

# ESTRADI DANCE COMPETITION RULES



## History and values of the dance competition

The idea for the Estradi Dance Competition came from the wish and need to provide more good-natured dance competitions for young dancers in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area. The Estradi Dance Competition continues in the footsteps of the prestigious Helmi Dance Competition held in 2015-2017.

The Estradi contests are open to all, either as independent competitors or representatives of a background organisation, such as a dance school. The purpose is to spread the joy of dancing among both spectators and competitors through positive feedback and encouragement. On the day of the competition, we wish to encourage good spirit and attitude towards fellow competitors.

The Estradi Dance Competition cherishes the tradition of artistic dance and provides a dramatic framework for the event. In dance art, technique is only one aspect of the overall art performance.

## Competition venue

The Estradi Dance Competition will be held at Helsingin Suomalainen Yhteiskoulu (SYK), address Isonnevantie 8, Helsinki, Finland. The stage is covered with special dance flooring. The dimensions of the stage are 14 x 9 metres. Please remember that there is not much room offstage and bringing in large sets may be cumbersome. Also, please make sure that you are in the competitor corridor well before your turn. The stage is entered via steps on the left side of the stage from the audience's point of view. However, you can go to the other side of the stage behind the back curtain if required by the choreography. Please inform the stage manager before going onstage if the performers need to enter the stage from the other side.

The stage environment is the same for all. Special effects such as changes of lighting or smoke cannot be used during the competition.

## Choreography

In the show dance contest, the choreography should be made for show dance, contemporary dance, jazz or their mix.

In the ballet contest, the choreography should be made for ballet, contemporary ballet or character dance. In ballet choreographies, the dancers may have either soft shoes or pointe shoes, or character shoes for character dances.

The judges will evaluate the dance routine for its various parts, so this should be taken into account when choosing a choreography.

The dance routines may include lifting and acrobatic moves when allowed by the age and skills of dancers.

The choice of music and dresses should reflect the age level of the dancers and be in good taste. Intimate areas should remain covered.

Props and sets brought in and out by the dancers may be used to enhance the performance. After the performance, the stage must be clean for the next dancers.

# Age divisions

Dancers compete in the age division which matches more than 50% of the dancers on the basis of their year of birth.

Children 1	Children 2	Junior	Novice	Adult
5-8	9-11	12-15	16-19	20+

## Children

The Children age division is intended for children aged 5-11. The Children 1 division is for children aged 5-8 and the Children 2 division for children aged 9-11. The two divisions will be kept separate in the competition if there are at least 3 registered participants in a competition category (e.g. Children 1, Small Group). Otherwise, the Children divisions will be combined in the competition category in question.

## Junior

The Junior division is intended for children and young people aged 12-15.

## Novice

The Novice division is intended for young people and adults aged 16-19.

## Adult

The Adult division is intended for dancers aged 20 or more. The Adult division will be kept separate in the competition if there are at least 3 registered participants in a competition category (e.g. Adult, Small Group). Otherwise, the participants registered in the Adult division will be combined with the Novice division for the competition category in question.

# Competition categories

In the Solo category, there is only one dancer. The Solo category is provided for all age divisions. Dancers must compete in their own age division.

In the Solo Combination category, there is only one dancer. The Solo Combination category is only provided for the ballet contest. The Solo Combination category is provided for Junior and Novice age divisions. Dancers must compete in their own age division. In the Solo Combination category, the dancer performs two solos - one classical variation and one new ballet choreography which is either contemporary ballet or character dance. The total points for both solos determine the final ranking of the soloist. Note! Dancers competing in the Solo Combination category cannot also compete in the Solo category.

In the Duo/Trio category, there are 2 or 3 dancers. The Duo/Trio category is provided for all age divisions. If the ages of performers differ, the age division is determined by the age of the older dancer in the Duo/Trio category.

A Small Group may include 4-9 dancers on the stage. The Small Group category is provided for all age divisions. Over 50% of the dancers must fall in the age division concerned.

A Large Group may include 10 or more dancers. The maximum recommended number of dancers on the stage is 20, but larger groups are also allowed. The Large Group category is provided for all age divisions. Over 50% of the dancers must fall in the age division concerned.

Note: The Large Group category differs from the traditional Formation category in that the choreography does not focus on the formations/format of the group but on the overall performance covering all the areas to be judged (this applies to all the categories in the Estradi Competition). The choreography of a large group may include minor solos/small groups, exits and entries to the stage, etc., but the general impression given by the choreography should clearly be that of a large group dancing.

## Music

The music must be purchased from a legitimate source and sent by the end of the registration period to the following address: [kilpailumusiikit@tanssila.fi](mailto:kilpailumusiikit@tanssila.fi). The charge for music delivered late is €20. The late charge shall be paid through the online shop. If an invoice is sent for music delivered late, an additional invoice surcharge of €20 will be added to the invoice.

The music should be pre-cut and provided in some popular format, such as MP3 or WAV.

The title of the music file must be in the following format: Name of routine, Performer, Age division, Category. E.g. Clowns/Tanssila/Children1/LargeGroup. Incorrectly titled music may be subject to a late charge. Correctly titled music files help to minimise problems on the day of competition (titles such as “Ann’s solo” may get mixed up).

## Length of routines in different categories

The length of routines is regulated as follows:

The maximum length of solo routines is 2 min 15 sec. The maximum length of duo and trio routines is 2 min 15 sec. The maximum length of small group routines is 3 min. The maximum length of large group routines is 4 min. A minimum length is not set for the performances. The length of the music is also the length of the routine! If the choreography starts with silence, the silent part must be recorded on the music track!

Max. length of routines

Solo	Duo/Trio	Small Group (max. 9 dancers)	Large Group (min. 10 dancers)
2 min 15 sec	2 min 15 sec	3 min	4 min

## Right to participate

You can register with a choreography that has been used in a prior Estradi Dance Competition, if the routine has not been placed in positions 1-3 or been awarded an honorary mention.

The same dancer may perform in different dance routines within the same category. However, the order of performances will not be changed to accommodate any dancers participating in many performances, so you should take this into consideration when making decisions relating to dresses etc. Dance schools may enter with several choreographies in a particular competition category or age division.

## Registration

Registration and the sending of music files must take place within the registration period set for each contest. Registration takes place online by purchasing the product in question, e.g. Solo registration. Each performance is registered on a separate form! If you wish to pay for the registration by invoice, please choose the product normally in the online shop and, at the payment stage, choose the invoice option. Places in the competition are allocated in the order of registration.

If you wish to have all of the routines for a dance school charged on a single invoice, please include only one email address for invoicing purposes. Then, there will be only one invoice surcharge.

Post-registration is possible if there is room in the competition. For more information on post-registration, please contact us by email at [tanssikilpailu@tanssila.fi](mailto:tanssikilpailu@tanssila.fi). You can also enter the queue for cancellations by contacting us by email. In case of cancellations, new participants will be registered in the order of the queue.

## Special situations and changes after registration

In the case of illness, it is possible to have the registration fee reimbursed against a medical certificate.

If the dancers of a group routine change from those reported or if someone is unable to attend, the person responsible for the group may bring in a replacement as long as the group's age division is not affected due to this change.

In the case of illness, less than 10 dancers is acceptable in a large group. Also, in the case of illness, less than 4 dancers is acceptable in a small group. In the case of illness, a duo routine can be reassigned to the solo category. In the case of illness, the music or other information cannot be changed; the group must compete with the routine entered in the competition.

## Fees

The registration fee for a solo routine is €35. The registration fee for a solo combination routine is €45. The registration fee for a duo/trio routine is €40. The registration fee for groups (small and large) is determined according to the number of dancers, the cost for each dancer being €15. For example, a 6-person routine costs €90. All prices include VAT at 10%. If you pay in the online shop, no other charges will be applied to your registration. However, if you wish to pay for the registration by invoice, the invoice surcharge is €20 per invoice. Invoices must be paid by the Friday prior to the day of competition and a copy of the receipt must be available on the day of competition for presentation at the reception, if requested.

The fees for post-registration are payable by invoice which includes an invoice surcharge (€20) and a post-registration fee (€20).

## Competition day instructions for responsible persons

Please come in time. A positive mood is an important part of the event – please behave in an exemplary manner in your instructor's/guardian's role. Please bring a copy of your music, e.g. on a memory stick or phone, as a precaution.

The responsible person indicated at the time of registering a small or large group is entitled to free entry to the event.

The feedback from the judges is available at the reception after the competition. Don't forget to pick up the feedback on your group after presentation of awards for your category.

## Judges and criteria for judging

The panel of judges consists of several dance and performing arts professionals. All judges undertake to assess the contestants impartially. A teacher responsible for a competing group or dancer or the choreographer of a competing dance routine cannot serve as a judge. If a judge were to have his or her own students or choreographies entered in the competition, that judge would not participate in the assessment of his or her own students or choreographies. The panel of judges

consists of several dance and performing arts professionals. The judges assess the performances by providing numerical marks and written comments.

In the show dance contest, the routines are judged in the following areas:

- dance technical skills
- artistic expression
- show elements (choreographic insights, entertainability/capacity to capture the viewer's attention, the theme of the routine, and originality)
- overall impression and harmony

In the ballet contest, the routines are judged in the following areas:

- dance technical skills
- artistic expression
- expression of the style of the routine (nature of the choreography, suitability of dresses for the style, consideration paid to routine details)
- overall impression and harmony

All areas affect the total score of routines.

## Scoring, result classes and awards

In the Estradi Dance Competition, the judges award points and provide short written comments on the performances. The ranking is determined on the basis of points. If there are 9 or more routines in a category, a ranking class will also be determined. The ranking classes express the relationship between the routines providing groups with information on their relative order in the competition. There are three ranking classes: A, B and C. Class A is the highest one. The class boundaries are determined as follows: if the number of contestants in a particular category is divisible by three, each of the classes will hold one third of the contestants. If the number of dance routines is not divisible by three, the classes will be determined as follows: class C holds the highest number of dance routines, then comes class B and finally class A.

An example of the formation of result classes

<b>Less than 9 competing routines in a category</b>	<b>9 competing routines</b>	<b>10 competing routines</b>	<b>11 competing routines</b>
Ranking classes are not determined	3 routines in class A	3 routines in class A	3 routines in class A
	3 routines in class B	3 routines in class B	4 routines in class B
	3 routines in class C	4 routines in class C	4 routines in class C

## Event

Tickets will be sold to spectators for the Estradi Dance Competition. The tickets will be available for sale via the Estradi Website approximately one month before the day of competition. Tickets can be purchased in advance from the online shop or at the venue on the day of competition, if available.

It is also possible to register as a vendor or service provider at the Estradi dance event. The fee for vendor space at the event is €150.

The parents of Tanssila students will also hold a buffet and organise a raffle.

# Organiser

The dance competition is organised by the Tanssila Dance School. Teachers and other personnel of Tanssila will provide assistance on the day of the event and before. On the day of the event, assistance will also be available from the parents of Tanssila students and other volunteers.

*We look forward to seeing you in the Estradi Dance Competition!  
We are happy to answer any questions and welcome your wishes and suggestions with regard to future competitions.*

[www.estraditanssikilpailu.com](http://www.estraditanssikilpailu.com)



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