirs for the entire event for all age groups
- Tickets for troupe/group spectating must be booked online



- Spectators must try and stay seated away from others when watching
- Once an age group is concluded that entire age group is vacated from the premises before the next age category
- Strictly no parents allowed in any dance change area or backstage area
- **Guests must remain seated when eating and waiting in the foyer. This will be actively monitored by the canteen volunteers**
- **Dancing is only permitted on the stage. No rehearsing to be undertaken in common areas within the venue**

Contact Tracing:

- As per government guidelines all attendees including minors are required to register or sign into the venue upon arrival
- All attendees and dancers are to enter and sign in through the front foyer entrance.

Stopping the Spread:

- Encourage physical distancing
- All patrons and dancers, 12 years and older, must wear a mask while inside the venue unless performing on stage
- Refusal of entry to attendees showing symptoms of COVID-19
- Do not attend if unwell, symptomatic, or a close/casual contact as described by the ACT Government
- Removing paper critiques and introducing electronic versions
- Hand sanitiser readily available
- Removing CDs and moving to online playlists
- Limiting hair style changes and requesting that dancers arrive with hair done for the day
- Offering contactless payment options
- One-person handling money only (canteen only)
- All volunteers handing over items such as trophies will wear gloves
- No parents backstage
- Props must be moved and placed on stage by dancers only
- Sanitising each volunteer station at the start of and conclusion of a shift
- Adjudicator and scribe to wear masks at all times and practice COVID safe measures in line with ACT Government restrictions
- Regular sanitising of the stage (By ET)
- Regular cleaning of wet areas (By ET)
- Regular high touch surfaces cleaned frequently (by ET)
- On conclusion of each age category the venue will be vacated for sanitising and cleaning.
- Once the venue has been sanitised, the next age groups and their attendees will be invited to register their attendance for contact tracing purposes and enter the premises.



Responding To COVID-19 Infection

Guests are advised that they must not attend the venue if they are unwell, have symptoms of COVID-19, suspect they may have been infected with COVID-19 (including close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19) or been advised by health authorities to self-isolate.

A guest who is observed to be reasonably displaying any symptoms (for example persistent coughing) of COVID-19 in the venue will be asked to leave.

Guests who are vulnerable to a serious COVID-19 infection should discuss with their doctor what activities is safe for them to resume once restrictions are eased. The onus is on the guest to determine their capacity to safely resume theatre activities and/or attendance at the venue.

(Guest = Dancer, teacher, parent, spectator, sibling, or any other person in attendance of the venue during Brindabella Dance Festival 2021).

Control of Each Designated Area:

Once an area is allocated to a studio for the duration of the event, it is the responsibility of that studio to ensure the following steps are always followed:

- 1) **No parents allowed** backstage and in allocated change rooms
- 2) Regularly clean your change room with the cleaning products provided including wiping down the door handles and high touch zones
- 3) Ensure your students minimise their “mess zone” to their own designated space you have allocated them in your area
- 4) Keep clothing in costume bags wherever possible
- 5) Limit unnecessary hair changes – troupes will have limited time to change due to the reduced number of competitors
- 6) Use bins provided
- 7) Ensure all mess is cleaned up and room disinfected at the end of each day

Space Allocations will apply and dancers and studios will be allocated space to help control the spread.

All SOLOISTS attending without their studio will be in the Upstairs Changeroom – the benches and mirrors will not be in use to encourage physical distancing

The male toilet upstairs will be blocked off for Adjudicator use ONLY.

We will be opening as many windows and doors to allow for maximum airflow and ventilation in as many areas as the venue will permit.



Spectators:

Solo session

general admission into the audience is permitted by way of daily colour coded wrist bands available for purchase at the canteen throughout the event for SOLO sessions only.

competitor passes - two purple wrist bands will be issued to the parent of a dancer upon check in. To gain valid entry WRISTBANDS MUST BE ON YOUR WRIST AND ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE. **PURPLE WIRST BANDS ARE FOR SOLO SESSIONS ONLY.**

All children 4/U free and little dance brothers 12/U free for spectating solo sessions.

Group/Troupe sessions

Allocated seating via pre purchased tickets through trybooking.com.au. Wristbands (purple or not) do not allow access for troupe sessions. You must have a QR code from trybooking for access.

ROW I is reserved for teacher hot seating only – no spectators allowed in these seats.

You must be wearing a mask at all times and sanitize upon entry into the auditorium.

Dancer/Performer and teachers:

- Each dancer to arrive for their scheduled age blocked section only
- All patrons and dancers, 12 years and older, must wear a mask while inside the venue unless performing on stage
- Dancers should arrive with hair and makeup done for **the day**
- Check in using the CBR Check in app upon arrival
- Upon entry, exit, and as reasonably required, sanitise hands
- Masks can be removed prior to going on stage, placed into a named ziplock bag and then into a sealed contained – mask will then be moved in the container to stage exit door for collection and immediate wearing. This is to be done each time a performer dances.
- Costumes should always be bagged and covered when not in use
- Swiftly proceed to designated room
- When not performing do not wonder the halls or gather with others
- No parents permitted backstage or in change rooms
- Teachers are required to ensure that their students are always complying with these rules
- ONE teacher with a black VIP wrist band is permitted to escort their troupe or soloists to the backstage waiting areas, watch from side stage then escort them back to their room, ensuring that they are always complying with the mask rule
- Canteen facilities will be available for food and refreshments



- If you do require to leave the building and return during your age section, you will need to follow the procedures or directions from the door person that will be set out on that day
- No props unless they can be handled by the dancers (troupe or solos) with no volunteer or adult help required
- Ensure you are regularly cleaning your space with disinfectant
- Ensure all items are clean and the changeroom left in order and disinfected at the end of your age groups and upon vacating
- Adopt the 'get in dance get out' policy suggested by the AIS
- Do not lend or borrow out any makeup or hair items (as you are ready to go there should be no need for these items)
- If you bring lipstick or lash glue for touch ups PLEASE HAVE THESE LABELED AND only use your own – no sharing, however we recommend that this be left at home

Moving around the venue

- Moving around the venue is limited to performers, teachers, and volunteers
- Dancers will be advised when it is their turn to come to the backstage waiting area
- Dancers will be escorted from their room by either a BDF volunteer and teacher or your teacher alone (depending on staffing levels)
- The back dock is the initial waiting bay when troupe is on stage
- From here dancers will be ushered onto the stage to perform
- Dancers exiting stage and coming through the green room to return to their changing areas must give way to troupes in the doc waiting to go side stage. – THERE WILL BE NO RUSH WE WILL ALLOW TIME BRINDY21 IS NOT A TIME FOR STRESSING
- **IMPROVISATION SECTIONS: Dancers to register with the upstairs and have ALL IMPROV SHOES WITH THEM IN A TUB!**

Suggestions to help limit movement

- Order food and coffee in – Uber Eats, Menu Log and Deliveroo are all great options
- Have one or two people go down to meet the driver and collect
- Have what you need with you but kept to a minimum
- Keep an eye on the progress and times and listen for announcements
- **Remain seated when eating and drinking**
- Always follow directions by officials and teachers

COVID-19 REFUND POLICY:

Due to the rules surrounding the event and not allowing anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 to attend, the following refund policies apply:



1) **Prior** to your attending the event, your dancer shows symptoms or becomes a close contact and you withdraw from the program you must complete the following steps to claim a refund:

Email brindabellddf@yahoo.com.au a copy of the Covid-19 competitor refund form available for download on our website with a copy of a medical certificate and bank account details within 10 days from 24th September 2022.

A refund will be provided in **due course** by the treasure upon the request and medical certificate receipt by BDF as follows:

Either the admin fee of \$50.00 will be withheld or 20% of your overall invoice whichever is the greater.

2) If you are identified by a BDF representative or official or by an ET employee, representative or official as showing symptoms at the event and removed from the premises you will not be entitled to a refund as this is a direct breach of the terms and conditions of this event and non-complaint behaviour under ACT law and the COVID Plan for ET and BDF. Your details will be recorded and noted as a person in breach.

3) If the event is **shut down** as a directive from either the ACT Government or by the ET as a direct result of COVID-19 infection control measures, or the need of use for the facility for COVID related matters. Full refunds will be given to all those entrants who have not yet danced. An admin fee will be held back, and the balance refunded.