



***THE JUDGES AFFILIATION***

**PART 1 - THE AFFILIATION**

**1.1 MISSION STATEMENT**

- A. Our mission is to provide the Oregon Dance and Drill community with fair, honest, credible and professional adjudication at local competitive events.

**1.2 PURPOSE**

- A. The Oregon Dance and Drill Judges Affiliation exists for the purpose of training, educating, evaluating and commissioning performance judges within the state of Oregon. It supports the overall functioning and foundation of the Dance Drill Coaches Association, the dance and drill team venue, and operates with the driving premise of creating a quality competitive environment within the state. Its operations, teachings, and philosophies are centered on the principal objective of promoting excellence in judges, coaches and performers.

**1.3 INTENT**

- A. The Oregon Dance and Drill Judges' Affiliation (herein referred to as the JA or the Affiliation) works in alliance with the Dance and Drill Coaches Association (herein referred to as DDCA) and the Oregon School Activities Association (herein referred to as OSAA) to provide a format of competition as a method for organizing youth activities. It is the intent of competition to provide opportunities for creativity, expression, development, and achievement in dance performance to all its participants. These three organizations strive to promote standards of achievement; growth of programs, participants and their leaders; and recognition and appreciation of all expressions of dance.
- B. The Affiliation is to preside over the competitive aspect of DDCA sanctioned competitions, the adjudication process, the educational format and the affiliation of judges and organizational personnel. It is directed to maintain organization and an efficient process, and to evaluate and respond to judging and performance issues.

**1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE AFFILIATION**

- A. To assure quality, unbiased, informed critique in response to creative expression.
- B. To educate and certify judges to fulfill the purpose of the Judges' Affiliation.
- C. To provide competent staffing, equipment for all sanctioned events.
- D. To increase membership in the Judges' Affiliation.
- E. To promote dance education among coaches, choreographers, judges and students.
- F. To respond to the needs of the association with integrity, openness, and enthusiasm.
- G. To develop, improve, and use effective approaches to evaluation and performance education; continually providing quality judging.
- H. To create an atmosphere of respect and communication for all coaches, judges, students, parents, and philosophies.



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- I. To seek and use resourceful methods of partnering with any person or organization who might contribute to the growth of the association.

**1.5 GOALS FOR JUDGES AND JUDGE DIRECTORS**

- A. To provide consistency, individually and as a group, in scores, rankings, vocabulary and use of the Linear Scale.
  1. Be accountable to what you say or score from week to week.
  2. Learn from each other, share and discuss topics.
  3. Know your captions and levels of achievement.
  4. Be prepared before every event.
- B. To improve objectivity in judging by increasing visual experience and exposure to different types of performances.
  1. Attend local marching band events to see what is happening in pageantry competitions.
  2. Attend local theater and dance companies that influence our members.
  3. Watch videos of other performance activities.
  4. Understand there are many ways to present an idea.
- C. To collectively agree and support judging philosophies and speak/act in unison to what we value as a judging affiliation.
  1. Understand that you represent a system, not just yourself.
  2. Your opinions are heard and respected when given in private non-public places.
  3. Respect is earned from the ability to follow, as well as lead.
- D. To be open to self and outside evaluation and constantly work to improve judging and communication skills.
  1. Education never stops for teams, coaches or judges.
  2. Want to be the best judge you can be.
  3. Welcome input as a way to improve, not as criticism.
  4. Evaluate yourself and your opinions each season.
- E. To be as invested in the activity as judges, as it is to coaches and teams.
  1. Be committed to doing your best job at every event.
  2. Do your homework to know the latest topics and trends.
  3. Judge as often as possible to stay current.
  4. Be available after events.
- F. To be receptive to the intent of each show and respond without bias.
  1. Interpret what they are attempting to do and support that effort, not yours.
  2. Invest your interest.
  3. Be open to new ideas.
  4. Be responsive before judgment.
- G. To acknowledge growth and promote excellence in performance at all levels.



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1. Be supportive and at times nurturing.
  2. Be challenging to those playing it safe.
  3. Challenge small thoughts.
  4. Find something positive to say about any performance.
  5. Recognize growth when you see it.
- H. To be sensitive to the weekly stresses that coaches endure to produce their programs.
1. Know coaches are pressed for time and talent.
  2. Know coaches are working hard all week to present this show to the judge, you.
  3. Know that the trials and tribulations behind the scenes can be very tiring.
- I. To build relationships with coaches by creating two-way conversations.
1. Be receptive to learning from coaches and students.
  2. Do not be defensive in a confrontation.
  3. Admit mistakes and learn from them.
  4. Be able to deal with a variety of personalities.
- J. To diffuse misconceptions about judges and their intent.
1. Don't allow misconceptions to be repeated.
  2. Always be aware of propriety and perceptions.
  3. Have integrity in yourself and the system at all times
- K. To view and judge the activity in its TOTALITY.
1. Cross train.
  2. Coach and choreograph.
  3. Know your fellow judges and coaches.
  4. See all divisions, all teams at Locals and State.
  5. Network outside of Oregon.
- L. To help meet the educational needs of the students and coaches.
1. Continue your caption education outside the activity.
  2. Learn how to correct technical or design problems.
  3. Sit in on dance classes and rehearsals to learn from instructors.
  4. Be informed.

**PART 2 - COMPETITIVE EVENTS**

**2.1 DDCA SANCTIONED EVENTS**

- A. Events that meet the DDCA requirements (see DDCA Manual), will be endorsed by Judges' Affiliation and considered "sanctioned." Sanctioned category and traditional events will be provided the score sheets, judging format, JA trained judges and Judge Director, and presides over the tabulation. These qualified events fulfill a team's requirement to attend a valid competition prior to entering the State Championships.



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- B. Schools/teams that wish to host a competition need to apply by submitting a Competition Application Form, obtainable on the DDCA web site, at the DDCA Spring Meeting. Each hosting school must have a representative at the meeting in order to reserve a date. Applications and deposits will be submitted to JA Scheduling and Personnel Director or JA Commissioner at the beginning of the meeting and will not be accepted in the mail prior to the meeting.
- C. All competition applications are subject to approval by DDCA/JA based on receipt date of the application AND fees, the number of applications for that date, the location of the hosting school, and staffing availability. The DDCA/JA will work with all potential hosting schools to resolve event conflicts and help facilitate all groups.
- D. The JA Scheduling/Personnel Director and another Judges Affiliation representative will write all of the events into the calendar. Pending the availability of judges and number of teams wanting to compete, the calendar shall be constructed in the following manner:
  - 1. TWO category events for weekends November through December.
  - 2. ONE traditional event for first three weekends in January.
  - 3. Up to TWO traditional events the last weekend January.
  - 4. Up to THREE traditional events for all weekends in February.
  - 5. Up to FOUR traditional events first weekend in March.
- E. This application process registers a school's *request* to host a competitive event and have the Judges' Affiliation secure certified performance judges, associated personnel, and technical judges. This form registers pertinent information regarding your event and should be filled out and submitted or mailed by the specified deadline, or as soon as your event is scheduled, whichever comes first. By applying, you will have access to the DDCA/JA judging format, score sheets, materials and equipment.
- F. Festival judging is based on approval of request. Hosting facilities should have an appropriate gymnasium and ample seating on both sides of the gymnasium.
- G. Performance rules and regulations for both category and traditional events should reflect those endorsed by the DDCA. Because the traditional events use the rules and score sheets of the OSAA State Championships, each sanctioned event should offer each division available at the OSAA State championships, no matter how many teams compete in that division. The hosting school may determine how many trophies they offer in each division.
- H. All sanctioned events are responsible to accommodate performance and penalty judging personnel, including intern judges. Bleacher seating and judges' room are needed. Qualified clerks are provided by the hosting school.

### 2.2 STAFFING FOR COMPETITIVE EVENTS

- A. It is the JA's philosophy to provide event staffing that is fair, equal and balanced for all members of the Affiliation and for all events using the following criteria:
  - 1. the number of judges available,
  - 2. a balance of new and experience judges available,
  - 3. the availability of judges certified in specific captions,
  - 4. the number of teams attending,



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5. other events on that date, and
  6. the type of event (such as category, traditional, single or double round.)
- B. While Event Directors will request a particular number of judges to work their event, the Affiliation reserves the right to determine the final number of judges to be assigned. Each hosting school is welcome to socially cater to its attending teams, but the competitive aspect cannot be personalized by granting requests for specific judging personnel.

**2.3 EVENT FEES**

- A. Event application fees pay for the operation of the Affiliation and for the materials provided to the approved event. The application fee is \$175 if paid by June 1<sup>st</sup>, \$225 if paid by October 1<sup>st</sup>, and \$325 if paid by November 1<sup>st</sup>. The application fee is non-refundable! Refunds will only be given if the event is denied by the Affiliation. Applications will not be accepted after November 1<sup>st</sup>. The application fee does not pay for the Judges or affiliated judging personnel that work the event. Purchase orders will not be accepted as payment of any fees.
- B. Upon completion of each event and submission of the Event Staffing Report by the Judge Director, the Affiliation will bill all hosting schools for their judging personnel. The fee scale for judging personnel is based on a dollar amount per team/performance. A hosting school with an outstanding balance with the Judges' Affiliation will not be permitted to submit application to host an event for the upcoming season until the balance owed has been paid in full. Any extenuating circumstances need to be brought the attention of the Judges' Affiliation or DDCA Treasurer as soon as possible for consideration.

**2.4 DAY OF EVENT CANCELATIONS**

- A. In case of cancellation, Event Directors should immediately contact the Judge Director, JA Scheduler, Technical Commissioner or Scheduler, Drill Down caller, attending Coaches, any support staff, and the DDCA.org Webmaster to post the cancellation notice.