



2023- 2024 \*UPDATED\*

# COMPETITION TEAM PACKET

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## 2024 TENTATIVE COMPETITIONS

\*Dates are subject to change- final decision will be made by early September

Starquest- April 5-7 - Springfield, MA

WORLD CLASS TALENT EXPERIENCE- April 26-28 - Worcester, MA

Turn It Up!- May 10-12 - Bellingham, MA



## SOME IMPORTANT CHANGES FROM THE POLICIES SENT IN JUNE

01

### **Optional Nationals**

A New England Nationals event will be an optional choice this year for solos/duos/trios. Groups are NOT required to attend.

02

### **No Early Deposit**

The \$200 competition team fee due at the time of registration will no longer be required. Fees will be due in increments for costumes and entry fees as stated on page 8.

03

### **Attendance**

Attendance and a strong commitment is important! However, we understand things come up. We will not be enforcing the attendance guidelines as stated previously.

04

### **Rehearsal Schedule**

Rehearsals have been worked into the weekly schedule. Some groups will rehearse weekly, while others will rehearse every other week or split rehearsal blocks. The schedule for this will be released on the 20th of each month for the following month. See pricing for rehearsals on page 7.

05

### **Dress Code**

The dress code will be reverting back to be similar to what it was this past season. See page 6 for more details.

06

### **Class Requirements**

Recreation classes will still be required for each area that a dancer is competing in and all dancers must continue to take 2 recreation classes, unless doing tap or hiphop only. Senior dancers and soloists will be required to also take ballet. Junior/teens will be required to take either ballet or progressions.

# Placement

Dancers will be placed in routines that are best suited for that individual. Auditioning for a certain style does not guarantee placement in that style of dance. Please indicate on the audition form how many group dances your student can commit to after carefully reviewing the pricing information (pages 6-9).

Once dancers receive their placements via email, please respond as soon as possible confirming which routines your dancer will participate in. As people respond, there may be additional opportunities for pieces if a dancer opts out of a dance. All communication regarding these decisions must be done between the parent and studio faculty. All decisions regarding placement are final. Placement is discussed and agreed upon by all studio faculty.

## Solos/ Duos/ Trios

Solos, duos, and trios will be offered at instructor's discretion. Requesting a solo/duo/trio does not guarantee that your student will be given a solo/duo/trio. There are many factors that go into determining whether or not a student is ready to compete these types of dances including work ethic in class, attendance, timeliness, technique, experience and age, among many other factors.

Choreographers, music and style of dance will be assigned to dancers. Parents should not request any changes to be made to choreographer, style or song. If a dancer is offered a solo, duo, or trio, they are not required to participate. These are optional, but please know that it is an honor to receive an invitation to participate in these dances. In order to compete a solo, dancers must take a recreational class in the same style of dance, and compete in at least one group routine. Dancers must also take a ballet class. Technique/conditioning is highly encouraged for all team dancers in addition to ballet.

## Class Requirements

Competition Team dancers are required to take recreational technique classes in addition to their rehearsals for competition dances. Rehearsals will be separate from technique classes - more info under *scheduling* (page 4). All dancers must take a minimum of two recreational classes, unless doing Hip Hop or Tap only.

### Petite Team (Level 1 + 2 students)

Petite Team dancers in Levels 1 + 2 are required to take recreational classes in the style of the dance routine that they are competing in. For example, if a dancer is in a competitive jazz dance, they are required to take a recreational jazz class in their proper age group. Dancers are welcome to take additional recreational classes. Ballet is not required, but it is highly recommended. Ballet will be required for any soloist. All dancers must take a minimum of two recreational classes, unless doing Hip Hop or Tap only.

### Junior/Teen Teams (Level 3 students)

Junior and Teen Team dancers in Level 3 are required to take recreational classes in the style of the dance routine that they are competing in. For example, if a dancer is in a competitive jazz dance, they are required to take a recreational jazz class in their proper age group. Either ballet OR progressions is required. Both are strongly recommended. Ballet will be required for any soloist. All dancers must take a minimum of two recreational classes, unless doing Hip Hop or Tap only.

### Teen/Senior Teams (Level 4 students)

Teen/Senior Team dancers in Level 4 are required to take recreational classes in the style of the dance routine that they are competing in. For example, if a dancer is in a competitive jazz dance, they are required to take a recreational jazz class in their proper age group. Ballet is also a required class and progressions is strongly recommended. All dancers must take a minimum of two recreational classes, unless doing Hip Hop or Tap only.

## Scheduling

Recreational classes will follow a weekly schedule which will remain consistent throughout the season (September-June). All competitive group dances will be "select" and the rehearsal schedule will change monthly/weekly based on which dances need the most rehearsal time. Some groups hold a 30 or 45 minute rehearsal block weekly. Other groups "share" a rehearsal block. Schedules will come out on the 20th of the month prior (ex. November schedule will come out by October 20th) for these shared times. Please do not contact us asking about the schedule before it comes out. All major conflicts for the season should be indicated on the audition form or emailed to us ASAP. We understand that events come up! We ask that you please provide us with conflicts by the 15th of each month for the following month, in order for us to best utilize our shared rehearsal times. There may be rehearsals during school vacations. We have had to utilize these breaks before due to snow days. If your dancer is not available, please indicate this on your audition form.

Rehearsals will be held Monday-Friday. Dancers will attend their weekly classes in addition to their rehearsals. Our full schedule for the 2023-2024 season will be available in August when comp invitations are sent out.

It is essential that dancers take recreational technique classes in addition to their competition dance rehearsals in order to continue their growth. Competition rehearsals will only be for choreography and cleaning dances. All conditioning, technique and skills will be worked on during class time.

## Competitions & Conventions

We will be attending a total of 3 mandatory regional competitions between the months March-June. We will be attending an optional Nationals in July (for solos/duos/trios). If a dancer is unable to fulfill



their obligation to compete at a competition or complete the season for any reason other than injury, illness or emergency, they will be dismissed from the competition team for the remainder of the season. Not fulfilling obligations affects the entire team. They can continue to participate in their recreational classes.

Nationals are optional for solos/duo/trios and are NOT required for group routines. Small groups may compete at nationals, if the whole group is already planning on attending. We will offer 1-2 additional competitions that are optional for soloists and dancers in duos and trios. Below are the TENTATIVE competitions and dates. A final decision will be made by the first week of classes in September, as these are subject to change. There will also be a competition team dress rehearsal held on a Saturday or Sunday in March. Final date TBA. For competitions, we receive the final weekend schedule from the competitions approximately two weeks before the event date.

**Starquest- April 5-7, 2024 - Springfield, MA**

**World Class Talent Experience - April 26-28, 2024 - Worcester, MA**

**Turn It Up! - May 10-12, 2024 - Bellingham, MA**

We will be attending a dance convention and/or a dance workshop at some point between November and March. This is an optional opportunity for competition team dancers to take classes in a wide variety of styles from world renowned dancers, teachers and choreographers. Dancers gain audition experience as well as the opportunity to bond with your team and make friends from other studios who share your passion for dance. Dancers will also have the opportunity to perform competition pieces at a convention. More experienced dancers are encouraged to perform their solos and duo/trios (if all dancers are registered for the convention). If all the dancers from any group dance are registered for the convention, we may have the dancers perform their group dance. Performing pieces at a convention gives dancers the opportunity to perform in front of world renowned judges, dancers, choreographers and instructors, and get critiques and feedback before competition season begins.

## Attendance/ Commitment

Consistent class attendance is extremely important for a dancer to progress, grow and improve, as well as be a member of the team. One student's absence affects the entire class. Therefore, all dancers are expected to come to class each week, be on time, and have reviewed videos/choreography.

We understand that emergencies and illness happen. If your student must miss class, we ask that you let us know ahead of time via email. If a dancer is sick but well enough to come observe, then they are expected to be present to watch class/rehearsal and wear a mask. If a dancer is injured, they are also expected to observe class/rehearsal. Dancers must bring in a doctor's note for any injuries if they are sitting out for more than two weeks.

All NVM students are allotted 4 free make up classes. For competition students, these make up classes can be utilized to make up for any absences in recreational classes. Please contact the studio via email to arrange your make up classes. Tuition is not adjusted for absences.

# Dress Code

Students are expected to follow the studio dress code for competition rehearsals.

Ballet - Pink tights, any color leotard, hair in a neat bun, ballet shoes. Extra layers may be allowed for the first few barre combinations during the winter months, as determined by the instructor. Ballet skirts are acceptable.

Jazz/Lyrical/Tap/Acro/Progressions - Any form fitting clothing such as leotards, leggings, tank tops etc., hair neatly pulled out of face - no sweatpants or pajama pants. Tan jazz shoes must be worn for jazz classes and rehearsals, as well as black lace up tap shoes for tap.

Hip Hop - Any clothing that's comfortable to move in, hair neatly pulled back, clean sneakers.

Two piece outfits are okay. Please no revealing bra-tops and no briefs. Leotards must be worn with tights or shorts.

Male Dress Code:

Ballet - Black jazz pants, white T-shirt, black ballet shoes.

Hip Hop - Any clothing that's comfortable to move in, hair pulled back if long enough, clean sneakers.

Other Styles - Jazz pants or shorts, dance shirt or tank top.

Other:

- Students must remove body piercings and jewelry for competitions and recital.
- Students must remove any nail polish for competitions and recital. Neutral nail polish or a light French manicure (with short nails) are okay.

# Pricing/Costs

Please carefully consider the costs of competitive dance before filling out the audition form and indicating how many dances your dancer can commit to. Please keep in mind that accounts **MUST** be paid in full on the 10th of every month. If a dancer's account has an outstanding balance after the 10th of the month, the dancer will have a hold put on their classes until the balance is paid. With the new studio space, we simply cannot afford to front any money for people who are unable to pay their balance.

Please find the tuition rates, group rehearsal rates, solo/duo/trio rates, and estimated competition fees on the following pages.

## Tuition

<u>Total Hours (Weekly)</u>	<u>Total Cost (Paid Monthly)</u>
0.5	\$55
0.75	\$60
1	\$65
1.25	\$80
1.5	\$85
1.75	\$95
2	\$120
2.25	\$130
2.5	\$140
2.75	\$150
3	\$175
3.25	\$185
3.5	\$195
3.75	\$205
4	\$220
4.25	\$230
4.5	\$240
4.75	\$250
5	\$260
5.25	\$270
5.5	\$280
5.75	\$290
6+	\$300

\*Siblings receive a 10% discount off of tuition costs

## Group Rehearsals

	<b>30 Minutes</b>	<b>45 Minutes</b>	<b>1 hour</b>
Small Group (4-9 dancers)	\$8	\$12	\$15
Large Group (10+ dancers)	\$6	\$9	\$12

# Private Lessons

Private lesson fees will vary by instructor. These rates are approximate.

	<b>30 min</b>	<b>45 min</b>	<b>1 hour</b>
<b>Solo</b>	\$45	\$60	\$75
<b>Duo</b>	\$30/dancer	\$40/dancer	\$50/dancer
<b>Trio</b>	\$25/dancer	\$35/dancer	\$45/dancer

## Solos

\*NEW this year - Soloists will be allotted a total of 4, one-hour long rehearsals to learn their solo choreography. There will be a one time, upfront \$400 choreography/rehearsal fee for these rehearsals. Once their solo is finished, dancers are encouraged to book open studio time to rehearse on their own.

Booking open studios will be done through the online portal. There is no charge for this.

Once choreography is finished, soloists will have private lessons with an instructor 1-2 times per month based on the pricing listed above. *Duos and trios will not have an upfront cost. Duos and trios will be charged as they are scheduled.*

## Competition Entry Fees

Competition Fees will be posted and due in the following manner this year:

Entry Fees: These vary by competition.

1st Competition Fees (Starquest): Due 12/10/23

2nd Competition Fees (World Class): Due 1/15/24

3rd Competition Fees (Turn It Up): Due 3/1/24

	<b>Solo</b>	<b>Duo/Trio</b>	<b>Groups</b>
<b>Starquest</b>	\$171.60	\$93.60/dancer	\$72.80/dancer
<b>World Class Talent Experience</b>	\$174.72	\$95.68/dancer	\$72.80/dancer
<b>Turn It Up!</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD

\*Starquest has an additional media fee for \$26/dancer. This provides you with video and photos

## Costume Fees

Costume fees vary based on a number of factors. Group routine costumes will cost between \$80-\$100. Rhinestones will be included in the costume fees. Solo costume fees may fall between or exceed this range. If they exceed this range, it will be run by the parent/guardian. We are happy to help find a pre-owned costume or a cheaper option for soloists who would like to save money on a solo costume.

Costume Fees will be due 11/15/2023 through 12/15/23 (we will begin posting in November). Solo costumes may be placed and due earlier, which will be discussed with parents on an individual basis.



# Convention Fees

Convention fees will also vary among different conventions. These numbers are approximate. Reminder that conventions are optional. Performing in the performance showcase is also optional.

Dancers can attend the convention without participating in the performance showcase.

Weekend Tuition - \$350-400

Solos - \$175-\$200

Groups - \$75-85

# Other Expenses

- Registration fee for 2023-2024 recreation classes (\$35/individual student + \$50/family)
- Dress Rehearsal - (\$10-\$15 per dance)
- Pop up clinics during school vacations (\$25-30)
- Open/drop-in master classes (\$15-35)
- Competition Team Jacket/Sweat suit (\$75-150)
- Leotard and pink tights (and any other clothing needed to fulfill dress code requirements)
- Stretch bands and/or ankle weights for technique/conditioning classes (levels 3 + 4)
- Shoes, tights, hair tools, makeup
- Travel expenses such as hotels (if needed for a comp weekend), gas and food

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ THROUGH THE POLICIES. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT SEASON!**

