

# Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

## RULES & POLICIES

### **A. Mission Statement & Philosophy**

- a. Founded in October 1983, Chickee's Dance World continues to provide an enjoyable atmosphere for our students and parents, we are approachable and we make dance fun and enjoyable. Our goal is to offer every athlete the best instruction in a well-organized, safe and fun-filled controlled learning environment. Our program exists to provide every participant a chance to succeed through the development of long term life skills such as confidence, perseverance, a love of movement and a sense of accomplishment in his/her abilities. We believe strongly in team unity, sportsmanship, goal setting, respect for others, self-respect and the development of a strong work ethic. All of us at Chickee's Dance World feel it is necessary to be concerned not only with the dance instruction but also with the students' level of self-confidence. We promise to provide memories that will last a lifetime!

### **B. Policy Statement**

- a. The training program at Chickee's Dance World is designed to offer each dancer the best opportunity to reach his/her goals as a competitive athlete. Any deviation from this schedule or activity overloading by the dancers causes inconsistency, frustration and takes away from his/her role as a team member. This deviation breeds a "catching up" attitude, which increases the possibility of burnout, injury and mistakes that affect the team. Outside activities are essential during these formative years and we encourage them; however, too many activities, especially during the competitive season, prohibit the dancer from performing to the best of his/her ability and creates a fatigue factor.
- b. ***ATTITUDES ARE CONTAGIOUS!*** It is the athlete's responsibility to have adequate rest when they walk into the studio. At times, proper mental attitudes can be affected by several stresses brought on by external and internal factors. With this in mind, there may be instances when deviations from the normal workout routine, to promote team unity are used as a tool to refresh the athletes focus and intensity toward practice. Our goal is to make the experience an excellent balance between fun and work to help offset moments where attitudes can affect practices negatively.
  - i. We, Chickee's Dance World, view our activities as an opportunity for young people to grow with dedication and determination, to achieve dreams and to grow toward a healthy and honorable adulthood. Both individual and family dedication and sacrifice will be required. Each advancement throughout our competitive program will demand additional efforts. We stand ready to contribute our energy, our knowledge, experience and our support to your efforts. We welcome you to our program and look forward to helping your child achieve his/her dreams.

# Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

## RULES & POLICIES

### c. Responsibility of the Athlete

#### i. Respect Yourself & Others

1. **Respect yourself.** All efforts should go into building up your abilities. Fuel your body, rest your body, protect your body by being safe in our facility; listen to your body or doctor when being told to stop or rest because of illness or injury; and heal your body before you continue. This means inside and outside our facility.
2. **Respect your non-physical self.** You may suffer setbacks or frustration. Maintain a positive attitude when you are facing your fears and frustrations because it is your attitude that will help you defeat them.
3. **Respect your teammates.** They have their own goals and dreams, but they are also here to help and support you.
4. **Respect Chickee's Dance World.** You show respect by the way you behave. The way you behave is a private reflection of your respect for yourself. **Only the highest standard of behavior will be acceptable.**
5. Athletes are responsible for their own behavior. Any behavior that does not meet the highest standard is ground for dismissal (off the team).

### d. Attendance

- i. Absences are excused if they are due to illness, injury or family emergencies or mandatory school events. It must be accompanied by an email to the studio directors, not text, immediately as it takes place. Academically related absences must be made known to the director and to the teacher as soon as it becomes available in order for it to be approved for an excused absence. Three unexcused absences demonstrate lack of dedication and commitment to Chickee's Dance World and the team are cause for dismissal from the team. An unexcused absence from practice ten days prior to a competition may result in exclusion from the competition.
  1. Each dancer is to attend all scheduled practices and competitions unless ill. **Injured, but mobile athletes are encouraged to attend team practices and competitions.** If a child is injured prior to a competition and cannot compete CDW will contact the competition about refund/credit. Refunds are not guaranteed but CDW will be an advocate for both parent and child.
  2. Both Technique classes & Choreography Rehearsals must be respected.
- ii. Athletes who insist on missing scheduled classes may forfeit their position as a team member.

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

1. The competitive program does not have to offer make up days for missed classes unless otherwise deemed necessary by the teacher/director. There will be an extra charge of \$15.00 per dancer if there has to be extra classes added because of excessive absences.
  2. Should a dancer drop mid – season, the family is responsible for a \$50.00 re-blocking fee per routine for however many routines that a dancer is in. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
  3. *We ask for your understanding and cooperation in our strict enforcement of the attendance policy. During the competitive season, consistent attendance is imperative for the team's success. Those who deviate from regularly scheduled classes will jeopardize their place on our competitive team.*
  4. *All athletes are responsible for attendance. Dancers with excessive absences are grounds for dismissal off of the team.*
- e. ***Seasonal Commitments: As each year presents different challenges, we understand that each competition season may look different.***
- i. **Exhibitions:** Exhibitions and other public appearances may occur periodically for the purpose of team exposure and motivation. All competitive athletes are expected to participate when invited.
  - ii. **Clinics/ Workshops/Camps/Conventions:** Each athlete is advised, offered or suggested by CDW to participate in any clinic/workshop/camp that may be suggested by the directors. This gives an opportunity to work with some teachers outside or inside this area.
  - iii. **Regional Competitions:** Competitive dancers are expected to compete in all required competitions, unless it is a major emergency. As soon as the competition sends the final schedule to Chickee's Dance World, it will be sent to dancers and parents. Dancers will strictly follow the instructions of the Directors/Teacher at all competitions. Otherwise, immediate and permanent dismissal from the team may result. –. Dancers may be provided with optional competitions to attend to perform solos/duos/trio in the fall, winter or spring. You can make the choice whether to attend an optional competition.
  - iv. **National Competition:** Competitive dancers are expected to compete in a scheduled National Dance Competition that will be made known. It is our intention to travel to a national dance competition every other season. In the “off” years CDW may provide national opportunities for those dancers that may want to participate.
  - v. **Competitive Warm Up Attire:** Competitive Warm Up Attire is a requirement of all competitive athletes.
  - vi. **Recital:** Dancers will be in attendance for CDW's year end recital. Team Dancers will perform in a “Team Showcase” along with performances in

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

all other Classic Program Shows - showcasing high scoring/recognized group routines. CDW reserves the right to add solos/duos/trios to Classic Program Shows.

1. The Highest Scoring Soloists & Duos/Trios will be featured in the Team Showcase. Age groups will be broken down based on the number of soloists.
  - a. This is calculated by adding up all scores from each full studio competition.
  - b. Dancers attending optional competition will use the top 3 scores from all attended competitions.

#### f. Code of Conduct

- i. Each dancer is expected to show good sportsmanship and moral conduct when representing Chickee's Dance World inside and outside the studio.
- ii. Respect your teammates. Each dancer is advised to support the efforts of all his/her teammates ALWAYS.
- iii. Be at all regularly scheduled practices on time and remain for the entire duration, unless you have previously told the teacher and made arrangements to leave. Chickee's Dance World plans their practices very carefully in order to gain the maximum benefits.
- iv. Leave outside concerns outside the studio for the duration of practice to focus on class. It is **NOT** the responsibility of CDW to handle outside/personal concerns or relationships. Parents take responsibility for instructing your child how to handle himself/herself in social situations.
- v. Dancers must maintain a good attitude. Poor attitude will not be tolerated. If the attitude does not change, disciplinary action will follow. Athletes will be dismissed from the team because of a continual disrespectful attitude toward directors, instructors or teammates.
- vi. Be prepared for every practice and competition. Unsafe jewelry, including body jewelry is unacceptable. Hair must be pulled away from the face in a neat bun – always. Any fashionable trend considered distracting and damaging to the image of Chickee's Dance World's program will be prohibited including hair cut/color, body jewelry and tattoos.
  1. Boys will wear black tee shirts with black shorts.
  2. Girls will follow a specific dress code of black leotard and pink tights for ballet, black leotard and tights or black crop top and shorts for other classes.
- vii. Ask permission to leave the studio for any reason so we always know where you are. Always wait inside the dance studio for your ride after class.
- viii. Be honest. It shows that you respect the directors, teachers, fellow students and yourself.

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

- ix. **Team comes second to academics.** There may be times when a pressing assignment or test might mean a shortened or missed practice **(not competition)**. It is vitally important that you try to start studying for a test or start the assignment as soon as it is given to you. We emphasize the importance of time management.
- x. Team Members are not allowed to compete with another studio.
- xi. **Team Members are allowed outside training at the discretion of CDW's directors.**
- xii. **Part - Time Jobs:** We feel it is beneficial for young adults to have part - time jobs. Dancers are to not schedule their job during hours of classes, additional practices, competitions and events. It is the athlete's responsibility to communicate with his/her boss the commitment he/she has made to his/her team.
- xiii. **NO TEAM MEMBER IS ALLOWED TO USE ALCOHOL, DRUGS, OR VAPE/SMOKE.** If any of our teachers are aware of use of any of these by any team member, a conference with the parents will be scheduled immediately. Disciplinary (see below) will then follow. Parental consent to this behavior is not an excuse.
- xiv. Dancers will be asked to remove piercings that are deemed unsafe for physical activity or considered distracting for both class and competition.
- xv. Unnatural hair colors are not allowed for competition.
- xvi. Dancers may be asked to cover tattoos that are deemed too large/distracting for competition.
- xvii. **DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**
  - 1. The rules and policies, which govern the athletes, have been outlined above and throughout the entire handbook. In the event of an ongoing pattern of disruption or there are major rule infractions, it may become necessary to impose some disciplinary action in an attempt to improve the situation.
  - 2. The procedures noted below are not intended to be all-inclusive. They are presented as an expression of our beliefs as to what disciplinary actions are necessary and appropriate. We will treat all of our athletes as individuals and will seek to impose the most effective disciplinary actions based on each unique set of circumstances.
    - a. The athlete may be given appropriate conditioning to perform which will help focus him/her attention and build strength to accomplish the task at hand.
    - b. An athlete may be asked to sit out and watch.
    - c. An athlete may be asked to leave and go home early.
    - d. A director/teacher may request a meeting with a parent.

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

- i. Requesting a conference signifies a need to work outside the teacher/director relationship. In this instance, we need your help to overcome a challenge that is too much for us to accomplish on our own. It does not necessarily mean we are confronted with a serious problem. It only means, we need your help
- e. An athlete may be suspended/expelled from the team immediately depending on the severity of the situation regardless of a parent meeting.
  - i. ***\*\*The athlete may be suspended from the team for one or more days or may be scratched from the competition. Please note, if an athlete is suspended from a competition due to poor attendance, a poor work ethic, or a negative attitude (or for any reason) the entry fee is non-refundable.\*\****
  - ii. ***\*\*The athlete may be asked to leave the program if he/she will not adapt his/her behavior to the expectations of the team, director or teacher.\*\****
- f. The final two items on the list are reserved for the most serious violations of our rules and policies. They are reserved primarily for times when there is an ongoing problem with disruption and disrespect within the studio that has proven resistant to improvement.
- g. It is also possible an athlete will have to leave our program because of the actions or inaction of his/her parents. While we never want to punish a child for the actions of his/her parent(s), we will not tolerate parents who, by their words and actions, do not support the policies and values of our team program.
  - i. ***Note: A few of the items listed are fairly common and we will not generally communicate these disciplinary actions to the parent.*** The development of the teacher/athlete/director relationship is paramount. We cannot and will not run to the parents every time we have a problem with the athlete. We will attempt to build our own relationships with our athletes. Those relationships are built on time-shared, belief in the same dreams

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

and values, work performed together and the emotional ups and downs that are part of all-important ventures.

h. CDW Dancers may be dismissed from the team for any breach of rules & policies.

#### g. Responsibility of the Parent

- i. Parents play a pivotal role in the development of a successful athlete. Your role is every bit as important as the studio or any of the teachers/directors. It is also every bit as difficult. **We want your support because we want your child to succeed.**
- ii. Have family representation at all meetings called.
- iii. Speak and act in the best interest of Chickee's Dance World in person, on social media and any form of communication.
- iv. If at any time you must contact your child immediately you may ask the teacher/director to contact them. If it is not an emergency, please wait until practice is over.
- v. Parents should refrain from calling/texting their child during practice. Please call CDW if you need to get in touch with your dancer. Parents perform their role outside the studio area. Within the studio/competition, the teachers play their roles. Please do not coach your child before or afterwards. **Your comments detract from what the teachers are doing.** Parental coaching may not be beneficial to your child's training, nor is it respectful to the teacher/director. The Chickee's Dance World staff consists of knowledgeable instructors; let them do their job.
- vi. All accounts to Chickee's Dance World should be up to date to compete. Your credit card on file will be charged the first Monday of each month for class tuition. Any balances including costumes, competitions, etc, will be charged to the credit card on file on the due date. It is the your job to stay updated with all emails/due dates. Please ensure there is a working card on file.
- vii. **For any concerns, we ask that you give CDW a call during business hours.** Texts and emails with large concerns are not allowed. We are in business to serve you and your child. Your thoughts are important to us. If we cannot help you, we will explain why and we will work to find another way to solve whatever is bothering you. **We ask that you invoke the 24 hour rule - when you feel angry or upset, remember to give yourself 24 hours before you react.** Complaining/gossiping to other parents cannot solve your problem. By doing this, you are succeeding in dividing teammates and other parents. We cannot solve them if we do not know about them. If you respect us enough to allow us to play a large role in your child's life, please respect us

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

- enough to know that we have your child's best interest at heart **ALWAYS**. Emotional outbursts and confrontations will not be tolerated.
- viii. Please contact CDW with any **minor** concerns through email, Facebook, BAND or phone call until 9PM on weekdays. Please **DO NOT** contact any teacher/director's personal accounts/numbers.
  - ix. It is your responsibility to check emails, band announcements, and Facebook posts often.
  - x. At no time will a parent contact a competition via phone, email or social media. Competitions ask dance studios to be the point of connection between parent and competition.
  - xi. At no time should a parent contact a teacher for ANY reason. Respect their boundaries.
  - xii. Parents/Families showing disrespect to CDW directors, teachers, volunteers, competition staff, etc are grounds for dismissal off the team.

#### C. **Chickee's Dance World Philosophy on Competition**

- a. Chickee's Dance World has always set a high priority on rewarding the effort and accomplishments of our athletes by providing them with an opportunity to participate in great competitions.
- b. As a competitive team we measure our work and progress by going to competitions to do our best in front of our teachers/directors, families, friends and teammates. While winning is not so important, trying to win represents everything we strive for. We do not try to win the abstract. We try to win the real world where rules apply, comparisons are made, judgment calls are the norm, grace under pressure is expected, and where falling and failing is a part of everyday life. This is a continuous learning and growing process. **We expect dancers to do THEIR best, not be THE best.**
  - i. We understand that competition results are the opinion of 3 judge's opinions and that each competition is subjective.
- c. **Competitions: Athletes**
  - i. Competitive Opportunities are NOT guaranteed for every athlete. This opportunity is earned.
  - ii. Athletes can earn the opportunity to participate in a solo/duo/trio/specialty group, compete in a title competition or attend an optional competition (based on teacher recommendation).
    - 1. "LOOK GREAT" Athletes should always be well groomed. Hair should be out of the face and arranged as requested by the teacher. No fingernail and toenail polish at competition (French/nude is acceptable). Please do not wear underwear with your costume (unless nude).



## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

2. **“BE EARLY!”** Athletes should arrive when the doors open (if in the morning session) or 2 hours in advance dressed, ready to stretch and/or practice routine(s).
3. Athletes must find their teacher as soon as arriving at the site.
4. Athletes must remain in the area designated for them throughout the duration of warm up and competition including the audience with parents or teammates.
5. During Awards the athlete must be in warm ups.
6. Although we look at your scores, we do not focus on your scores. Your concentration should be on your performance and the performance of the team. We will focus on the judges' and teachers' comments for improvement. Parents will not listen to judges' critiques however the dancer can create a list of improvements that he/she will work on based on critiques.
7. Be courteous, respectful and polite to all officials, hosts, hostesses, competitors and coaches/teachers/directors.
8. Stretching, practicing and preparing for your performance should be done with an assistant teacher, teacher, director or other teachers. Parents allow space for your child and his/her teammates to properly prepare.
9. Stay for all awards. Accept your award with a smile regardless if you thought you should have received a higher placement; congratulate one another. You are not just representing yourself but also Chickee's Dance World.
10. Improper behavior by the athlete at competition is grounds for dismissal off of the team.

#### d. **Responsibility of the Parents at Competition**

- i. It is the philosophy of Chickee's Dance World that the directors, instructors and athletes are all a part of the team. We encourage all of our parents to attend every competition. Having a strong cheering section does wonders for the team's motivation and is something we can be proud of.
- ii. Promote CDW in every way you feel is appropriate but refrain from speaking in a negative way about another studio, teacher, dancer or judge in the process.
- iii. Parents are not allowed backstage.
- iv. Under no circumstance is a parent or dancer ever to approach a judge or director of a competition with concerns.
- v. Please do not put stress on your child once he/she is ready to perform or after. Your child will be escorted by a director, instructor, or assistant teacher only to warm up, practice and head backstage.
- vi. Parents are always encouraged to attend every competition. If you happen not to be able to attend, please take care of the following details: know the

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

- name of the facility where the competition is being held, communicate clearly with your child with whom he/she is going, provide an emergency number in case a call home is needed and send enough money to cover meals and snacks.
- vii. Remember, if your child becomes ill or injured at competition your fee is non-refundable.
  - viii. In case of an injury, please wait for the director to give some indication for you to come to your child. In most cases you will not be invited back because the injury may be relatively minor and the appropriate people can take care of it. If we see fit that they are not able to finish the competition, they will be finished for that competition. If it is serious a doctor will need to give us the okay to continue competing. Please wait for the “Thumbs Up” from the teacher/director prior to any contact with your child.
  - ix. All competition fees are to be paid by the deadline provided by Chickee's Dance World.
  - x. Please do not take or post pictures in the dressing areas.
  - xi. Parents are responsible for costume and hair changes.
  - xii. Improper behavior by parents/family members at competition is grounds for dismissal off of the team.
- e. Mobility between Levels of Competition & Classes
- i. The mission of the Chickee's Dance World's program is to develop happy, healthy, responsible dancers. Our primary goal is to guide our dancers to success and to help build each athlete's level of confidence. One way in which we can help meet this demanding goal is to place the dancer at a level where he/she can be happy, safe and confident. We can never ask or expect our athletes to perform skills or routines in competition they cannot perform consistently in practice. Therefore, we plan to compete with our athletes at a skill level we see fit that they can handle.
  - ii. Please keep in mind, this program is not like the educational system where the child moves up simply because he/she passed the previous level or because of their birthdate. The dancers should be successful at every level he/she competes. The coach/teacher/director will make the final decision on an individual basis.
  - iii. Advancement and success in dance requires mastery skills. Similar to a pyramid, the larger the base support (basics), the higher the pyramid will stand (ultimate skill level). It seems rather ridiculous and simplistic to think that merely achieving a minimum “move up” score will indicate an athlete's readiness to achieve success at the next level. A score is meaningless without mastery of the underlying skills. The athlete will eventually “hit a wall” if the basics are not mastered. Advancement to a higher level does not mean an athlete is better. Executing skills precisely makes a better athlete. Not everyone will move at the same pace and time.

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

- iv. In addition to the aforementioned criteria for advancing to a higher level, teachers/director will also take into consideration the following from the athlete - current skill level, success at current level, individual desire, coachability, age, competitive experience, attendance, mental attitude, potential for success at a higher level, individual confidence and courage, team orientation and spirit, work ethic, physical abilities (strength/flexibility), and parental support.

**D. Recommendation for Success** - *Every athlete has his/her own individual goals. Our staff plans and schedules the best path for reaching those goals. Every deviation from that path (missed practice, long breaks, tardiness, etc.) makes it more difficult and less likely to reach those goals.*

a. Attendance

- i. Vacations during the competitive season can affect a dancer's performance. Family vacations are best scheduled during off-season and summer months.
- ii. Training must remain consistent in order for an athlete to learn and retain skills. Unscheduled breaks disrupt the flow of workouts and may hinder an athlete's performance, causing him/her to fall behind the rest of the group.

b. Guidelines for Parents of Athletes

i. **The Role of the Parent in the Chickee's Dance World Family:**

The parent of an athlete on our team can be one of the most difficult of all jobs. The athlete, the staff and parents are all equally important. The parent has the smallest role actually controlling the performance of the athlete. At the same time the parent may feel the greatest sense of emotional attachment to his/her performance. This combination of a high emotional stake in the performance with little or no direct control over the outcome can produce stress and can lead to some **bizarre** behavior. Parents have been known to lose sight of the important role they have to play. They often step outside their sphere of influence and enter the domain of other members of the "family". This can create conflicts with the staff.

- ii. Let the "Staff" coach and do their job in the gym/studio and at the competitions. When a parent starts to coach their child, they actually interfere with the very performance they're trying to improve. The athlete can only concentrate on one part of his/her performance at a time. If a parent is telling the child to "keep your legs straight" or to "pull up" or to "smile" they are directing the child's attention away from what the staff is telling the athlete. The child cannot make two connections at once, so either he/she does both poorly or focuses on one or the other. The child

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

may become upset and not progress and it is unfair to the staff. In addition, you are interfering with the development of the staff/athlete bond, which is critical to any long-term success in the sport. The athlete must be able to trust his/her teachers, rely on his/her teachers to direct their training and to receive important emotional support from their praise. You interfere with all of that when the child is confused as to which way to turn for direction or support.

- iii. Provide unconditional love, encouragement and support. Your love is not based on whether he/she has made a double in practice. Moreover, your support is not dependent on their scores; and your encouragement is not conditioned on them somehow making you look good or being the best in the group or on the team.
- iv. Let your child know you appreciate their effort and you won't be disappointed in them if they fail. Be the person in their life they can always look to for support. If they fall, be the soft place for them to land.
- v. Be helpful, but don't coach your child on the way to the competition, at the breakfast table or at the competition. Think how tough it must be to continually overwhelm them with advice, pep talks and criticism.
- vi. Try to be completely honest with your child's capabilities, competitive attitude, sportsmanship and skill level.
- vii. Teach your child to enjoy the thrill of competition, to be "out there" trying to consistently improve his/her skills, to take the physical bumps and come back for more. Help him/her develop a healthy competitive attitude, a "feel" for competing, for trying hard, for "showing up" and giving 100% on that day.
- viii. Try to separate your child's goals from the goals you have for them. Don't push them in a direction giving you the most satisfaction.
- ix. Be careful not to compete with your child's teacher/directors. They may become a hero for a child, someone who can do no wrong and you may find that hard to accept or, your child may become disenchanted with the teacher/coach/director. Talk to them about the importance of learning how to handle problems and how to react to criticism. Try to help them understand the necessity of discipline, rules and regulations. We encourage our students at any age to communicate with their instructor, Ariana or Chickee if something is bothering them. Parental support/concern is always welcomed. We want all our students to know they have a voice, and to understand and listen to our explanation.
- x. Do not compare your child with other members of the team.
- xi. Try and understand the level of dedication and training required at the level this sport can reach. Not every child is prepared to make such a commitment, but those who do will enjoy the rewards with participating. A certain amount of sacrifice must be given to allow a child the

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

opportunity to reach certain goals. Help your child understand the sacrifices and benefits that can be gained.

- xii. Remember that some children tend to exaggerate when they are praised and when they are critiqued.
- xiii. Teach your child the meaning of courage. Everyone is frightened of something. Courage isn't the absence of fear. Courage is learning to perform in spite of fear. Courage isn't getting rid of fear. **COURAGE IS OVERCOMING FEAR!**

#### **E. Choreography/Rehearsal**

- a. All choreography and edit music is owned by Chickee's Dance World.
- b. Music is chosen by the instructors and directors of Chickee's Dance World.
  - i. Soloists will be given a choice of 3 music selections curated by your choreographer. Should parents and dancers feel strongly opposed to the music selections a meeting will be scheduled by the directors with dancers and parents. This meeting will be paid for by the family for both choreographer and director's time.
  - ii. Duos/Trios will be given 3 music choices curated by your CDW  
Choreographer: Should parents and dancers feel strongly opposed to the music selections a meeting will be scheduled by the directors with dancers and parents. This meeting will be paid for by the family for both choreographer and director's time.
- c. Should dancers want to work with a guest choreographer, dancers will pay for guest choreography, studio rental space, guest choreographer travel and music editing. Guest choreography **MUST** be scheduled through CDW's front office.
- d. Directors reserve the right to add more rehearsals if they feel it is beneficial.
- e. Directors may choose to combine rehearsals at the benefit of the students.

#### **F. Communication**

- a. Communicating effectively with everyone on our team is a challenge. We work very hard to get information to you in a timely manner by putting out emails and BAND messages. You can help us communicate more effectively by checking these messages at least 3 times per week. It is your responsibility to stay informed.
- b. There exists a necessary line of communication if all parties are to be satisfied in their understanding of an athlete's training. If a parent has a question or concern regarding their child's training, the only way to obtain an answer is to ask your child's respective director of the program.
- c. If an athlete does not understand an instruction or other coaching decisions, they should properly approach Chickee for further information. The staff are not mind readers and cannot automatically detect the wants and needs of every athlete. Coaches are not always aware of an injury or pain if the athlete does not communicate. Encourage your child to speak honestly to his/her coach. Try not to speak for your dancer!

## Chickee's Dance World Competitive Program

### RULES & POLICIES

- d. Respect your directors' and teachers' boundaries by NOT communicating them personally via social media, texting or calling personal numbers.

#### **G. Payments:**

- a. Payment can be made at the front desk using cash, check, or credit card 1 week prior to the 1st Monday of the month.
- b. If paying with cash or check please put payment in an envelope clearly marked with the student's name and the purpose of the payment, give it to the front desk or the teacher of your dancer's class, you will receive a receipt in your email when payment is posted. Credit cards MUST be kept on file. (No Exceptions). CDW will charge the credit card on file the first MONDAY of every month for monthly tuition.
  - i. Competition Fees will be processed to the card on file on the due date clearly marked at the beginning of the season.
  - ii. We suggest you put money on your account to build a credit and to stay ahead.
- c. Credit cards that are rejected will receive a 24 hour window to update information. If the credit card is not updated within 24 hours a late fee will be added of \$10.00. If the overdue tuition is not paid in two weeks, the student will not be allowed to participate in class until payment has been received.
- d. Fundraising:
  - i. At the meeting you will receive a special attachment concerning fundraising.

#### **H. Contingency Plan:**

- a. In the unlikely event that Chickee's Dance World should close its physical doors due a state mandated shut down, CDW will immediately open its Virtual Classroom and resume all classes through Zoom. Should this occur it is imperative that you continue your child's dance schedule in a normal fashion. Team Members are expected to attend their zoom classes. Should dancers miss more than 3 zoom classes, they risk losing their position in the routine and possible position on the team. Attendance will be taken.

The rules and policies outlined in this handbook have been created to aid in the development of successful athletes and overall successful competitive program. The staff at Chickee's Dance World strongly believes that every athlete should have to work hard for success. We pride ourselves in our positive coaching/teaching, our ability to make hard work "fun" and our genuine love for children. We always ask that you remember to enter the space with kindness and understanding. Behind Chickee's Dance World are humans first. We welcome you to our competitive team and look forward to a positive, eventful season with both you and your child.