

Lakehead Festival of Music and the Arts

GENERAL RULES and REGULATIONS

1. **WORKING MANAGEMENT:** The activities and competition shall be under the working management of Festival Officers. Any questions not dealt with in these regulations, or in any other regulations pertaining to the Festival, shall be referred to those Festival Officials whose decisions on such matters shall be FINAL and BINDING to all concerned.
2. **DISCLAIMER:** Any individual partaking in physical activities such as dance competitions takes certain incumbent risks such as possible sprains, etc. By participating in the Festival Competitions, competitors and parents/guardians of participants are indicating acceptance of any and all risks involved in such an endeavour. Therefore, LFMA, it's Officers, volunteers, and venue locations are not responsible or liable for any personal injury, damages, or losses of personal property that may occur while partaking or attending any activity connected with this competition.
3. **CODE OF CONDUCT:** Please review the updated Code of Conduct which can be found on our website. All participants are expected to abide by the Festival's Code of Conduct.
4. **ENTRY DEADLINE:** Please refer to our website for registration information and deadlines.
5. **PAYMENTS & REFUNDS:** Once an entry has been received, it is considered **NON-REFUNDABLE** regardless of the reasons for withdrawal. The current administration rate will be levied on NSF cheques. In the event of a miscalculation, all outstanding balances must be remitted promptly upon notification.
6. **AGE DIVISIONS:** The age of each competitor as of DECEMBER 31, 2025 is used to calculate age level. Age level is determined in the following manner: SOLO = participant's age as of December 31st. DUET/TRIO = age category entered must be according to the age of the eldest participant. GROUPS/LINES/ENSEMBLES/PRODUCTIONS = age category is determined by calculating the average age of the participants (add all ages together & divide by the number of dancers involved and dropping the decimal point). The eldest participant in any group, line or production can only be 2 years older than the age category entered; however, there is no restriction preventing a younger dancer from competing in a higher age level. **Please refer to instrumental/vocal syllabus for specific division (age/grade/level) information.**
7. **UNDERSTUDIES/REPLACEMENTS:** Substitutes cannot be used for Solos, Duets or Trios. When a soloist is unable to perform, the entry will be cancelled. If one Duet partner is unable to perform, the remaining participant may compete as a Solo; and if one participant in a Trio cannot perform, the entry may compete as a Duet. The dancers named on the original entry roster of a Group, Line, Production or Ensemble are the only competitors who should be performing the routine. If an understudy is required to replace an injured or ill participant, or if there is an addition or deletion to the original roster required after the entry has been delivered, the Festival Coordinator must be informed **immediately**.

8. **MUSIC:** The music for each performance (Dance/Vocal only) will be uploaded into DanceComp Genie. The music deadline will be two weeks prior to the start of the competition.
9. **MUSIC TECHNICIAN:** All music will be played by the venue technician.
10. **PROPS:** All props should be free standing and easy to set up and remove. Construction should be solid and should not compromise the physical well-being of the competitor(s) in any way. The use of dangerous goods or materials such as fire, swords, powders, fog machines, etc. is strictly prohibited. The use of any unconventional or large props must be authorized by the Festival Coordinator prior to the competition.
11. **QUESTIONS/COMPLAINTS:** Questions, complaints, protests or concerns regarding any decisions, results, regulations or procedures that may arise before, during or after the competition must be made in writing exclusively by the studio owner/director (NOT a parent/guardian or participant) and should be addressed to the Festival Coordinator or Festival Officials, and NOT the Adjudicators. All questions, complaints, challenges and concerns will be dealt with in a timely manner without causing any delay or disruption to the program sequence or order of events or administrative agenda.
12. **ADJUDICATORS' DECISIONS** are FINAL and BINDING to all concerned. **At no time, during or after the competition** can anyone other than the Coordinator or appointed Festival Executives approach the Adjudicators with inquiries, concerns or complaints related to any competition result or Adjudicator's decision. Adjudicators will not be permitted to change their marks after the session has finished.
13. **CONTACT WITH ADJUDICATORS:** At no time during the competition, in or out of the competition venue, is anyone permitted to approach the Adjudicators except designated Festival Officers. Teachers, competitors, parents/guardians and relatives of participants who may like to converse and express their appreciation will be permitted to approach the Adjudicators after the final adjudication on the last day of the competition.
14. **RECORDS & DOCUMENTS:** All records and documents used by the Adjudicators, the Coordinator and designated Festival Officers are considered *PRIVATE* and *CONFIDENTIAL*. Viewing of any official record is strictly prohibited.
15. **USE OF GREASE PAINT, LOTIONS AND OIL PRODUCTS:** The Festival strictly prohibits the use of any and all grease paint, lotions and oil products on a participant's body; and the use of any spray products on the shoes such as "glue on shoes". If used, consequences are immediate disqualification of the studio and the cost of any damage to the venue will be incurred by the Studio.
16. **LITTER ON STAGE:** Debris from costumes or props such as feathers, etc. can be a serious safety hazard. Each studio is responsible and required to have someone ready to clean the stage immediately following any routine that litters the dance surface; OR must inform the Coordinator prior to the start of the session so an unsafe situation can be avoided.
17. **CELL PHONES and PAGERS** must be set to "silent" at all times while in a competition venue.

18. **AGE INQUIRIES:** Challenges of age/level eligibility must be made in writing to the Festival Coordinator within 3 days of the final day of competition. Entries found to have been entered in the wrong age/level category may lose their placement (1st Place, etc.); and will not be eligible for any awards or scholarships.
19. **ROUTINE CONTENT:** The LFMA is a family event. All performances must be suitable for family viewing. Costumes should be tasteful; music should be well-chosen and age appropriate; and objectionable lyrics must be edited. Suggestive movements, inappropriate gestures, displays of violence or social prejudice **MUST NOT** be part of any routine. Any contradiction to these recommendations could result in a reduction in score or a possible disqualification.
20. **PUBLICATION OF RESULTS:** The Festival reserves the right to post names and photographs of competitors, award recipients and scholarships winners on the Festival website as well as publish results in the local newspaper. LFMA reserves the right to use photographs of participants for official or promotional purposes. Any objections to these claims for privacy reasons must be made in writing and sent to the Festival Coordinator at least one month prior to the start of the competition.
21. **DISQUALIFICATION:** Breach of any General Regulations, Code of Conduct, or any action contrary to Programming Procedures, Awards and Scholarships Standards, or Competition Etiquette could be deemed as grounds for disqualification of an entry or a competitor. Disqualification can be imposed by the Adjudicators or by the Festival Executive. Upon disqualification, all eligibility for awards or scholarships will automatically be forfeited.
22. **REVIEWS:** The Festival Board of Directors reserves the right to review the eligibility of participants who do not abide by established Festival policies and procedures, and whose conduct may have been considered unbecoming or out of line. The Festival Committee reserves the right to reconsider participation by these individuals at future Festival events.