

Encore's Precautionary Competition Policies for 2020 National Finals, June 29- July 2

Encore's first priority is to provide a safe and healthy environment for all Dancers and Attendees at Encore Events during these unprecedented times. Collectively, we have the ability to experience a wonderful National Finals Event and a chance for your dancers to shine on the Encore Stage.

Encore's Implemented Policies for 2020 National Finals, June 29-July 2:

- **ENCORE TEAM:** The Encore Staff will be required to wear face masks as all times, and have their temperature screened daily. Encore team will be trained on all cleaning etiquette.
- **MASKS:** Masks will be required for all Attendees and Dancers while in the Galveston Convention Center. Masks will not be provided
- **CROWD RESTRICTIONS and STAGGERED PERFORMANCE BLOCKS:** Schedule will be done in blocks to adhere to the CDC Guidelines regarding size of group gatherings June 29 – July 2. We will limit the number of people allowed in the space per CDC Guidelines at the time.
- **VENUE CLEANING:** Additional custodial staff will be hired for frequent cleaning throughout the event. Deep cleaning and sanitization procedures, including foggers will be implemented.
- **THEATER and AUDIENCE:** We may limit audience size. One way in/one way out. Doors will be propped open to minimize the touching of handles and surfaces. Audience potentially sectioned by studio, will include space to allow for social distancing. All attendees and participants will be monitored continuously throughout the event. Any individuals on-site that display cold or flu-like symptoms will be asked to leave the Event.
- **PERFORMANCE STAGE and BACKSTAGE:** Protocols will be followed as outlined by the CDC & State of Texas "to-date" Guidelines. Social distancing will be maintained between studio groups backstage. Only Active performers in the routine should be backstage with one adult teacher. No other individuals permitted. Hand sanitizer must be applied to enter backstage area. Performance Stage is a "safe space" for dancers in terms of choreography, social distancing, and mask requirements. Dancers are required to wear masks at all times, except during performance.
- **PROPS:** Prop handlers are permitted backstage and must wear a face mask at all times. Props must be handled solely by the studio handlers. No Encore staff will be permitted to assist. Props cannot be stored backstage.
- **MUSIC:** Music must be uploaded online prior to competition. CD's, iPads, phones, tablets or computers, etc. will not be accepted. Please check all your music and edits before attending competition.
- **SOCIAL CONTACT:** Dancers are encouraged to refrain from celebratory hugging, the use of a high five, etc.
- **DRESSING SPACE:** Dressing space will be assigned by studio with appropriate social distancing. We may limit the number of parents permitted inside the dressing room.
- **COSTUMES:** Option to perform in dancewear instead of costumes to eliminate wardrobe changes. If a dancer chooses to perform "in costume," please have them wear their first costume to the venue. Encore judges will not deduct points for dancers performing in dancewear.
- **AWARDS:** Dancers will not be seated on stage, or asked to take the stage during the Awards Presentation. Physical awards will be distributed in bulk to Studio Directors only.
- **MASTER CLASSES:** Reservation Required. The number of dancers in Master Classes will be limited to maintain Social Distancing.
- **NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED BY ENCORE FOR ANY ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE EVENT...**To limit hand to hand contact.

Potential Policies that may be implemented (including but not limited to):

- Questionnaire "completed and signed" regarding each individual's current health status, and recent travel history.
- Contact-less temperatures taken at the door
- Live-Streaming based on capabilities
- VIP Section for Attendees related to dancers currently on stage

You may not attend if:

- You have compromised immunity or underlying health issues.
- You are feeling ill in any capacity.
- Individuals aged 65 and over are encouraged to stay at home as much as possible.

Remember, cleaning your hands thoroughly and often is key. Please practice all protocols set in place by the CDC and the World Health Organization. We appreciate you and admire your dedication to your dance families and the dance community, and look forward to seeing you in Galveston!

All attendees and Legal Guardians of participants will be required to sign an Event Release Form prior to attending and event hosted/sponsored/produced by Encore Performing Arts Showcase, Inc.

*Please note: Precautionary Competition Policies are subject to change as CDC Guidelines are revised.

As of June 20, 2020. Subject to change

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