

Dear Team,

Thank you for your interest in the 2025 “Battle of the Best” Spring Fling, directed by iAM Dance Center in Lancaster, SC! Our goal and overall mission is to change the lives of the youth by serving as positive pioneers in our community. We are excited to have you participate in our mid-season competition fundraiser! This competition is geared towards all teams in the south/east states. In efforts to stay most compliant with the covid-19 regulations, we have decided to required mask at entry.

Event Date: Saturday, April 12, 2025

Address: Barr Street High School | 612 E. Meeting St., Lancaster, SC 29720

Times to Remember:

Team Check-in Starts at: 9:00am **Floor time starts at:** time of check-in **Coach meeting:** 11:30am
(Your 10-minute floor time begins immediately after you check-in. Your team will be escorted to their dressing areas following floor time.)

Doors open at: 11:30am

Event Starts at Approximately: 12:00pm

Categories:

Walk Thru – (4 min. max)

Open Category – (7 min. max, there’s no minimum)

8 Count Battle Stands – (n/a)

Combined Stands – (2 min. max)

Fees:

Team Registration: \$150.00 | deadline March 15th

Payments & Refund Policy

Payments will be processed via the online portal and is due with completed registration packets by **March 1, 2025 (or until spots are filled)**. 3 staff members will be admitted at **no charge**. All additional support members or staff should purchase a ticket, in advance or at the door to go backstage.

REGISTRATION FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE unless the competition is canceled.

Advanced Spectator Tickets: \$25.00 | **Door Tickets:** \$35.00 | **Kids 5 & under:** free
(Only 3 Staff Free) (There will be only 150 advanced tickets available for pre-sell)

Awards:

1st Place Trophy & Cash Prize for each category

2nd & 3rd Place Trophy for each category (there will be no 3rd place award for Stands & 8Ct Battle)

GENERAL RULES

Dance Team Rules & Regulations

REGISTRATION

All interested teams should register Online at <http://www.iamdancecenter.com/events2> (choose the event for April 12, 2025). We will be accepting 6-8 teams. Registration form, rosters, liability consents (Online) and media releases all must be signed and submitted to complete registration.

- Participating teams must register by March 1st at \$150.00 per team.
- There will be no refunds for registration fees. Full refunds will be sent out in the event of cancellation of the competition.
- Each team must provide the total number of participating dancers for dressing room assignments. Any dancer(s) added after registration will cost an additional \$10 per dancer.

TEAM WAIVERS

Team waivers can be found online during registration. **Each head coach will be required to sign a master copy during check-in on the day of the event.**

ADMISSION

Advanced ticket prices: \$25 in advance; Tickets will be \$35.00 at the door; \$10 for youth ages 6-10; 5 & under FREE AT THE DOOR ONLY. (Cannot purchase youth tickets online)

- **All advanced tickets must be purchased Online** at <http://www.iamdancecenter.com/events2>

CATEGORIES

WALK-THRU (Combined)

This is your first impression to the judges, the audience and your fan base ... make it count! Be creative and have fun. Do not use any props or items that may need to be removed from the floor *unless* a team representative will have these items up before/soon after the team completes their stroll.

- Each team will have four (4) minutes (max) for walk-through.
- Use *mainly* the perimeter only. You can use the center floor for a limited time. Center floor choreography **must not exceed 1 minute.**
- The walk-thru segment will be continuous. Meaning, the next team's music will play and so forth until all teams have completed this category. There will be no pause in the show.

OPEN CATEGORY (Combined)

Each team will present a **seven-minute (max) (includes setup)** performance using *any* theme & ANY category you choose. The use of props is permitted in the exception of glitter, powder, fog, smoke or anything that could damage and make cleaning difficult to the gym floor. Be creative and choose your own dance style.

- Get creative & make a statement using any of the following categories:
 - Creative, Field Show, Pom, Trio, Liturgical, Etc. (Be creative)
 - *You cannot use walkthrough or stand battle as a category.*
- If props are used; the set-up of props must not exceed your allotted time frame for the entire category. Failure to abide will result in a 5-point deduction from full score.
 - Set up of props, completion of routine & removal of props **must be done within** the 7-minute time frame allotted for team's performance. Going over time will result in 5-point deduction, from full score.

BATTLES (Combined) & BATTLE OF THE BEST 8 COUNT

Teams will go head-to-head in a bracket style stand battle (final brackets will distribute at coach's meeting on the day of). See time limits for each division below.

- Time begins when the captain makes his/her first move, callout, clean, etc.
- Song selection for stands will be sent approximately one month prior to competition.
- Paddle style elimination will be used for rounds 1 & 2. The winner from the final round will be announced during the award ceremony.

Battle of the Best: 8 Count Battle "COUNT FOR COUNT"

Explanation of this Battle –

2 Teams will face each other (unless there's a 3-way)

- 1 Song will play per round
- Team 1 will throw ONE 8-count
- Team 2 will respond with ONE 8-count
- Team 1 will throw their last 8-count for the round
- Team 2 will respond with their last 8-count for the round
- **Judge's will eliminate a team and move on to the next round**

(be creative | row by row, 2 by 2, altogether, sit downs, etc.)

>(Prepare 8-8cts counts for this entire section, in case you move forward)

>There will be no "specific" tempo per round. It will be random.

Playlist:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKpfsJUEE6S4kGbER8mFOR4DW4wdfdNLG&si=Ltnb2Hv0l0CcqJGI>

Combined Stand Battle: 2 min.

Round 1: 1 Fast, 1 Slow

Round 2: 1 Medium

Round 3: 1 Fast

Playlist:

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKpfsJUEE6S5OHsNYXafezChdb9AJYxfw&si=DLvBCmd5_rNXpeDD

MORE INFORMATION

HOST

Your team will be assigned a “Host” to guide and direct you throughout the day. You will meet your “Host” at check-in. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask him/her.

- **Please let your parents and spectators know that they can only enter when doors open at 11:30am. We will not allow spectators, elderly, etc. to sit on the inside of the facility, at all, until the event starts.**

TEAM ROSTER

- Please complete the team roster and return with or after you send your registration packet. The team roster form **MUST** be completed in full, signed and dated by the Head Coach. Only the names listed on the team's roster will be permitted in the team areas beyond the gymnasium. Also, be sure to include any parents, staff, make-up artist, hair, etc. on the roster if they need to be able to go backstage. No parents, additional coaches, additional team members, etc. will be granted entrance backstage if their name is not on the roster. Also, please remember to purchase entry tickets for the additional staff (beyond the 3 free).

FOOD/DRINKS

Water will be provided for teams. **No outside food is to be brought in.** No food is to be eaten in the dressing rooms.

DRESSING ROOMS

Each team must adhere to paying a \$25.00 dressing room fee during check-in.

Each team is responsible for cleaning up their dressing room space, prior to departure. If your team's dressing room/area is not returned to its' original state; the fee will be charged, resulting in the team not receiving the \$25.00 refund.

TEAM PARTICIPANTS

The minimum number of participants a team can have is three (3), in all categories. There is no maximum. Dancers must be between the ages of 3 and 18 to participate.

PROPS

The use of props is permitted.

MUSIC

All music must be submitted via email to cs@iamdancecenter.com prior to event date!

Music must be clean with no use of profanity. Foul music or demeaning song choices are grounds for disqualification of the participating round.

TIME DEDUCTIONS

Rules for all categories: **do not** exceed the allotted time limits. Doing so will result in **disqualification** for that category. For example, if your team is still moving after 2m in the **stand battle category**, you will be disqualified. If your team is still **dancing** after 4 minutes in the walk-through category, you will be disqualified (you must be off the floor and exiting at 4 minutes for this category). **If your performance ends on the floor, please advise the hosting director during the coaches meeting.**

- ❖ **Exception:** In the open category, we will allow teams to enter & exit the set up/breakdown process simultaneously with no penalty.
- ❖ If you miss your que (in any category), your team automatically forfeits that category. There will be no waiting for teams to present themselves. Your team will be called twice, and we will continue the show if your team is not in place.

SPORTSMANSHIP

All participants agree to conduct themselves in a manner displaying good sportsmanship throughout the competition. They should have a positive presentation upon entry and exit from the performance area as well as throughout the routine. The **directors & coaches** of each team is responsible for seeing that the team members, **coaches, parents** and other person's affiliated with the team conduct themselves accordingly. Severe cases of unsportsmanlike conduct are grounds for disqualification and/or ejection from the premises (even during & after the award ceremony).

CHOREOGRAPHY AND COSTUMING

- Suggestive, offensive, or vulgar choreography and/or music is inappropriate for family audiences and therefore lacks audience appeal.
- Routine choreography should be appropriate and entertaining for all audience members. Vulgar and suggestive material is defined as any movement or choreography implying something improper or indecent, appearing offensive or sexual in content, and/or relaying lewd or profane gestures or implications.
- Inappropriate choreography, costuming and/or music may affect the judges' overall impression and/or score of the routine.
- All costume malfunctions resulting in team members being exposed will result in point deductions. Improper undergarments will result in a point deduction.
- Shoes with heels or wheels are not allowed. Wearing only socks or footed tights is also prohibited. **There will be a 5-point deduction for not adhering to this rule.**
- It is suggested that any excessively short shorts have tights underneath. The exposure of personal areas (cleavage and buttocks) are strictly prohibited. Crop tops are allowed if under breast is not visible.

JUDGING CRITERIA

CRITERIA		SCORE	Notes
ORIGINALITY/CREATIVITY Have I encountered this choreography before? Is this original content? Was it eye catching & captivating?		/25	
ENTERTAINMENT VALUE Does the performance drag on? Is it interesting or boring? Can I take my eyes off of this performance? Was there showmanship, high energy, facial expressions, and personality?	+	/25	
AUDIENCE APPEAL Did the performance generate a positive response? Was the music selection fitting? Does the team have stage presence?	+	/10	
SKILL LEVEL Did the team practice sufficiently? Did the team work as a unit? Did the team display great use of technical abilities? Were there difficult moments during choreography? Were they executed well?	+	/20	
AESTHETIC APPEAL Was the Hair, make-up & uniforms well thought out or appealing? Props are not required, but were there any used?	+	/10	
OVERALL IMPRESSION	+	/10	
TOTAL SCORE	=	/100	

Notes for the team: _____
