



1 Entries

1.1 General

- Our primary objective is to provide an opportunity for participants to perform and further their dance education. The atmosphere of the Cheremosh Dance Festival is to always be a positive learning experience.
- The Cheremosh Dance Festival is open to participants throughout North America.
- Age groups will be determined by the average age of the participants as of January 1st of the festival year. If the result averages to a fraction, the age will be rounded to the nearest whole number.
- No substitutions may be made for any participant. The name of the dancer who is listed on the entry form is the only person eligible to compete in the category for which he or she was entered.
- Participants may only perform one time per age group in each class. The categories are created to allow participants to perform in a variety of classes.
- Each group dance must have a routine name. For adjudication purposes, school names should not be used within a routine name.
- Solos and duets do not require routine names.

1.2 Fees

- All fees must be remitted by MONEY ORDER or CERTIFIED CHEQUE, made payable to the “Ukrainian Cheremosh Society” and sent by post.
 - SOLO \$21.00 per dancer
 - DUET \$18.50 per dancer
 - SMALL GROUP \$10.00 per dancer
 - MEDIUM GROUP \$10.00 per dancer
 - LARGE GROUP \$10.00 per dancer
- Refunds will be issued for medical reasons only. A written letter (listing the participant’s entries) along with a medical certificate must be received by the Festival Committee prior to the commencement of the festival. Refunds apply to the injured participants only.
- Monetary refund will not be given for the cancellation of entries.

1.3 Group Sizes

- Small Groups 3 – 6 dancers
- Medium Groups 7 – 12 dancers
- Large Groups 13+ dancers

1.4 Time Limits

- Entries must strictly adhere to the given time limits, as the festival is scheduled accordingly. All efforts are made to keep the festival running on time; however, this becomes difficult if entries go beyond the routine time restrictions. Category time limits are as follows:
 - Solo 2 minutes
 - Duet 2 minutes
 - Regional Small Group 4 minutes
 - Regional Medium Group 4 minutes
 - Regional Large Group 5 minutes
 - Character Group 5 minutes
 - Open Group 5 minutes

1.5 Overtime Fines

- Each performance will be timed from a dancer's first dance movement on stage until the last movement on stage. **Time limits include entrances, exits, and bows.** If a routine goes over the specified time restriction, the instructor/school will be automatically fined \$50.00. For each additional 30 seconds of overtime, another \$50.00 will be added to the fine.
- **All fines need to be paid by the end of the festival.** If payment is not received, the entry number will not be qualified for scholarship awards. The time infraction will not be reflected in the adjudicator's mark..

1.6 Age Categories

- All ages are welcome to participate. An entry has either an average age, or is categorized as Junior Ensemble, Adult, or Family.
- The "Family" category is for cases where a parent is dancing with their child.
- The "Junior Ensemble" category is to distinguish dance groups that are non-recreational performing groups or considered feeder schools for larger, semi-professional or professional ensembles. Groups can be entered in the "Junior Ensemble" category based on the instructor's discretion.

1.7 Solos and Duets

- Solo and duet entries can be categorized as either regional (seven regions) or character.
- Participants may enter up to one solo per region (also applies to duets).
- **Solos and duets will be scheduled on Thursday and Friday only.**

1.8 Groups

- All group entries are divided into Boys', Girls', and Mixed categories. All gender divisions have separate classes for small, medium, and large groups.

1.9 Dance Categories

- Festival entries are divided into ten separate dance categories. They are:
 - **Regional I** - Bukovyna
 - **Regional II** – Hutsul’shchyna
 - **Regional III** – Polissia
 - **Regional IV** – Poltava (Central Ukraine)
 - **Regional V** – Volyn’
 - **Regional VI** – Zakarpattia (Transcarpathian)
 - **Regional VII** – Eastern (e.g. South Ukraine, Slobozhanschyna, Kuban, etc.)
 - **Regional VIII**- Western (e.g.Lemko, Pokuttia, Boyky, Podilia, etc.)
 - **Character**
 - **Open I** – Pryvit, Hopak, Regional Suite
 - **Open II** – Ukrainian International (e.g. Gypsy, Hungarian, Polish, Russian, etc.)
 - **Open III**- Contemporary Ukrainian (Lyrical, Modern, Ukrainian inspired movements, etc.)
- Participants may only perform one time per age group in each of the above listed categories.

1.9.1 Regional

- The regional category is divided into seven regions in order to allow groups to perform multiple regional dances. Refer to the above list and note that any regional dance that does not belong to the first six regions can be placed in the category termed “Other.”

1.9.2 Character

- The character solo, duet, or group category must include entries that display character action, story-telling, use of props, singing, and/or character themes. This category exists to differentiate traditional regional performances from character-based ones. Each participant may enter once in each age group in the character category.

1.9.3 Open

- The open category no longer serves as a way for a group to perform two dances of the same region in one age category.
- The open category has been divided into two parts: One (I) – to accommodate dances such as Pryvit, Hopak, or others which do not fit into one region; and two (II) Ukrainian International – to recognize the fusion of Ukrainian dance with other forms of cultural dance (e.g. Gypsy).
- Open III is a new category to allow groups to add in Ukrainian inspired or Ukrainian fusion dances into the festival. This category is for dances that do not fall into any other category because of their unique steps and costumes. However we are a Ukrainian Festival, all dances must be identifiable as having Ukrainian influences.
- Note that the open category has a longer time limit than the regional group categories, and thus gives participants more flexibility with their entries.

1.10 Entry Classification

- A class designation is made up of a "Gender and Size" selection and a "Dance" selection. For example, Class R9.1 corresponds to "Boys' Small Group - Bukovyna Region". On the entry form provided, please check the appropriate boxes and calculate the dancers' average age. The information will be used to place the entry into the appropriate class. Use one Entry Form per dance routine (photocopy form as necessary).

- A PARTICIPANT MAY ONLY ENTER ONCE IN EACH AGE GROUP PER CLASS.
For instance, a participant may enter only once in “Age 10, Boys' Small Group - Bukovyna Region”. The participant may enter in other categories, for example “Age 10, Boys' Small Group - Hutsul'shchyna Region” or “Age 10, Mixed Small Group – Bukovyna Region”. The dance school may also submit additional entries, such as “Age 12, Boys' Small Group - Bukovyna Region”.

2 Festival Protocol

- The sound system for performances will be operated solely by the Festival Volunteers. Cassettes and compact discs are acceptable for use. Since CDs may skip or may not work with the current sound system please have a backup cassette ready for use.
- Indicate any special needs (e.g. fading) to the Music Technician in advance.
- CDs/iPods must be delivered to the Music Technician two adjudications prior to the performance by the instructor of the group.
- Rehearsals on stage will not be permitted. Practice may take place in the lobby rehearsal hall on a first-come, first-serve basis, with consideration for other participants and time-constraints. A sound system will be provided for usage in the rehearsal hall, for the convenience of all dancers and instructors. Please have a back-up plan for playing your music during rehearsals in the event that our stereo is damaged over the course of the festival.
- All participants must be ready to perform at least two adjudications prior to their scheduled time, at which point they will be escorted by the designated volunteer from the rehearsal hall to the stage.
- Talking backstage is not permitted. Violations of this rule may result in the disqualification of the participant(s).
- Parents and non-participants (with the exception of instructors) are not allowed backstage at any time during the festival.
- Prompting by anyone, including instructors, is not permitted.
- No one will be allowed to enter or leave the auditorium while participants are dancing or during adjudication.
- Due to fire regulations, parents and non-participants must be seated at all times while in the auditorium.
- The use of flash photography, video cameras, or any recording devices is strictly prohibited in the auditorium. Violators of this rule will be escorted out of the theatre. The participant(s) whose routine was recorded may be subject to disqualification.
- At no time is an audience member permitted to approach the stage with the intent of making contact with a participant.
- After participants have completed their routines, they must remain backstage or in the designated holding area, lined up and ready to be brought back on stage for adjudication.

3 Adjudication

3.1 Marking System

- Festival marking differs from competitive marking systems, in that there is no placement or ranking of participants in relation to one another. The entrants are adjudicated according to the adjudicator's standards for that age group. Although gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded to participants, there are no first, second, or third place standings.

3.2 Standardized Marking Rubric

- The Festival will provide the adjudicator with a marking rubric and general guidelines to follow. These guidelines will help maintain consistent marking throughout the Festival and from one year to the next, with criteria to ensure each performance receives a well-rounded critique.
- The rubric will be released to all participating schools along with the draft schedule.

3.3 Medal Distribution

- The Cheremosh Dance Festival has a standard marking system, wherein certain percentages correspond to a specific medal standing:
 - 90% + Gold Medal
 - 85 – 89% Silver Medal
 - 80 – 84% Bronze Medal

3.4 Adjudicator

- The adjudicator is given the same set of rules that is given to instructors/schools. The rules are discussed with the adjudicator in advance to ensure that the marking system is thoroughly understood.
- The adjudicator is advised to mark participants based on performance only. Factors such as music, costuming, and choreography will NOT be considered when marking participants (as they are not necessarily controlled by the participants).
However, the adjudicator will have an opportunity to comment regarding these details on the adjudication sheet for information purposes only.
- The adjudicator has the prerogative to determine the technical standard that will be consistently applied throughout the festival, as long as it is within the Festival's guidelines/scoring rubric.
- At no time will anyone be allowed to approach the adjudicator to discuss marks, results, or comments. All concerns should be directed to the Festival Coordinators.
- ALL DECISIONS OF THE ADJUDICATOR WILL BE FINAL.

4 Registration

4.1 Deadline for Entries

- The final deadline for entries and payments is **February 19, 2016**.

- Entries must be postmarked no later than February 19, 2016. All entries delivered or postmarked after this date will not be accepted.
- The final deadline will be strictly enforced this year, as late submissions delay the release of the schedule, which is unfair to other participants.



This year we are adding an additional late fee for those entries that come in past the deadline listed above. For every day late a \$10.00 fee will be added and must be paid prior to performing in the festival.

- Summary Sheets and Entries will only be accepted upon receipt via post or email. All email subject lines must read “Cheremosh Dance Festival 2016”. Please email entry form questions to festival@cheremosh.ca.
- **If your dancers/dance group have issues with certain times & dates, please include your requests with your entry. The Festival will do its best to address requests; however, the Festival is not obliged to accommodate all requests, as the schedule must maintain a degree of structure with respect to the categories. Requests regarding times & dates made after the draft schedule is released are not guaranteed.**

4.2 Program Corrections

- A draft copy of the program will be mailed to participating schools by March 11, 2016 (8 weeks prior to festival).
- **Program corrections will be accepted for 10 days only, until March 25, 2016.**

Check the program carefully to ensure:



- Correct spelling of participant/routine name
- Correct school/instructor(s) name
- Entry is in the correct class and age category
- All entries appear in the program

- **The final schedule will be released by April 1, 2016.**
- At the festival, ONE FINAL COPY of the program will be issued to each participating school.

4.3 Photo Release

- During the Festival photos of the dancers may be taken by a hired photographer. Due to Alberta’s Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA) the festival must inform all dancers, parents, and guardians that photos will be taken. Photos will be used by the Festival for PR purposes (future programs, posters, and/or on websites). No names will be published. If a parent/guardian does not want their child's photo taken, the Festival Coordinators must be informed in writing. If any additional information is required, please contact the coordinators by mail or at festival@cheremosh.ca.
- **By registering in the Festival, the participants listed on the entry form automatically give their consent to the use of photos for PR purposes. It is the responsibility for the dance school to inform all participants listed on the entry form.**

4.4 Mailing Address

- Please submit all Summary Sheets/Entry Forms and correspondence to:
Cheremosh Dance Festival

c/o Ukrainian Cheremosh Society
4005 – 115 Avenue NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5W 0V5

5 Disclaimer

- The Cheremosh Dance Festival, the Ukrainian Cheremosh Society, and the Arden Theatre for Performing Arts are not, and will not be held responsible for lost or stolen articles. A Lost & Found box will be in the Green Room.
- Dancers are responsible for checking all dressing rooms to ensure that they are left neat and tidy.
- The Cheremosh Dance Festival, the Ukrainian Cheremosh Society, and the Arden Theatre for Performing Arts are not liable for any injuries or illnesses that may occur at the Festival.
- In the event that the sound system provided in the rehearsal hall is damaged during the festival, instructors will be responsible for providing their own stereo.
- The Cheremosh Dance Festival will not be responsible for any additional charges incurred by students, instructors, or parents while attending the Festival.