



Important Reminders, Updates and Changes For the 2009-2010 Season From Your TDI Competitions Crew!

The following are highlights of the changes and/or updates that participating teams will need to be aware of in order to have a continued great experience competing within TDI this upcoming season! Should you have any questions or concerns, please make sure you join us at the 4th Annual Fall Conference for opportunities for clarification and specific details, rationales and further recommendations. In addition, the updated 2009-2010 Competition and Membership Manual will be available online for Team, Coach and Judiciary Members by mid August. Passwords for access to membership based secured areas of the website will be given upon submission of your online application.

Division sizes

- Dance will remain the same - A=Up to 1300, AA=1301-2080, and AAA \geq 2081.
- Flag will remain one division.
- JV will remain one division
- Changes to TDY – two divisions called Varsity and JV based on experience level (see below)

Spirit Rule Education and State Championship/JV Elite Qualification Requirements Changes

1. IHSA Spirit Rule Interpretation Meetings

Yes, it's true. There are no required or formal spirit rule interpretation *meetings* required for participation in TDI State this year. IHSA may be offering an ON-LINE Spirit Rules meetings starting in August of 2009. IHSA will still require ONE Spirit Coach from each school to complete this class. Please check with your school administration to coordinate this IHSA requirement with the school and other spirit coaches in your building. Again, TDI will **NOT** require dance & flag coaches to take this 20 minute on-line IHSA Spirit Rules class...but **TDI strongly recommends that ALL COACHES take the course** in order to be more prepared and knowledgeable of the rules and guidelines that NFHS and IHSA offer their teams.

2. NEW - TDI Basic Coaching Knowledge Assessment.....A slightly different TDI State Qualification Requirement and important tool for TDI Coaches!

New this year, TDI is offering an online knowledge assessment that all Varsity and JV High School coaches must complete in order to be eligible for the TDI State Championship and the JV Elite. We recommend that all coaches take this assessment, but only require for Varsity and JV Coaches interested in qualifying for TDI State Championship and JV Elite. Be sure to check the website often for more details on the times and dates of those offerings. This information will also be presented in the Coaches 209 course at Fall Conference.

Coach Education/Certification

We HIGHLY recommend participation in TDI Academy offerings at our Fall Conference the weekend of September 11-13th at St Charles East HS to make your overall competition experience the best it can be. These courses provide education in TDI's judging system and coaching principles as well as category requirements and keys to competition choreography.

TDI continues to offer the State's only Coach Certification Program which will include an ASEP certification course and AED/CPR courses for new and/or non-school employee coaches! Registrations are being taken NOW online!

Membership Applications

~All membership applications will once again be initiated ONLINE this year. Hop on to www.teamdanceillinois.org and click on "Membership Opportunities" to get started!

~ Membership fees will be slightly increased this year. Varsity team memberships are \$125, JV, TDY and IND teams are \$75. Judiciary Association memberships are \$75. Coach Association membership remains \$50.

~There are no early bird or package discounts on memberships.

~Membership will be available to receive membership application packets and payment at the Fall Conference. For memberships that are complete and paid in full by/at the Conference, membership appreciation gifts, nametags and lanyards will be distributed at that time.

~For those not paying for membership at the Fall Conference, ALL membership materials will be MAILED. No materials will be available for pickup at contests this year. If (you as a coach) have not received your nametag or sticker by the week before an upcoming contest, you should contact the contest host directly to make sure they provide you an extra wristband for access in your registration packet.

~ All member teams are HIGHLY Encourage to nominate students to the TDI Student Advisory Board. This Board meets once per year and provides a great way for students to give back to TDI and to gain experience guiding the plans for an organization that serves their team. The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, September 13th during the TDI Fall Conference

~**Incomplete/incorrect Application surcharge:** Incomplete applications are creating an extraordinary amount of extra work for our volunteer membership staff. In effort to reduce this and as a direct recommendation from your fellow member coaches at the Spring Ahead meeting, **a \$40 surcharge will be applied to all team memberships who submit incomplete packets.** Checklists are ALWAYS sent with your invoices and are also available online. Please DOUBLE and TRIPLE check what you submit for accuracy and that ALL forms are SIGNED and dated where appropriate.

Category Elimination

Due to low participation, the dance/flag division category of Open Drill has been dropped for this season.

Category Rule Changes/Kick:

TDI will no longer penalize for minimum number of kicks. Kick performances are still required to have 50% of their team kick at 90 degrees or higher a minimum of 50 for TDI and 35 for TDY. Performances that fall short of that will be given a strong warning but not receive penalty points. The warning will be that performances with less than 50 kicks (35 for TDY) will be putting themselves in a tougher position to earn points from both the Artistic and Technical judges in the kick category.

Varsity State Qualification Changes

~ To continue to encourage early season participation, Placement Bid minimum score will be **79 for all divisions** at all contests held in November and December 2009.

~Thereafter, Placement Qualification Scores will be as follows:

Division	Placement	2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
A and Flag	Top 1/3 of category	80	81	82
AA	Top 1/3 of category	81	82	83
AAA	Top 1/3 of category	82	83	84

~**Automatic Qualification** score for DANCE teams will be: 90. Automatic Qualification Score for FLAG teams will be: 86.

~**PLEASE NOTE:** Teams may **ONLY** be eligible for accepting state qualification if their membership is in good standing by the date of the qualifying contest. You will not be sent a State Qualification packet if you are not listed as a member in good standing as of the date of participating competition. This does **NOT** mean completing just the online intake application!!! **This will be strictly enforced in 2009-2010.** All supporting materials must be submitted, membership dues and any surcharges must be paid in full--- membership will then send a confirmatory email that your packet is complete and your team will be listed as a member on the TDI Website. Again, remember to print and keep that email with you to verify valid membership in case of any discrepancies.

TEAMDance Youth

~There will be two levels within TDY this year:

Youth Junior Varsity or "Y-JV"

Youth Varsity, or "Y-V"

~Youth JV level is for essentially novice or entry level teams. 50% or more of the team should not have experience within competitive dance.

~Youth Varsity level is for teams that 50% or greater HAVE experience within competitive dance or has predominantly 8th and 9th grade dancers.

~TDY Final Frenzy will once again be held in the first half of the day at Geneva High School Regional Contest on Sunday, February 7, 2010. Participants must be TDY team members to participate once again this year.

~There once again is no qualifying score to participate in Final Frenzy this year.

NEW - Independent High School Level Teams

~Piloting this year will be our Independent Category (IND). IND will be open to any in-state (IL) non-school team and any out-of-state team (school or non-school based) with predominantly 10th-12th grade members.

~In order to participate at a regional contest, IL based (in-state) IND teams **MUST** be concurrently registered with their sister TDY team. This policy does **NOT** apply to out-of-state IND teams.

~IND category will only be available at contests where Youth is being offered.

~IND teams will compete across categories (similar to TDI JV Elite) until there is a minimum of 3 similar categories to "break out". For example, 7 routines are registered for the IND category: 2 kick, 3 open pom, 1 hip hop and 1 open dance. There would be two IND categories that day: IND-Open Pom, and IND.

~IND teams will be eligible for high artistic and technical excellence awards at regional contests.

~IND teams are eligible for TDI Team Membership; the only benefit not extended to IND teams is that they will **NOT** be eligible for the TDI State Championship. Annual cost is \$75.

~In order to preserve necessary space for Illinois-based teams for attempts at qualification for the TDI State Championship, IND team registrations for regional contests are not confirmed until 3 weeks before the contest date. There are no IND or Youth offerings after Feb 7th, 2010.

Conference Championships !

~Three Conference Championships were held in 2008-2009 and were a great success. In response to membership requests, this program is being expanded to 11 in 2009-10. Refer to the 2009-2010 Regional Schedule for this years CC offerings.

~In general, nothing additional needs to be done in order to participate in your Conference Championship beyond registering for the appropriate regional contest. Highest SINGLE score regardless of division (A/AA/AAA) and category is crowned the Conference Champ. These will be offered for Varsity Dance, Varsity JV and if applicable Varsity and JV Flag.

Your competitions team is PSYCHED for a great 2009-2010 Regional Competition Series and State Championship!!! Please feel free to contact us with any questions along the way...we're here to help!!!

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