



2018-2019 Competitive Teams Information Packet

Thank you for your interest in the Infinity Dance Company Competitive Teams! We are now entering into our 5th Season and we look forward to having you a part of it!

Infinity Dance Company was established in 2014. Our goal is to transform passionate dancers into all-around distinctive artists who are able to mature and progress gracefully in a rapidly changing society. As a dance family, we strive for each dancer's individuality to be showcased while ensuring the finest dance curriculum. We focus on understanding and perfection before progression while keeping the safety of our dancers in the forefront of our teaching. We aim to provide an environment for children to thrive as individuals and to learn about teamwork and sportsmanship.

IDC Competitive Teams are a commitment. Please make sure you review the expectations of participants in the program before you make a decision and discuss any questions or concerns you may have with the Studio Director prior to registering.

Competitive Team Registration Checklist		
	Studio Membership	Participation in IDC Competitive Teams is open to current studio members. Registration can be completed in the office with an IDC staff member.
	Competitive Team Registration Form	Each member registering for the IDC Competitive Teams must have a completed Competitive Team Registration Form. One form per dancer.
	Birth Certificate	Please turn in a copy of your dancer's birth certificate to the office. Verification of age is required by the competition events that your child will participate.
	Audition Fee	A \$25 Audition fee is due per dancer. This is non-refundable.
	Parent Meeting	IDC Competitive Teams is a commitment and we want to make sure that parents understand the commitment being made along with the key information.
	Commitment Form	Before anyone is placed on a team, a signed commitment form is required. The signed commitment form is an agreement to all policies and acceptance of the financial commitment involved in the program, including the termination fee should you be separated from the program by choice or consequence.

*All Competitive Team members participate in weekly recreational classes AND competition classes/ rehearsals to help each dancer excel on an individual basis.



Competitive Dance 101

Competitive dance is a continuously evolving art form and sport. It continues to be exciting, fast-paced, and extremely strenuous. Competitive dance is broken down into divisions by age and technique/skill set. Thus, the Infinity Dance Company Competitive Teams are also split based on the above criteria. Our instructors and choreographers are knowledgeable on technique and what is required at each level. In competitive dance, a strong focus is placed on the technique and solid execution of each skill.

When creating teams, we take all technique levels into consideration. Each team must be created to have a competitive experience. All dancer placements and selections are at the discretion of the Studio Director and routine choreographer.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT AUDITIONS:

During auditions, future Competitive Team dancers will be asked to perform technical skill sets in varying genres of dance. Skills start at the basic level and advance until they are not able to perform a skill. They are also asked to perform combinations that they will learn during the audition class. This is done in a group setting.

After auditions are completed, the Studio Director and Instructors work to form the most competitive teams possible. Parents will be emailed this information.

After teams have started working together, we may notice adjustments need to be made. If a change is needed by your dancer, you will be contacted by the Studio Director to discuss the details. Occasionally, we may move dancers around to better serve the team or split/merge teams accordingly. If a choreographer wishes to merge dancers from several teams or use only a few dancers from a specific team to create a competitive routine, parents will be notified of their dancer's selection via email. At that point you have the option to opt out or have your dancer participate in the additional routine(s).



Communication Process

We strive to keep all parents informed at all times. We do our best to make sure all information is distributed to parents in a timely manner. Major forms of contact within the program include regular emails, newsletters, mass texts, website posts, Facebook groups, and handouts during class. It is the responsibility of the Competitive Team dancer and parents to stay updated and read all emails, texts, handouts, and newsletters made available.

PARENTS & DANCERS

Questions about a team?
TEAM INSTRUCTORS

Questions relating specifically to the team and needs of an individual Competitive dancer should go directly to the team instructors.

Questions about the IDC Competitive Team Program?

STUDIO DIRECTOR

Questions relating to the IDC Competitive Team program and related events should go to the Studio Director. The Studio Director also works with the instructors to address the specific needs of the teams and individuals.

Questions about the studio?
CLASS INSTRUCTORS

Questions relating to the studio and recreational dance program can be directed to any of the IDC Class Instructors.

Kimberly Fay
Director & Sr./Teen/Jr.
Team Instructor
Kfay@infinitydance.co
Cell: 228-324-9675

Hilaree Orgeron
Junior, Tiny & Mini Team Instructor
Horgeron@infinitydance.co
Cell: 228-860-2507

Meagan Cardwell
Junior Team Instructor
mlc0891@gmail.com
Cell: 228-861-5592

Jennifer Rivers
Tiny & Mini Team Instructor
jrivers@infinitydance.co
Cell: 228-806-4040

Lisa Hendrickson
Jr., Tiny, & Mini Team Coordinator
Fundraiser Coordinator
danceteacherlisa@gmail.com
Cell: 228-324-4105

UPDATES:

When updates and announcements are made, we use multiple methods to make sure you receive the information. Please make sure you are plugged into our social media channels for additional information.

FACEBOOK: Infinity Dance Company
SNAPCHAT: IDC_GulfCoast
TUMBLER: INFINITYDANCECOMPANY
TWITTER: IDC_GulfCoast
INSTAGRAM: Infinity_Dance_Company



Financial Commitment Fundraisers & Sponsorship (Pg. 1)

PRICING AND FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

The IDC Competitive Team program is a monthly fee similar to tuition for a recreational class. The monthly fee covers:

Senior Competitive Team (Ages 14+)

- Participation in the Competitive Team Program
- Weekly Team practices/rehearsals (held on Thursdays)
- 2 Competitive Team weekly classes (held on Thursdays)
- Monthly tuition for Ballet & PBT classes (Required to be on comp team)
- CLI Studio Membership (1 Year)
- Live Interactive Class with CLI Instructor 3 times throughout the season (held on Thursdays)
- 3 Dance Convention Fees

Junior Competitive Team (Ages 7-10)

- Participation in the Competitive Team Program
- Weekly Team practices/rehearsals (held on Thursdays)
- 2 Competitive Team weekly classes (held on Thursdays)
- Monthly tuition for Ballet & Jazz classes (Required to be on comp team)
- Live Interactive Class with CLI Instructor 3 times throughout the season (held on Thursdays)
- 1 Dance Convention Fee
- Competitive Team T-shirt/ Tank

Teen Competitive Teams (Ages 11-13)

- Participation in the Competitive Team Program
- Weekly Team practices/rehearsals (held on Thursdays)
- 2 Competitive Team weekly classes (held on Thursdays)
- Monthly tuition for Ballet & PBT classes (Required to be on comp team)
- CLI Studio Membership (1 Year)
- Live Interactive Class with CLI Instructor 3 times throughout the season (held on Thursdays)
- 3 Dance Convention Fees

Tiny & Mini Competitive Teams (Ages 3-7)

- Participation in the Competitive Team Program
- Competitive Team class/ practice/ rehearsal twice a month (dates TBD)
- Competition Entry Fee for 1 Group Routine (will attend 3 separate competitions)
- Choreography Fee for 1 Group Routine
- Costume for 1 dance: includes accessories & 2 pairs of competition tights
- Competitive Team T-shirt/ Tank
- 1 CD of routine music

**Senior, Teen and Junior Competitive Team members must attend Tribe, which will be held at the studio November 3-4, 2018. The cost of this intensive is NOT included in your monthly rates listed below. You will need to register your dancer for this intensive. The registration link can be found on our website.



Financial Commitment Fundraisers & Sponsorship (Pg. 2)

IDC Competitive Dancers are provided any required items (community performance t-shirts, team t-shirt, costume accessories, etc.). If a dancer loses a required item, the dancer/ parent is responsible for replacing the item, including any associated costs. Items NOT included in the Competitive Team Fees are costumes (excluding Tiny & Mini Team group costume), competition routine entry fees (excluding Tiny & Mini Team), competition makeup (female), dance shoes, and choreography fees for groups, duo/trios, and solos (excluding Tiny & Mini Team).

Payments are due on the 1st of each month and considered late after the 10th. Any account with ANY balance remaining as of the 11th is charged a \$25 late fee (this includes an unpaid balance from a previous month). If an account falls behind, Infinity Dance Company reserves the right to remove the family from the program or require the Competitive Team dancer to sit out until the account is brought current. If a Competitive Team dancer is removed due to failure to keep his/her account current, no refunds are issued for any previously paid fees, and any remaining balance, including the current month's charges, is turned over to a third party for collection purposes.

FUNDRAISING

To help offset the cost of IDC Competitive Team fees, fundraisers are provided- participation is optional. Typically, there is one fundraiser held every other month. You may NOT hold your own fundraiser and/ or represent IDC in any capacity. All fundraisers go through the studio. Parents/ dancers found to be representing the program without permission (this includes saying "I'm raising funds for my dancer at Infinity Dance Company" for an unofficial fundraiser) will be removed from the program.

STUDIO SPONSORSHIPS

Any dancer may collect studio Sponsorships from any business or individual. Infinity Dance Company is NOT a not-for-profit organization, and sponsorships are NOT tax-deductible. Businesses and individuals may account any sponsorship as marketing or advertising costs. A portion of each sponsorship received is applied directly to the dancer's account. All Studio Sponsorships are due by October 25, 2018.



Program Commitment & Team Expectations

PROGRAM COMMITMENT & TEAM EXPECTATIONS

Success of each team and the program as a whole is dependent on the commitment level of each member. IDC Competitive Team practices/ rehearsals are held weekly on Thursdays for the Senior, Teen, and Junior Teams. The Tiny & Mini Team members will meet for an hour twice a month. These dates and times will be determined at a later date. The length of practice times for the Senior thru Junior Teams will vary at the beginning of the season (September- December). This is due to some group choreography being able to be taught during their Thursday rehearsal times. Weekend dates may be utilized at the beginning of the season for outside/ guest choreographers that are not available during the week. These dates, if any, will be provided in advance to parents/ dancers so that any conflicts may be managed.

The first competition schedule is released after team placements. Once the schedule is adjusted for the Fall, the schedule is not expected to change through the end of the competition season. Schedules will include both mandatory and additional optional competitions and/or conventions.

All choreography sessions are closed to parent viewing. We WANT parents' support at all times, but we NEED the dancers' focus at all times.

ABSENCES

The expectation is for Competitive Team dancers to be at EVERY team practice and EVERY event. However, communicating absences with your team instructors is essential to the success of the team. Instructors should be informed of upcoming absences at least two weeks prior. Competition classes are important for skill development and preparation for choreography. Attendance is crucial to the success of the program. Dancers are permitted 2 absences September thru December closing and 2 absences January thru their last event. IDC Instructors will only discuss your own child's absences with you.

Absences are monitored by instructors and submitted to the Studio Director. Excessive absence may result in the removal from the team or being replaced by an alternate dancer for a practice, performance, event, competition, or the remainder of the season. No "spot" is guaranteed to any dancer at any time. In the event a dancer misses a practice/ rehearsal, another dancer steps into a spot, and the change benefits the team, the instructor and/ or Studio Director may make the call to make the change permanent. The program comes first in all situations.

These situations, along with all absence situations, are handled on a case-by-case basis. The Studio Director reserves the right to handle each situation at her discretion. We are fair and consistent, and we expect all parents and dancers to support decisions. If you have a question concerning the implementation of this policy, please discuss it with the Studio Director directly.



Dress Code & Sportsmanship Competition & Event Expectations

DRESS CODE

PRACTICE ATTIRE: Dancers are expected to be in class and at practices/ rehearsals in appropriate attire. Appropriate attire for competitive classes and rehearsals includes a leotard, leggings, capris, booty shorts, sports bras, or tank top for all classes. Hair should be pulled up and out of the face. It has been shown that dancers who dress the part are more likely to act the part.

On choreography days, dancers will be asked to wear ALL BLACK attire. Dancers will be notified which day they will need to dress in all black.

COMPETITION ATTIRE: Costumes are ordered for each dance routine and styled as decided upon by the Choreographer and Studio Director. We take great care to place dancers in age appropriate costumes, as well as, to fit the style of choreography and music.

Dancers are expected to be in full costume at competitions starting from their "meet time" through their awards time. Full costume includes routine specific costume, appropriate undergarments, competition style hair-do, competition style makeup, competition earrings, fake eyelashes and dance specific shoes. Dancers are expected to be completely competition ready in appearance by their designated "meet time" and are expected in full costume with studio jacket for awards as a team. How a dancer competes is how a dancer should "meet" the team and attend the awards ceremony at events.

COMPETITION/ EVENT EXPECTATIONS

When attending a dance competition or other dance related event or functions, parents, family members, and friends are encouraged to be as spirited and supportive as possible. This includes wearing studio colors, wearing IDC attire, and showing your IDC pride! At each competition we attend, dancers are provided an ARRIVAL time, MEET time, COMPETE time, and AWARDS time. Dancers are expected to arrive at the venue by the ARRIVAL time. This ensures there are no issues making the MEET time. Athletes are required to be present and onstage for their AWARDS time at each competition.

Parents: If possible, please be present for EVERY performance. Your participation and excitement is important to your dancer's performance. Your dancer is often stepping outside of their comfort zone to perform in front of hundreds of spectators. Keep them pumped up! No one likes to perform for a non-existent, dull crowd.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Sportsmanship and team unity is very important to us at IDC. Please be courteous and considerate to all teams and individuals. This includes other studio's competitive teams and other IDC competitive teams. Please do not speak negatively about any person, decision, or result. This includes posting on the Internet, Facebook, and message boards. We strive to teach our dancers respect and sportsmanship. Anyone who behaves in a manner viewed as inappropriate by the staff, in or out of the studio, may lead to the removal of the family in question from the program. Competitive Team dancers whose parents are excessively negative or obnoxious will be removed from the program, this includes those who threaten to leave the program. We work to create a positive and pleasant learning environment for our dancers, and we will take the necessary steps to keep it as such. It is each parent's and dancer's responsibility to set an example and be held accountable for his/ her own sportsmanship.



Code of Conduct

CODE OF CONDUCT

"Your child's success or lack of success in sports does not indicate what kind of parent you are. But having an athlete that is coachable, respectful, a great teammate, mentally tough, resilient and tries their best IS a direct reflection of your parenting" - Unknown

IDC Competitive Teams teach more than a grand jeté, pirouette, or frotté. The IDC Competitive Team experience is a challenging opportunity for children to grow as individuals and develop the key life skills needed to excel in today's world. Dancers are given the opportunity to work as part of a team to develop better communication skills, learn to work with others, overcome obstacles, reach goals, be a leader, and dig deep to be the best asset to a team he/ she possibly can be.

Dancers are encouraged to communicate concerns with instructors directly. Open communication helps build a better relationship and allows both the dancer and instructor to work through any issues or concerns. When instructors are not aware a child has an issue or concern, it is very rare for the problem to be resolved. Generally this leads to bigger issues when the problem goes unaddressed for an extended period of time. Please work with instructors to help your child develop skills needed to communicate his/ her own concerns.

Participation in the Competitive Team program is a commitment to the values and expectations set out by Infinity Dance Company. This includes both inside the studio and outside. Dancers are expected to be role models within their communities and set a positive example. By being a member of the Competitive Team program, you are a representative of the Infinity Dance Company brand. Dancers can be removed from the program based on decisions made outside of classes and rehearsals.

Infinity Dance Company has a ZERO tolerance policy for underage drinking or drug use of any kind. Dancers found to be violating this policy are removed from the program.

In cases where conduct is a concern, parents are contacted to discuss the issues and develop a plan to move forward. In the event the Instructors/ Studio Director and the parents do not share the same view or can not reach a proactive solution, the dancer is removed from the program to prevent future issues. If you have any questions at any time about the code of conduct and your dancer, please direct your questions to the Studio Director.



What now?

The IDC Competitive Team program can be a lot of information to digest, so please make sure you have read through the packet and fully understand the commitment of the program. Below are the steps to take to join the program:

Step 1: Obtaining Competitive Team Information Packets

Read through this packet and team contract.

If you have a question please contact the Studio Director via email: Kfay@infinitydance.co

Step 2: Auditions for Dancers

The next step is Auditions! There is a \$25 non-refundable Audition fee due prior to the start of your dancer's auditions. Date and Times are listed below.

Date: SUNDAY, AUGUST 26th

Junior and Teen Levels:

1:00- 1:45 Ballet (Oksana)

1:45- 2:30 Jazz Technique & Contemporary (Kori)

Senior Level:

1:45-2:30 Ballet (Oksana)

2:30-3:15 Jazz Tech. & Contemporary (Kori)

MINI & TINY LEVELS:

4:00-5:00 (Jennifer/Hilaree)

Once your dancer has finished their audition, they are free to leave. Teams will be formed over the weekend and emails will be distributed to parents with additional information. The process of forming teams is a long and tedious task. We cannot guarantee a time when it will be complete, so please be patient as we work to create the best possible scenario for the upcoming season!

If you are auditioning after the season has started, you will be notified after your evaluation if there is a team for you. Although there usually is, sometimes we are unable to accommodate dancers after the season has started. If you join after the season has started, you will also need to catch up on any missed payments before you are able to start the program.

Step 3: Registration

It's time to register for the program! Stop by the office to submit your signed paperwork. This should include your financial contract. The standard agreement includes 9 monthly payments. Your account will be updated and your competition monthly fees will be added to your account. For those who are interested in paying up front for the season, you may do so.