

BPAC 2025 Rules – Troupes and Schools

Purpose statement

Brisbane Performing Arts Challenge is committed to creating a professional environment that maximises opportunities for all students of the performing arts. This allows students to realise their full potential both in the performing arts industry, and in their own lives, by providing a high standard of competition at a professional venue, and opportunities to work with professional performers.

Convenor information

All queries should be addressed in the first instance to the relevant Convenor. Communication with the Convenor is to be sent via email:

troupes@bpacdance.org.au

schools@bpacdance.org.au

The Convenor has responsibility for all aspects of his/her assigned genre and is responsible for the acceptance of registration of all participants. The Convenor has the right to refuse acceptance of registration for any participant who does not comply with BPAC's registration requirements.

Any issues requiring escalation beyond the Convenor will be referred to the BPAC Executive for consideration and resolution.

Specific terms and conditions of entry to BPAC 2025

BPAC reserves the right to make amendments to its schedule and/or sections without prior notice either before or during a session and reserves the right to cancel a session if necessary. BPAC will endeavour to advise of such amendment or cancellation through the BPAC social media pages and through communication with the audience members at each session.

BPAC reserves the right to refuse to register any participant whose application for registration does not comply with BPAC's requirements.

Any performer taking part in a dance event takes certain inherent risks in so doing. Participation in BPAC 2025 indicates the acceptance of such risks by all participants and/or the participant's parent/guardian. In registering for BPAC 2025, all participants (and/or their parents/guardians) acknowledge that performances are physically demanding, and may involve the risk of injuries occurring. By virtue of entering BPAC 2025, it is acknowledged and agreed that no participant shall hold Brisbane Performing Arts Challenge Inc, or its officers, directors, officials, staff or employees liable for any injury sustained or illness contracted by the participant whilst in attendance at BPAC 2025, including in any activity related to BPAC 2025. Neither BPAC, Riverlife Church, nor Thomas Dixon Centre or any other BPAC venues are liable for any personal injury or property loss to either participants or spectators at BPAC 2025.

All participants are required to undertake appropriate warm up prior to the commencement of every performance. Participants participate in BPAC events at their own risk, and agree they are of good health and are physically able to participate. BPAC is not liable for any injury sustained during the BPAC events.

BPAC reserves the right to eject a participant, if the participant breaches any of the BPAC terms and conditions, behaves inappropriately, or is disruptive to other participants.

The Judge's decision is final, and no discussion will be entered into by BPAC with any participant or participant's parent/guardian in relation to the Judge's decision. Verbal feedback will be given via the voice critique system after adjudication.

All prize monies MUST be claimed by 30 September 2025. Any prize monies unclaimed by this date will be forfeited, and no discussion will be entered into as a result of such forfeiture. To claim prize monies, prize winners must provide their receipts and documentation to the BPAC Treasurer before the 'Prize Claim' closing date of 30 September 2025. The BPAC Treasurer can be contacted at treasurer@bpacdance.org.au

Refund Policy

Prize monies are generously provided by both BPAC and its sponsors. BPAC is funded by sponsorship, registration fees, donations, and ticket sales accordingly, **NO REFUNDS** will be given for withdrawal from BPAC Troupes/Ensembles and/or Schools events for any reason unless BPAC 2025 events are cancelled by the BPAC committee due to Government mandated restrictions or natural disaster.

Failure to comply with any of the terms and conditions set out in this document, or any further terms and conditions advised during the course of BPAC events may result in the withholding of prizes and/or disqualification of the participant/s. No correspondence will be entered into as a result of such action.

Specific Troupes/ Schools entry eligibility Guidelines

1. Age is taken as at 1 January, 2025.
2. Each student may only dance twice in each section.
3. Music copyright payments are the responsibility of the individual schools.
4. Each school requires their own Public Liability Policy (minimum \$20 million).
5. Copy of Insurance Certificate of Currency MUST be forwarded with entry forms.
6. All participants and other persons attending the Challenge do so at their own risk.
7. Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and will be limited to the amount of performance time available.
8. All entries must include the name, contact phone number and email of two volunteers per studio or school per session entered or entries will not be accepted.
9. Personal videotaping and flash photography are prohibited. BPAC engages our trusted professional partner organisations to record performances.
10. Music must be uploaded using Music Uploads. Each registrant will be required to set up an account to upload their music to www.musicuploads.com.au
11. Time limits will be 4 minutes for all items except those with a vocal content, which have a time limit of 5 minutes (song and dance; song and tap; musical theatre, and cabaret). There are also special time limits for Musical Theatre sections (please refer to entry forms on Stardom)
12. Receipt of entries automatically entitles schools to membership of BPAC. Schools may then nominate one representative to sit on the committee. This person may not be on the committee of any other eisteddfod or similar competition.
13. OPEN Choruses sections will be open to all dance schools.
14. Elite sections will be open to dance schools by invitation only.

Section definitions

Song & Dance/Song & Tap – Must be 50% dance and 50% song. Will be marked by two judges – vocal & dance (whenever possible). Please note that microphones may not be used under any circumstances.

Musical Theatre – From a stage or film musical and must include live singing, acting, and choreographed movement and or dance. Must be presented in the style and context of the musical. Song and dances are not acceptable. Microphones may be used. May include dialogue.

Cabaret – A stylised entertainment suitable for performance at sophisticated venues. May include singing and different styles of dance. Microphones may be used.

Novelty – Should be novel and usually humorous. May incorporate different styles of dance and singing. Microphones may be used.

Contemporary – Abstract or experimental. An innovative way to move the body. Broad and creative technique.

Lyrical – Slow Modern or Neo-Classical dance.

Traditional Tap - Stylised and of the original training methods.

Street Tap – relaxed arms and bodies.

Hip Hop – a modern dance style, where traditional jazz technique is not the focus.

Jazz – may include elements of Hip Hop but must be predominantly technical jazz.

Cultural/ Ethnic /National Any style representing culture of a group, country or nation.

Troupe Improvisation – Troupes will be given a short piece of music for 15 minutes' preparation time (isolated from other troupes) and then perform on stage. Each troupe may have one teacher to coordinate.

DanceAbility (Disability) - For the purposes of the DanceAbility sections, it is understood that participants meet the definition of disability, being a person having a physical, cognitive, developmental and/or neurological impairment that has a substantial or significant and long-term adverse effect on the ability of the person to carry out normal day-to-day activities. Disability also includes any condition that makes it more difficult for a person to have equitable access within society. For the purpose of the performance, wheelchairs and care-givers may be included.

Elite Sections (by invitation only)

Open Elite Jazz – only available to schools by invitation

Open Elite Ballet – only available to schools by invitation

These sections will receive higher cash bursaries: 1st - \$1000; 2nd - \$500; 3rd - \$250

Please note: After several years of trying to develop a special section for Elite trained dancers, we are dropping the level across the board and instead only holding 2 Elite sections for schools by invitation only. To the teachers and schools who have come along for the ride, we thank you for the support, but it is not working, so back to the drawing board.

All schools will be eligible for Choruses Sections.

Chorus sections (minimum 4 participants, no maximum)

6 & Under

Any Style Dance or Novelty; Song & any Style Dance; Ballet; Jazz; Tap

8 & Under

Jazz; Song and Dance; Ballet; Lyrical; Tap; Song and Tap

10 & Under

Jazz; Ballet; Tap; Lyrical; Song & Dance; Song & Tap; Musical Theatre; Contemporary

12 & Under

Jazz; Ballet; Tap; Lyrical; Song & Dance; Song & Tap; Contemporary; Musical Theatre; Novelty; Acrobatics; National; Hip Hop

15 & Under

Jazz; Ballet; Tap; Lyrical; Song & Dance; Song & Tap; Contemporary; Musical Theatre; Hip Hop

Open

Jazz; Ballet; Traditional Tap; Street Tap; Lyrical; Jazz; Song & Dance; Song & Tap; Contemporary; Musical Theatre; Novelty; Acrobatics; Cabaret; Hip Hop

Cultural/Ethnic/National

Any age cultural/ethnic/national dance groups representing nations from around the world.

Mature and Motivated

A group of mature aged dancers.

DanceAbility

Any age. Please refer to DanceAbility section above for entry criteria and definition.

These sections will receive prize money as follows: 1st - \$100; 2nd - \$50; 3rd - \$25

Ensembles (minimum 4 participants, maximum 12 participants)

Ensembles are an introductory level to competitions and are only available to recreational schools. The Ensemble groups must contain no fewer than 4 performers and no more than 12 performers in total. Dance schools that offer Certificate courses, full-time training courses, elite level training courses are not eligible to enter Ensembles in any age group.

Any dance school which enters Ensembles in any particular age group may NOT enter Choruses in the same age group.

Please note that not all section genres are available in Ensembles sections.

Ensemble sections (Minimum 4 participants, maximum 12 participants)

8 & Under

Jazz; Song and Any Dance; Ballet; Lyrical; Tap

10 & Under

Jazz; Ballet; Tap; Lyrical; Song & Any Dance; Musical Theatre; Contemporary

12 & Under

Jazz; Ballet; Tap; Lyrical; Song & Any Dance; Contemporary; Musical Theatre; Novelty; Acrobatics; National; Hip Hop

15 & Under

Jazz; Ballet; Tap; Lyrical; Song & Any Dance; Contemporary; Musical Theatre; Hip Hop

18 & Under

Jazz; Ballet; Traditional Tap; Street Tap; Lyrical; Jazz; Song & Any Dance; Contemporary; Musical Theatre; Novelty; Acrobatics; Cabaret; Hip Hop

These sections will receive prize money as follows: 1st - \$50; 2nd - \$30; 3rd - \$20

Please note – care should be taken to ensure dancers are costumed appropriately for their age group and that choreography and music choice considers the audience in attendance at the event.

Microphones

Two handheld radio microphones will be supplied for each school to use as they choose in sections such as Musical Theatre, Cabaret and Novelty.

Educational schools

Dance Clubs

Dance Clubs sections are for those schools who do not run any type of Dance Excellence Program. These sections will continue to receive prize money as follows: 1st - \$50; 2nd - \$30; 3rd - \$20.

Dance Excellence

Dance Excellence is for those schools who have Dance Excellence program and/or troupes made up of 50% or more of technically trained dancers who attend formal dance tuition outside of the school domain.

Please note: Many of our Committee members are trained dance teachers who have worked in the local industry for 20 years or more and know which schools fit in to which category. We are relying on the honesty and integrity of each School Dance HOD to ensure entry in correct sections for Schools events.

These sections will receive higher prize money as follows: 1st - \$100; 2nd - \$50; 3rd - \$25 (the same as the dance school sections)