

OSDTDA NEWS 2009-2010



May 2009

ATTENTION COACHES AND SPONSORS:

There are MANY changes for 2009 that we would like to bring to your attention, so please read this newsletter thoroughly and feel free to contact us with any questions through our website or by emailing President of Academics directly: calmus.amy@unionps.org.

NEW IN 2009!!

- New Sponsor/Coach's choice scholarship
- New Youth divisions
- New legal/illegal moves
- New OSSAA Classifications for competing divisions
- New music criteria
- OSDTDA is going Green
- T-shirt orders via pre-order only

DON'T FORGET.....

- Competition packets and all registration information are now available strictly on-line (no snail mail).
- All solo competitors will be required to participate in the Solo Qualifier competition on November 7, 2009 at Jenks HS.
- Junior and Senior Ensembles will all compete on Friday December 11th, 2009.
- Only solo finalists will compete on Friday December 11th, 2009.
- Awards for ALL ensembles and ALL solos will take place on Friday December 11th, 2009.

OSDTDA STATE DANCE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

We are looking forward to the largest state competition yet and hope to see you and your team on **December 11th and 12th** at Oklahoma City University. Deadline for State competition registration forms is November 13th, 2009. All competition rules, regulations and registration information are now available on-line at www.osdtda.com.

ALL-STATE DANCE TEAM TRYOUTS:

The All-State Dance Team tryouts will be held **Sunday, September 27th, 2009** at Tulsa Memorial HS. Any senior dancer whose coach or advisor is a current member of OSDTDA is eligible to tryout out for the All-State Dance Team. Coaches and Advisors may become a member at any time by registering on-line via our website. All-State registration information and details of tryout requirements are available on-line at www.osdtda.com.

PRELIMINARY SOLO QUALIFIER COMPETITION IN NOVEMBER

Last year's Solo Qualifier was a huge success and OSDTDA will continue with this format for 2009. The second annual Solo Qualifier competition will be held **Saturday November 7th, 2009** at **Jenks High School** from 9am-4pm. Please note that the qualifier competition will be an all day event this year. All senior, intermediate, and junior soloists will be required to compete in the preliminary qualifier round. The judges will then select the solo "finalists" to advance to the Friday night competition in Oklahoma City on December 11th. Details and registration information for the Solo Qualifier competition are available on our website at www.osdtda.com.

ENSEMBLES TO COMPETE ON FRIDAY NIGHT

Just a reminder.....all junior and senior ensembles will now compete on Friday December 11th, 2009 in conjunction with the solo finalist competition. Please inform your dancers of this change. The Saturday competition is now for teams only!

COACH/SPONSOR'S CHOICE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

THIS IS A SURPRISE—COACH'S AND SPONSOR'S EYES ONLY! OSDTDA is very excited about some new awards for 2009. We are adding a minimum of two (possibly more) scholarships for our senior dancers this year—above and beyond the six that are usually awarded for academics and community involvement. You will be receiving information on how to nominate your other seniors who might not have the academics or community service accolades needed to apply for the traditional scholarships we have awarded in the past. We are now implementing a special "Coach's and Sponsor's Choice" scholarship just for you to recognize your other very deserving seniors and we hope to grow this award program into at least six more scholarships in the very near future. Stand by for more information on how to nominate your seniors. This information will NOT be posted on our website.

NEW YOUTH DIVISIONS

Last year's addition of the Youth All Star division for the team competition was also a big success and we will expand the Youth competition opportunities into solo and ensembles, as well. The Youth divisions are as follows:

Small Youth Ensembles – 5th grade & under consisting of 2-3 performers

Large Youth Ensembles – 5th grade & under consisting of 4-8 performers

Youth Soloists – 5th grade and younger

Youth All Star (teams) – 11 years old and under

NEW LEGAL AND ILLEGAL MOVES DESCRIPTION

BIG CHANGES THIS YEAR!! Please make note of the changes outlined in the illegal moves descriptions for the solo, ensemble and team competition:

Illegal Moves: No Dive rolls, Round-offs, Aerials, Front/Back Handsprings, or Front/Back Tucks are permitted. No Cheer Stunts or Pyramid building are permitted. No tosses including toe-pitches are permitted. Jumping or leaping off another person who is bearing weight of the first person without maintaining hand/arm to body contact with another person is prohibited. These illegal moves apply to all routines (teams, solos and ensembles). Any performances in violation of the illegal moves outlined in this section will be assessed a 25 point penalty from the total score of that routine. If you have questions about any illegal moves, please contact OSDTDA.

Legal Moves: Forward/backward/shoulder rolls, back bends, handstands, headstands, cartwheels, front/back walkovers, stalls, windmills and kick-ups are permitted. Dance lifts and partnering skills are permitted.*

*Dance lifts are permitted and are defined as an action in which a dancer (s) is elevated from the performance surface and set down. The lifting dancer (s) must maintain direct contact with the performance surface at all times. The lifting dancer (s) must maintain ultimate control over the momentum, positioning, changes in position and return to the performance surface of the lifted dancer (s) through hand/arm to body contact. Hip over head rotation of the lifted dancers may occur as long as his/her hips maintain a level at or below the shoulders of the lifting dancer (s).

Partnering skills are permitted and must maintain body-to-body contact throughout the duration of the skill. One partner must maintain constant contact with the performance floor. Jumping or tossing from one dancer to another or from one dancer to or from the dance surface is not allowed.

NEW OSSAA CHEER CLASSIFICATIONS IN 2008-2009

As most of you are aware, OSDTDA uses OSSAA cheer classifications for competing purposes. The OSSAA Cheer classifications were changed in Fall 2008 and we have posted the new ones on our website at www.osdtda.com. Please note that your other sport teams such as football and basketball may not have the same competing classifications as cheerleading—check the official list on our site.

NEW MUSIC CRITERIA

Many of you have probably noticed that OSDTDA has hired a professional DJ for the team competition. We are now expanding their services to the Friday night ensemble/solo competition, as well. For efficiency purposes, we have had to restructure the music instructions for your routines. Beginning in 2009, all routines should be on a CD with only **ONE ROUTINE/TRACK** on each CD. Your routine that is about to enter the performance area must be the first and only track on the CD at the music table. All CDs must be labeled with School/Studio name AND squad/ensemble or soloist's name. Any unclaimed CDs at the end of the performance day will be discarded. As you are also aware, not all players recognize all burned CDs and this includes Professional equipment! You must bring a **cassette tape back-up** for all routines.

OSDTDA IS GOING GREEN

That's right—OSDTDA is doing our part by cutting back on our paper consumption. Competition schedules for both Solo Qualifier and Team/Ensemble Competitions will be posted on large signs outside of the gym area, as well as on the doors as you enter the facilities. Printouts of the schedule for Team/Ensemble Competition ONLY will be available for individuals who purchase the official competition program on the day of the State Competition.

NEW STATE COMPETITION T-SHIRT ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

All State competition shirts will be available for purchase via pre-orders only through November 13, 2009. Please inform your dancers, parents, friends and family that State competition t-shirts will not be on sale the day of the competition! A description and prices are listed in the official packet on our website at www.osdtda.com.

JOIN OSDTDA ON-LINE TODAY

Coaches and Advisors may join and/or renew their membership at any time on our website: www.osdtda.com.

ACT DATES:

Friendly reminder that OSDTDA will not accommodate special requests due to ACT testing. Assist your juniors and seniors now by researching the other available testing dates prior to December!

OTHER REMINDERS

- The official competition schedules for both solo and team competitions are available ONE WEEK prior to the event. As you can imagine, we are inundated with requests for the schedules and we promise to have them posted as soon as they are available—no later than ONE WEEK prior to the event. Please spread the word to your parents and dancers—thank you!
- OSDTDA Competitions are family events! Appropriate choreography, music and costumes are of utmost importance to us. Please refer to the appropriate choreography, music and costume section in our competition packets on our website at www.osdt-da.com.
- Because it is usually very cold during the State competition weekend, we ask that you inform your dancers and parents of gate opening times at Oklahoma City University so that nobody has to stand outside for any longer than necessary. Friday December 11, 2009 gates open at 3:30pm. Saturday December 12, 2009 gates open at 5:30am.

See you this fall!

