

# Competition Etiquette

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\*\*\* THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN INSPIRED FROM OUR SENIOR COMPANY AS A REMINDER OF WHAT IS IMPORTANT OR WHAT YOU MAY NEED TO TAKE EXTRA TIME TO THINK ABOUT \*\*\*

PLEASE REVIEW THE DOCUMENT IN THE STUDIO LOGIN THAT IS TITLED  
"COMPETITION RULES" TO GO ALONG WITH THIS ADDITIONAL INFO!!!!

1. Remember other studios do things differently; this is our way and we aim to be respectful.
2. Be prepared! You can never be too prepared for competition!
3. If you have downtime, ask yourself if what you are doing is appropriate. Is there somewhere you should be or something you should be doing/not doing? (i.e. practice, awards, audience etc.)
4. If you have a lot of time in between numbers find an appropriate use of it. No goofing off! You don't need to be hanging out in the dressing rooms. We are not the only ones in there and even some of your teammates have quick changes.
5. Cheer on your teammates! Be respectful of everyone who is there to compete.
6. Wish other dancers good luck, tell them they did well! There are no negative attitudes at a dance competition. You **NEVER** say a bad word about anyone or anything – you never know who is listening!
7. Be kind and respectful to both your family and teammates. Remember to keep a calm head and think about how you speak to them. Your tone is everything! They come to support you and without them you wouldn't be here.
8. Keep dressing rooms NEAT and TIDY! Pick up after yourself. That means no trash is to be left behind! Be helpful and respectful to the facility and the people who work there. Remember we are in their home!
9. Be excited for each other regardless of the PLACEMENT AT AWARDS.
10. Don't send a search party to look for a missing person. Inform a teacher and the captain, they will be in charge of finding them or designating one person to find them.
11. We should never be searching for you. Pay attention to the schedule. Know what time to arrive and when your dances are supposed to perform. Be aware comps run early and behind... plan accordingly and stay in touch with your captains and teachers.
12. If you are leaving for a break, tell a friend.
13. Be thankful and gracious to everyone. This includes the one and only Miss Tina and staff, parents, family members, friends, and your teammates! Especially say thank you when receiving an award; you are on stage and everyone can see you.
14. Be responsible. Check, double check, and triple check that you have all your costumes, accessories, and shoes before going to the competition and before leaving the competition. Nothing should be left at the school, but in case there is, remember your name should be in everything so we can return it to its owner.

## CAPTAINS

1. Captains – be proactive! Get your group together to practice and review, and know if dancers have a quick change.
2. Captains are to check dances in with the backstage manager and keep the group out of the way until it's our turn to dance.
3. Captains, know who is picking up the awards for your dance. Remind them before heading on stage for awards.
4. CAPTAINS need to bring all extra costume pieces if there are any, and the teacher must be notified that you are giving them out to someone before you do so.

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## AWARDS

1. **NO** cellphones, **NO** food, **NO** gum, and **NO** water.
2. You should be dressed appropriately... Company Jacket & Black Leggings! Any dancers who do not have their jacket & leggings will sit in the audience for that award session.
3. Listen to awards. Know your number so you pick up the correct award.
4. When you pick up an award from a judge or worker, take a second to say thank you and smile.
5. If you are picking up an award, sit close so they are not waiting for you.
6. Stand up for every first overall! Clap and smile... the biggest one you got!
7. If you are receiving an overall, stand up there with a smile. Be professional and proud.
8. Be prepared to talk on the mic! Speak clearly and proudly.

## THE TMSOD MOMENT

Our TMSOD motto/respectful chant is to be memorized by every company member and competition team dancer. The captain will gather ALL of you to find time as a FULL group to say it together, in a focused (not rowdy) manner.

***The Captain says:*** <Name of the dance>...Before we perform today, we say together

***Everyone says:*** Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much. I love the dancer next to me, I love this dance and I love the feeling I get when we dance as a team. A successful team beats with one heart, now is our time, go Big for our Home..... 123 TMSOD BREAK!!

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## **FOR OUR DANCE PARENTS**

### ***1. Trust the program and practice patience***

Our goal is that when your dancer graduates, he or she knows how to be the best they can be, and that they are truly happy with their best. All of dancers do not begin with the same ability, and all dancers do not experience the same challenges.

### ***2. Let your dancer be the expert, you be their biggest fan***

Do not discuss any challenges your dancer experienced on stage. This will be a no-win situation for you. Instead, celebrate everything that was a success! Tell them to wait until they are back in the classroom with their teacher to discuss any problems.

### ***3. If it doesn't sound right, it probably isn't***

Your dancer will sometimes be upset about a dance situation or present you with something they "heard." Give yourself 24 hours before reacting and encourage your dancer to leave the situation and walk away from it for the time being. Kids tend to vent frustrations to their parents without sharing the solutions or all the details – don't become part of unnecessary chaos. There are two sides to every story. HOW they handle every situation is key!

### ***4. Encourage your dancer to develop a relationship with their teachers***

Let your dancer do his/her own communicating. Encourage them to share their happiness and frustrations with their teachers. The better the teachers know and understand your dancer, the better they can teach them. We take our relationships with our dancers very seriously and hope you will encourage them to share who they are with us, on their best days and their worst.

### ***5. Help your dancer learn the healthy way to compete***

Dancers do not directly compete against other dancers; they should be striving to top their OWN most recent performance. Life is not a solo; the accomplishment of any TMSOD dancer is an accomplishment for all. We want our dancers to be inspired by the excellence of others, not threatened by it! Our opinion of our accomplishments is how we measure our success. We do not measure it by the awards given by the judges. We encourage all families to boast about their team/dancer on social media – but remember, it's more important to share your pride in a beautiful performance than to share a placement or adjudication score.

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**PLEASE SIGN BELOW AND TURN IN BY SATURDAY, April 11th**

(email to [info@tmsod.com](mailto:info@tmsod.com) or drop in the studio drop box)

Dancer(s) Name(s):

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Parent Signature:

Student(s) Signature: