

2024-25 Sheer Rules & Regulations

Before the Event: Studio Profile

- Please log into your studio profile or if you have not yet and create a studio profile by clicking on [REGISTRATION US/PANAMA](#) to access competition and convention fees.
- *Scores will be published online in your Sheer Registration account.
- All music must be uploaded online in your studio profile and assigned to the competition entry **no later than 14 days** prior to the event date. Please provide back-up music at the event on flash drive, clearly labeled and of professional quality
 - o Teachers must use judgment when selecting music and its lyrical contents. Vulgar, derogatory or sexually suggestive words and inappropriate dance moves are cause for disqualification or deduction at the discretion of the judges.
- Upon release of an event program, all participating teachers will be able to access the line up in their studio profile a week prior to the event. Teachers are responsible for confirming its accuracy prior to the event.
- A copy of the schedule will be emailed two weeks before the event, please send any corrections or changes you may have as soon as possible but no later than a week before.
 - All revisions or changes will be made at the discretion of the Sheer Elite staff.

Unconfirmed line ups are interpreted as correct and will perform as is. Studios should keep copies of all registration paperwork for reference. It is the responsibility of each studio to review its billing statements for accuracy

Registration

- All Sheer Elite International competition entries and convention participants including full payment must be submitted using the online registration 30 days prior to event. Competition and convention entries must be inclusive at the time of submission.
 - o Registration will not be processed without valid payment. Entries received after 30 days will be assessed a late fee of 10% on all balances and risk not being listed in the program.
- Please ensure accuracy of age and spelling of names and music. TBA is not allowed to be entered for dance styles, participants and/or competition entries.
- * students with makeup or costume changes that require additional time to prepare between competition entries must email emma@sheerelite.com before the registration is completed. Once the program has been issued seven (7) days before competition date no changes will be allowed.
- Dancers may compete in more than one regional city, but a competition entry receiving a first place may not compete again in a regional event during the same season.
- Dancers can only compete with one studio for the same competition season and not as independent if already competed with a studio at a prior competition.

Payments & Fees

- All competition and convention fees are non-refundable. Any credits due will be solely issued by Sheer Elite International
- Payment must be made using the online registration. Sheer Elite International reserves the right to approve all payment arrangements. All billing issues must be resolved prior to the competition.
- o We accept Visa, MC, Discover and American Express. A \$50.00 fee will be applied towards returned checks due to insufficient funds, plus any other applicable bank fees.

Sheer Divisions & Time Limits

Small Wonders	8 & under
Junior	9-10
Pre-teen	11-12
Teen	13-15
Senior	16-19
Adult	20+

Solo (1)	1:00 – 2:45
Duo (2)	1:00 – 2:45
Trio (3)	1:00 – 2:45
Group (4-9)	1:00 – 3:00
Large Group (10-19)	1:00 – 4:00
Production (15+)	1:00 – 8:00
Line (20+)	1:00 – 4:00

- The age is determined as of January 1, 2025.
- The system will automate the average ages in the registration system.
 - o It adds all the ages together and divides by the number of dancers in the entry, drops the decimal to get competition age for the entry
- The age of student(s) at a Tour Event will remain the same at the National Event.
- All entries including solo, duet, trio, group and production entries with the same average age can only compete in the same age group; if the dance style is different for each entry.
- Groups and Productions with the same age average cannot compete in more than one age division and must remain in the same age division.
 - o For any competition taking place between October 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025, the age will still be as of January 1, 2025
- All entries including solo, duet, trio, group, line and production entries with the same average age/same group of dancers can only compete in the same age group, if the dance style is different for each entry
- The same participant (if in the advanced 'Elite' level) may compete with a maximum of 4 solos at one competition as long as each competition entry is a different dance style.

Levels (US events only)

Please read descriptions of levels before entering routines. At the discretion of the Sheer Judges, they may move entries to whatever level they see fit. This decision is final.

- Duo, Trio and Group entries will be placed in the level that the majority of the dancers are registered in. If an entry includes all three levels of dancers, it will be placed in the Compete level, unless there is a majority number of Elite level dancers.
- Any dancer who registers for more than their allowed number of solos/and or entries will be automatically placed in the higher level.
- Each level will receive its own Overall Group/Large Group/Line/Production and Overall Solo/Duo/Trio

Novice

This level is for students who are beginning to understand the concepts of dance. The students demonstrate beginner level skills and musicality. Dancers in novice level may attempt basic acrobatic skills such as forward/backwards roll, backbends to kickover, cartwheels & roundoffs. Dancers may not attempt walkovers or flips without hands. Novice level is for dancers who are new to competing or dance. Novice level participants may only have one solo and be in no more than 5 entries. No dances in the pointe category are allowed in this level.

Compete

Dancers in compete are dancing at an intermediate level. They may attempt front/back walkovers, dive rolls, aerials. Dancers in compete level may not attempt more than 3 successful fouetté's and a la seconde turns. Some skills may be mastered but routines will have some inconsistencies. Compete level dancers may not be in more than 10 entries or 2 solos.

Elite

Elite is for dancers who are dancing at an advanced level. Dancers exhibit exceptional technical skill, artistry, and stage presence. Tumbling and acrobatics are difficult and clean along with any other style.

ProAm

This division is for any entry that includes a studio director, teacher or pre-professional dancer, as well as salaried employees to participate in competition. But they are not eligible for cash awards or High Score of the competition. Winners will be awarded a trophy. Any entry involving a teacher, studio owner, or pre-professional dancer **must be** registered in the Pro-Am division.

Competition:

- Any entry that does not compete within 10 acts of their scheduled performance will not be eligible for Overalls
- Any choreography, music, costumes, themes etc. that are deemed inappropriate by the judges will result in 'adjudicated only'.
- A soloist may only place once in overalls with their highest scoring solo.
- Any decision or score made by the judges are final.
- All performance music flash drives, certificates and awards must be picked up at the event. Any uncollected materials will not be returned

Dance Categories

Acrobatic	More than 3 gymnastics tricks. 2 or less gymnastic tricks are not considered acrobatics
Ballet	Ballet technique, including classical steps and movement
Character	Incorporate national or folk dance such as Mazurka, Polka, Schottische, etc. Easily recognizable portrayal of a character
Contemporary	Blend of modern and ballet technique, reaching beyond the standard jazz vocabulary
Traditional	Deriving from another culture: Hawaiian, Filipino, East Indian, etc.
Flamenco	Spanish dance with castanets, etc.
Hip Hop	Street, funk, and/or MTV video style jazz technique. Classic hip hop technique and/or styles featured in current videos
Jazz	Technique utilizing up-tempo music
Line Precision	Precise movement changes with line formations and high kicks
Lyrical	Blend of jazz and ballet technique, emphasizing on strength, control, and interpretation
Modern	Blend of modern techniques
Musical Theater	Broadway or movie musical theatre dance styles
Pom Pom	High energy dance or gymnastic, incorporating pom poms
Pointe	Ballet technique with pointe shoes, including classical steps and movements
Tap	Tap technique with tap shoes only. Tap sounds not allowed pre-recorded
Open	Any entry that does not fit into one of the above categories or is a mix of multiple categories
Vocal	Use of microphone for vocal entries
Cheer	Combination of Pom Pom, Acro, and Hip Hop
Song & Dance	Entry that includes both vocal and dance performance simultaneously

Scoring

Diamond	294-300
Emerald	290-293.9
Titanium	286-289.9
Platinum	282-285.9
Gold	276-281.9

Props

- All props must be set and taken off stage by the studio, not by Sheer Elite International staff, within 1 minute maximum or a 3-point deduction will be applied.
- Please clean up after removal of props
- No dangerous props will be allowed
 - o fire, knives, swords, sparklers, weapons, powder, water, confetti, paint, fake blood, glitter, sand, etc.
- Props may not be taller than 10 feet
- Live animals and human props are not allowed.
- Nothing can be launched from a projectile mechanism
- If the flooring, wings or backdrops are damaged due to props, the studio owner is responsible for the cost of replacement
- The stage manager is in charge of the backstage and controls where props can be, when they are allowed back, etc.

Admission

- Admission is free to view the competition at U.S. events. Sportsmanlike behavior is expected at all times.
- No loud noisemaking devices are allowed in the audience (cowbells, airhorns, etc.)
- We appreciate everyone following theatre etiquette.
- No one is allowed to approach the judges table during competition

Uncompleted Acts

- Acts that voluntarily exit the stage before the completion of their entry are subject to point deductions and are not eligible for overall awards
- An act that re-performs may only be rescored if the original performance was affected by a technical error committed on Sheer Elite's behalf.

Personal Injury & Property Loss

- Sheer Elite International staff, Sheer Elite International faculty and venue housing facility are not responsible for personal injury or property loss.

Live Stream

- Sheer Elite events will be live streamed whenever possible.
- Due to variable conditions between show locations, we can not guarantee the availability, reliability, or quality of the stream at any location.

Photo & Video

- For the safety of the dancers, photography and videotaping during performances is not allowed.
 - o After a warning is given, the dance or studio will be disqualified.
 - o During award ceremonies photo and video is allowed
 - o Teachers only are permitted to film during convention classes
- All pictures and video taken by Sheer Elite International Staff and Sheer Elite International Professional photographers and videographers at all Sheer Elite International 2024/25 Tour and 2025 National Events, including competitions and convention; will be the property of Sheer Elite International LLC
 - o Therefore allowed for unlimited usage for all Sheer Elite International collaterals: including all but not limited to ads, back drops, banners, displays, e-mail blasts, fliers, media, prints, podcasts, program books, social media, videos and website; for all Sheer Elite International promotional purposes.
- All-inclusive media packages are available at each regional and national event for purchase.

Title Competition

- Please see all rules and regulations for Regional and National title competitions [HERE](#)

National Eligibility

- Scores of Gold and above are eligible to participate at a Sheer Elite International National event.

Convention:

Small Wonders	8 & Under	Red
Junior/Pre-teen	9-12	Yellow
Teen/Senior	13-19	Green
Teachers	20+	Grey

- Convention classes are optional but highly recommended
- Only dancers who participate in convention will be eligible for scholarships awarded and other recognitions
- Participants will not be permitted in convention without the necessary wristband
- Convention dancers taking a higher level age group are eligible for some certificates, but higher age level dancers can not receive certificates in a lower age level room
- A copy of the convention scholarship certificate must be included at the time of registration
- Scanned convention certificates will be accepted by email to sheerelite@gmail.com
- All scholarships are valid for 2025 Nationals and 2024/25 Tour Events only, non-transferable to other students and may not be exchanged for cash.
- The total discount of scholarship(s) can not be greater than the total entry fee, therefore the total discount for scholarship(s) will only be applied equal or less towards the total entry fee

Regional Awards/Scholarships

- Competition Voucher
 - Groups, large groups, lines, and productions in each age division will receive one (1) medal for the entry and pins to all participants for adjudicated awards. Top five (5) groups, large groups, and lines in each age division; and for productions, age 12 and under and age 13 and over; will receive trophies for high scores awards. The overall highest score for groups, large groups, and line in each age division; and for productions, age 12 and under and age 13 and over; will receive a competition voucher valid for 2025 national event or a 2025/2026 Tour event. (For every category that has more than three (3) entries).
- Sheer Excellence
 - Convention awards selected by all faculty from all convention classes will be awarded to recipients at the convention scholarship presentation. The full convention scholarship value can be applied to a 2025 National Event or 2025/26 Tour event.
- Sheer Choreographer
 - Choreography awards selected by judges will be awarded to the choreographer at the final awards. The \$100.00 value can be applied to a 2026 National Event. If more than one competition credit is applied, 10 competition entries must be registered for each \$100.00 competition credit applied.
- Sheer Style
 - The highest scoring competition entry per dance style (for every style that has 3 or more entries) will be awarded to the winning studio owner at the final awards. The \$100.00 value can be applied to a 2026 National Event. If more than one competition credit is applied, 10 competition entries must be registered for each \$100.00 competition credit applied.
- Vickie Sheer
 - One recipient in each age category and one male recipient is chosen and awarded the Vickie Sheer Award in recognition for excellence in achievements above and beyond expectations both in competition and convention. The \$50.00 value can be applied to a 2025 National Event.
- Overall Awards
 - Top one (1) of all solos, duets and trios combined as well as one (1) of all groups, lines, and productions combined will each receive a trophy and a competition voucher, valued at \$200.00 for the overall highest score for each level. Valid for a 2026 National Event or a 2025/26 Tour event.

Nationals

- Preliminary Competition
 - A Preliminary Competition will be held for those who were not able to attend a Sheer Elite International 2025 Tour Event. Any entry requiring qualification must be registered by June 1, 2026. Any entry attending Nationals that did not attend a regional event, must participate in Preliminary Competition.
- Preliminary Fees
 - The 2025 National Fee Schedule for Finals is also applicable to all Preliminary entries. Anyone entering the Preliminary Competition also has to enter the Final Competition. The fee will be doubled, preliminary fee plus final fee for each entry.
- Title Competition
 - The Sheer Elite International title competition is exclusively for solos, at all age levels of competition: Small Wonders, Junior, Pre-Teen, Teen and Senior. Any Regional Title participant who scores in the Top 10 Regional Title Winners and any soloist who earned a Titanium, Emerald, and Diamond will be eligible to participate in the national title competition.
- Judges Choice Competition
 - Select entries will be chosen from the National Finals competition to re-compete to win the coveted "Judges Choice" Award. The participation fee for this event is \$20 per entry. Selected Entries will be announced at the completion of the National Finals Competition. Judges Choice competition winners will be announced after the last entry performs and will be asked to perform at the Awards Gala.
- Live Judging
 - Select soloists will be chosen to participate in our Live Judging Competition. These dancers will be interviewed on stage prior to their performance and receive their critiques directly following their performance from a panel of 3 judges. "Judges Choice" Award winners will be chosen from this event. The participation fee for this event is \$25 per soloist. Selected soloists will be posted the morning after the completion of the National Finals Competition. Live Judging competition winners will be announced after the last entry performs and will be asked to perform at the Awards Gala.
- Improv Contest
 - Dancers can sign up to participate in our improv contest. They will go through various rounds of cuts down to the final dancer who will win a prize. The fee for this event is \$5 per dancer. The sign up sheet will be posted the morning of the Improv Contest. Only the first 50 dancers to sign up can participate.
- Convention
 - Convention is optional for all competition dancers at Nationals, but strongly encouraged. *Title Contestants are required to attend all convention classes.
- Special Event Fees
 - The fees collected from the Judges Choice Competition, Live Judging, and Improv Contest are donated to an organization of Sheer Elite's choice.
- Awards Gala
 - The closing night awards banquet will feature an opening number performance by Title Contestants and some extra performances. All overall awards will be announced and presented on stage.