

Changes for 2017 - 2018

First Timer categories

We will be trialling First Timer categories at a few events across the year. The events we will introduce these at will be carefully selected so we do not add more time on to the competition day.

The category is aimed at groups and solos who are brand new to street dance and / or competing. We want to welcome these dancers to our events and give them an opportunity to build their confidence. The category is only open to dancers who have never competed at a UDO street dance event or at a UDO affiliated street dance event. (For example, if a dancer has ever danced in a team with UDO they cannot enter First Timer solos).

We will offer both a First Timer groups category and First Timer solos category. These will be split accordingly once registrations close dependant on ages of those entered and numbers.

For groups, they will dance once at the event and the Judge's will decide where their entry level should be to a UDO event and this will be implemented for the next event they attend.

For solos, they will dance in the first timer category and then move in to a solo category at the same event if they wish to. They will then be locked in to that dance category for the year.

Under 12 Team category

This category will be offered at all UDO street dance events. It will be the category an Under 10 team move in to once they have dancers that are too old for Under 10 (following the 25% rule). It will be initially offered as:

Under 12 Beginner / Novice and Under 12 Intermediate / Advance.

Any Under 10 team who have moved to Under 14 in the last dance year under the old rules will be able to move back to Under 12 for this dance year. *Please contact us if you have a team affected by this introduction.*

Under 18 and Over 18 Solo and Duo categories

These categories have been introduced to try and make it fairer for younger dancers who under our current rules are dancing against adults. For this competition year we will initially offer the following:

Under 18 Beginner Novice
Under 18 Intermediate
Under 18 Advanced
Over 18 Beginner / Novice
Over 18 Intermediate / Advance

We have split the Under 18 Intermediate and Advance category to push up 16 or 17 year old teachers away from 16 or 17 year old competitors.

The Under 16 category will remain in place but Over 16 has been replaced by Under 18 and Over 18. Entry to these categories remains the same by following the age rules. *Please let us know if you have dancers who have entered Over 16 for events this year but are now entitled to enter Under 18 or Over 18.*

Whilst we are awaiting our new website the Under 18 and Over 18 solo and duo categories will appear to have all ability options available. This is not the case and a note will pop up if you enter Over 18 Intermediate for example to say that this is a combined category with Over 18 Advanced.

Each event page will also have a list of categories available at that event.

New Website

We have invested over £50,000 in a new website that will certainly make your lives much easier! It will be really user friendly, make ticket reservation and allocation easier, as well as allowing you to repeat previous entries for each event and change members in and out of teams easily. After the success of our system picking up dancers in incorrect age categories the new site will also lock dancers by ability.

We will test the site with dance schools in small stages whilst running alongside our current website until we are sure it is perfect and suiting user's needs.

One of the most important things for us is that all members contact details are up to date. For you as a teacher it is important that your phone number, email and address are the most current but it is also important for dancers and parents as well.

For dancers, the most essential element is that their date of birth is correct. They should have been age verified throughout the year but if they haven't please ask them to check their date of birth is correct under their membership and ask them to age verify at the first event they attend this year.

What will stay the same?

Most rules and processes will remain as the current dance year including:

- Smaller heats
- Spots marked out on the floor
- Dancers being locked in to age categories through age verification
- 15 dancers making a semi-final in solos
- 7 dancers making a final in solos
- All relevant information for a specific event being posted in the event page on Facebook
- Independent industry professionals to Judge
- Solo spots for Advance solo and duo dancers
- Ranking points being available

We always welcome feedback and suggestions and strive to provide the best possible events and experiences for your dancers. Please speak to us at events or contact us at the office if you ever have any queries.

United We Dance