



A VARSITY SPIRIT BRAND

USA Dance Nationals March 25-26, 2022

Event Information

At Varsity Spirit, the health and safety of our athletes/performers, coaches, employees, families and friends is our top priority.

An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending this event, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19. Please keep each other safe and healthy by following the guidance provided.

Please note the following guidelines will be in place for all athletes, coaches and spectators.

- Only unvaccinated persons are required to mask in all indoor public settings. Fully vaccinated individuals are recommended to continue indoor masking when the risk may be high.
- Any athlete, coach or spectator with any symptoms (Fever of 100°F or higher, cough, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea) may not enter.
- The USA reserves the right and may penalize teams for any spectators and or performers that do not comply with the mask requirement.

2022 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS – DANCE NATIONALS

Friday, March 25th

8:00 AM – 10:30 PM – Anaheim Convention Center – Hall D

Refer to performance schedules for specific divisions and times.

Saturday, March 26th

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Anaheim Convention Center – Hall D

Refer to performance schedules for specific divisions and times.

6:30 PM – 11:00 PM – Anaheim Convention Center – Hall D

Finals

Times listed above are tentative and subject to change. The number of teams taken to Finals are determined pending the final number of performances in each division at Prelims.

REGISTRATION & ADMISSION

COMPETITION REGISTRATION

- **Coaches/Professional Membership Check-In** -- All Advisors/Coaches will first need to check in at the USA Information Booth outside of Hall D to present a photo I.D. and proof of USA Cheer/Dance/Professional Membership to receive the warm up/backstage event wristband.
- USA competition registration will be inside the Hall D Lobby at the Anaheim Convention Center. Enter through the far left glass doors Hall D Entrance. Registration will be available *between* 9:00 AM and 8:00 PM on Thursday, March 24. Registration will be open on Friday, March 25th from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM and Saturday, March 26th from 6:00 AM to 12:00 PM.
- Only two directors/coaches per team will be allowed at the check-in location and physical distancing protocols will be enforced. **Directors/Coaches entering the Hall D Lobby for registration must have already picked up their coach wristband.** At registration you will receive your team packet which includes participant wristbands, Disneyland® Resort tickets (if applicable) and updated event information. You will also pick up your participation backpacks, so please come prepared. One person will sign a form verifying the entire registration packet has been received.
- Music guidelines are being followed at all USA and Varsity Brands events. Competition music must be properly licensed and a team must provide proof of licensing at team registration. If a team cannot provide proof of licensing immediately upon request, the team may be disqualified from the event. For further details visit www.varsity.com/music.

SPECTATORS

This event will follow our Option B plan for Events. This is "In-Person with Limited Spectators"

- Spectator viewing limited to team performance time only.
- Spectators are limited to family/friends from the school performing only. Sister teams from the same school (i.e. JV watching Varsity, Varsity watching freshman) are permitted.
- Spectators will have a designated entry and exit door for traffic flow. Spectators will not be allowed to enter the building more than 10 minutes prior to their team's performance. USA staff will inform spectator groups when it is time for them to enter the building for their team's performance. Spectators will move from zone to zone with physical distancing protocols in place.
- The viewing area will be done on a rotation basis with physical distancing protocols in place.
- All spectators will need to leave the facility after each team performance to limit the number of people allowed in the facility.
- Direction signage and/or personnel will guide spectators and athletes throughout the venue.
- Congregating in the common areas of the venue is not allowed.
- Live awards ceremonies will take place in Hall D for athletes/coaches/advisors only, with proper wristbands required to enter this venue. Spectators will not be permitted in the venue during awards ceremonies. Awards will be streamed on the BAND app for spectators to view in real time.

ADMISSION

- Spectators – **No cash admission purchases will take place on-site during the event.** **Online admission sales will open the week of the event.** Admission **must be** pre-purchased for spectators by going to the following website – [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) General Admission tickets are \$15.00 (6+ years) per day, 5 and under are free. Weekend (2day) Wristbands are \$30.00 (6+ years) per person.

- **All electronically pre-purchased admissions through Eventbrite must be exchanged for a spectator wristband prior to entering the building.** Upon arrival, spectators must proceed to the general admission window at Box Office C/D and show proof of purchase. You will receive a wristband which will allow you to enter the event at your designated time. Pre-purchased admission cannot be used without receiving a wristband first. We highly recommend pre-purchasing your admission to the event, as purchase on-site by cash is not available and electronic purchase the day of may not be available and/or may delay your entry.
- **Spectators** - After receiving your general admission wristband at Box Office C/D, all spectators must line up on the walkway in front of Hall D at their spectator report time and enter through the Hall D doors, “Red Entrance”, to view the dance competition in Hall D at the Convention Center. Spectators will not be permitted in the “official/scheduled” or “open” Warm-Up/Practice areas at any time.
- Spectator admission wristbands will be required in all competition venues.
- **Performers** - Wrist/ankle bands for performers must be worn at all times. Admission will not be allowed without a wristband.
- Box Office C/D will be open on Thursday, March 24th from 12:00 Noon – 4:00 PM for spectators to show proof of purchase and exchange for their general admission wristband.
- Box Office C/D windows for spectators will open at 6:45 AM on Friday and Saturday. Check the final performance schedule for spectator report times.
- The USA reserves the right to refuse admission to any spectator.

PERFORMANCE AREAS & JUDGING

PERFORMANCE AREA

Performers and Coaches Entrance - Performers and Coaches will enter through the “Yellow Entrance” of Hall D to get to the official warm up area. As a reminder, only performers/coaches/personnel with proper credentials (wristband and/or shoe tag) are permitted in the warm-up area.

Friday and Saturday

Anaheim Convention Center – Hall D Performance Venue

All team performances will take place on a basketball size parquet dance floor measuring at least 50’ (front to back) by 94’ (side to side). The floor will be marked with typical basketball court markings.

JUDGING

No preliminary scores will carry over to finals. For all preliminary team divisions, Super Dancer prelims & finals, and Solo Champion prelims & semi-finals there will be 3 judges on a panel, who will provide feedback, rankings, and scores. The 3 scores will be averaged and any penalties will be subtracted to determine the final score. At Finals competition on Saturday, a panel of 5 judges will decide rankings and scores. The 5 scores will be averaged and any penalties will be subtracted to determine the score for final placement.

SCORE SHEETS AND RECAPS

At the conclusion of each awards ceremony on Friday and Saturday, all teams can pick-up their “score sheet packets”, including: score sheets and also recaps from each division in which they competed. These packets will be available at team registration, following the announcement of finalists/awards for that division and will be available for no longer than 20 minutes after the conclusion of the final awards ceremony for that day. Score sheet packets will be given only to the person designated to receive them and that person must sign for them. **Photo identification must be presented in order to pick up scoresheets.**

At USA Nationals, teams will receive audio feedback from judges after their performance. This audio feedback will be distributed to coaches electronically, using the e-mail address of the school contact for USA Dance Nationals. Further information will be sent about this process by Monday, March 21st. **We will not accept USB drives for audio at Nationals.**

SCHEDULES

Friday, March 25th

Anaheim Convention Center – Hall D

Three-four divisions will alternate performance times.

Saturday, March 26th

Anaheim Convention Center – Hall D

Three divisions will alternate performance times.

Anaheim Convention Center – Hall D (Finals)

Two divisions will alternate performance times.

GENERAL SCHEDULES

- Read the performance schedule from left to right for performance times and from top to bottom to see who is in the division. When one team is on the floor, the next two teams must be ready to perform.
- All teams are allotted approximately 30 minutes between each of their performances, to allow time to change costume. If you find that you do not have at least 30 minutes between numbers, you must email Grizzy Galvan at grizzlyusa@gmail.com immediately with this concern. **If you have 30 actual minutes or more between numbers, we will not be able to move your routines up nor down on the schedules.** (The 30 minutes is based on the exact amount of time teams have between routines, and is not based on just the “section of time” a routine is in, as listed on the schedule.)
- Starting times are approximate. If there are cancellations, then a pause in the competition schedule will take place. Be ready to perform up to 20 minutes prior to your scheduled performance time.
- A penalty will be assessed to any team/individual performing out of scheduled order unless waived by competition officials. If you perform in the incorrect division, you will be disqualified.

AWARDS

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Solo divisions preliminary and semi-final announcements will take place virtually through the BAND app.

Team divisions will have live awards ceremonies that will all take place in Hall D for performers/coaches/directors only, with proper wristbands required to enter this venue. Spectators will not be permitted in this venue to keep within our venue capacity maximum. Awards will be streamed on the BAND app for spectators to view in real time.

Friday, March 25th

Team awards and/or announcement of finalists will be presented live twice during the day in Hall D. Only teams/directors will be permitted at the awards ceremony. The ceremony will be live-streamed on BAND for all spectators. For all Open divisions, final placement will be announced. Of which three (3) teams, regardless of division, will be awarded the *Judges Award of Excellence*. In addition, a special

award for **Choreography** will be given. Judges Award of Excellence winners & special choreography winners will be invited to perform in exhibition during Finals on Saturday evening. For Championship divisions, top teams in their division will be designated as finalists and will compete again on Saturday evening for final placement. First place teams in non-qualifying divisions will be invited to perform in exhibition during Finals on Saturday evening.

The top 10 finalists in the Super Dancer division will be announced virtually via the BAND app on Friday afternoon. Super Dancer finalists will then compete for final placement on Saturday between 8:00am-9:00am. Final placement for Super Dancer will be announced during the afternoon awards on Saturday. For the USA Solo Champion division, the top 10 semi-finalists will be announced virtually via the BAND app on Friday afternoon. The Solo Champions Semi-Finalists will then compete between 8:00am-9:00am Saturday. The top 5 Solo Champion finalists will be announced during the live awards ceremony on Saturday afternoon in Hall D and will advance to compete during Finals on Saturday evening.

Saturday, March 26th

Awards and/or announcement of finalists will be presented live on Saturday afternoon. Only teams/directors will be permitted at the awards ceremony. The ceremony will be live-streamed on BAND for all spectators. For all Open divisions, final placement will be announced. For Championship divisions, top teams in their division will be designated as finalists and will perform again on Saturday evening for final placement. A schedule for Saturday finals competition will be available on the BAND app as soon as possible following Saturday afternoon awards in Hall D.

Saturday, March 26th - Finals

For all Championship divisions, approximately 25% of the teams that performed in the preliminary competition will advance to Finals on Saturday evening. A minimum of 2 teams (this number is subject to change at the discretion of competition officials based upon final enrollment) will be advancing to Finals. Finals competition will be held at the Anaheim Convention Center – Hall D from 6:30PM– 11:00 PM. Awards will be presented immediately following the conclusion of the competition.

Awards Distribution

Each 1st Place National Division Champion team will receive a trophy and a banner with their division title. Additionally, each individual performer will receive a backpack and medallion. 2nd and 3rd place winners will receive medallions for each performer. These items can be picked up at registration, immediately following the awards ceremony for all Non-Qualifying and Open divisions. We encourage all 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners to head to team registration as quickly as possible following your award ceremony.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PROPS

Information regarding the delivery/retrieval and storage of larger props will be supplied by Monday, March 21st.

SECURITY

Due to heightened security concerns, all bags are subject to search upon entry into any Anaheim Convention Center venue. **Bags must not be left unattended at any time.** Teams must be in possession of all personal items at all times during the competition (except while performing). The United Spirit Association will not be responsible for any items that are left unattended by a representative of your

organization at any time (including during your performance). Unattended bags are subject to immediate removal by security.

Team signs may be brought to the competition, but may not be taped on any painted surfaces. Air horns, or other excessive noise-makers are not permitted in the convention center.

Throwing of any type of item onto the performance floor and/or the use of laser-type devices in any venue is grounds for immediate removal from the competition and individuals will be subject to prosecution.

Personal video cameras will be permitted, but we ask that you please film your own team only. Any individual who does not adhere to this request may be asked to leave the venue. Camera tripods will not be permitted at any time during the competition. Unauthorized videotaping of any team is subject to immediate removal from the competition venue.

The use of telephoto lenses on cameras and/or the use of tripods is prohibited.

DRESSING ROOMS

There are limited dressing areas for athletes. These areas are for changing purposes only and items must not be left unattended in them. There are also numerous restrooms located throughout the Convention Center, however, please refrain from changing in these locations. Neither the Anaheim Convention Center nor USA Nationals will be responsible for any lost or stolen items.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Practice areas (Hall D) are designated on the enclosed map and will be used for limited “open” practice. Please be courteous and make sure to split time so all participants may have the opportunity to use any “open” areas.
- There will be no practicing on the performance floors in any venue.
- **There is to be no practicing in the Hall Lobby areas of the Convention Center.**
- For practice time in Hall D, teams must enter through the east main doors of the Hall and proceed to the west side – follow the signage.
- There will be no general public spectators permitted in the “open” or “formal” scheduled practice area at any time. Only teams who are officially warming up and their advisor/coach(es) will be permitted in this area. Special wristbands are required for admission to this area.

FOOD

Concession stands will not be open at the Convention Center on Friday and Saturday. However, food trucks will be available outside of the venue and there are many eating establishments within walking distance of the convention center. **Outside food and drink are not permitted in the Convention Center.**

SOUVENIRS

A complete line of exclusive USA Nationals souvenirs will be on sale Friday and Saturday at the Convention Center. Major credit cards are accepted. There will be a line to enter the store with a maximum capacity adhered to at any given time. We ask for your patience as the line to enter may be lengthy at times. We recommend coming to the store early in the day and to have a good idea of what you are interested in purchasing prior to arrival.

Please note that ATM machines are not available at the Anaheim Convention Center.

SOUND

- All teams must provide their own MP3 device or smart phone for use on the event provided sound system. Music must be recorded at the correct tempo. Although it is not recommended due to interference that may be caused during a routine, a smart phone may be used for playing music. No cover may be on any MP3 player or smart phone so that a patch cord may be easily inserted into the device. Please ensure that jacks are clean and free of any debris which may impact connectivity. You must ensure that your device has a jack into which a patch cord may be inserted. Note that you may need to acquire an adapter in advance if your player does not have a head phone jack. One or several selections of music may be used as long as they follow the music licensing rules. Ability to play routine from a CD **will not** be available.
- Please keep your routine music in your possession until you are called to enter the starting area. You will hand carry your music to the sound table.
- Advisors/Coaches/Directors are asked to remain at the sound station while their squad performs and to take their music with them at the conclusion of the performance. **Representatives will be asked to press “play” and “stop” for their routines.**
- There will be no music checks permitted on the main sound system.
- Music guidelines are being followed at all USA and Varsity Brands events. Competition music must be properly licensed and a team must be able to provide proof of licensing (upon request) at any event where the music is used. If a team cannot provide proof of licensing immediately upon request, the team may be disqualified from the event. For further details visit www.varsity.com/music

VIDEO

Individuals are permitted to video the routine from their own team. Video-taping of multiple teams in a division is not permitted.

Personal video cameras will be permitted, but we ask that you please film only your own team. Any individual who does not adhere to this request may be asked to leave the venue. Camera tripods will not be permitted at any time during the competition. Unauthorized videotaping of any team is subject to immediate removal from the competition venue.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Live action shots will be taken by Universal Event Photography **during each performance.** There will be no team photos taken at this year's event.

The use of telephoto lenses on cameras and/or the use of tripods is prohibited.

MEDICAL CARE

A FIRST AID station is located in the Convention Center and will be staffed throughout the weekend with a registered nurse. First aid staff will also be on duty during the competition at all venues.

Should you need medical assistance, please contact a USA or Anaheim Convention Center staff member.

LOST AND FOUND

Located at Box Office C-D.

PARKING – ALL CASHLESS – ONLY CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED

There is no cash accepted for parking. Credit cards, debit cards, Apple Pay and Google Pay are accepted. Please allow an additional 30 to 40 minutes for traffic and parking. Parking will be impacted over the weekend and cars may be directed to off-site lots.

Anaheim Convention Center

CARS: Enter the Convention Center parking area from Katella.

The parking fee at the Convention Center is \$20.00 and is good for one entry ONLY. This fee is subject to change. It is not valid for in/out parking. The parking receipt must be visible on the vehicle dashboard. The parking ticket is not transferable.

BUSES: Buses will enter from the back of the Convention Center, off of West Street. Parking personnel will direct you to the drop off area and appropriate exit or parking area. Parking fees for buses is \$30.00 and is good for one entry ONLY. Overnight parking of vehicles is prohibited.

Parking fees are subject to change.

THE USA DANCE NATIONALS COMPETITION WILL FOLLOW ALL DIVISION GUIDELINES AND RULES AS STATED IN THIS INFORMATIONAL PACKET, THE USA DANCE NATIONALS SUPPLEMENTAL PACKET AND THE 2021-22 USA DANCE COMPETITION PACKET.