

# STARBOUND NATIONAL FINALS RULES & REGULATIONS

- Enter "ON-LINE" at [www.starbound.net](http://www.starbound.net).
- **No Refunds will be issued for any reason.**
- Entries are accepted on a first come/first served basis and are limited to performance time available. Faxed entries will NOT be accepted. Gift Certificates must be submitted in their original form. Payment of entries may be a Cashiers' Check, Money Order or Credit Card. **NO Personal Checks accepted.** Submissions will NOT qualify or be recognized as an "entry" until PAID IN FULL by verified funds and until ALL necessary information is provided including: Full Names of all Contestants, (First & Last), Contestants Birthdays (to include Month, Day & Year), Category, Division and Routine Title.
- All entries for a Finals Competition must be submitted by a School, **NO Independent entries will be accepted.**
- **ALL CHANGES** to original submitted entries must be in writing, no verbal requests will be honored. Changes to original entries **MUST** be submitted **14 days prior to the event** or they **WILL NOT** be implemented.
- Changes received after entries are confirmed are subject to a **change fee**. Categories left unmarked will be placed into OPEN, a change received on those unmarked entries will be subject to a **change fee**.
- If a question should arise concerning the age of a contestant, proof of age by birth certificate **must** be provided.
- Only contestants who qualify at Regionals may compete in the National Finals. Substitutions or additions are not allowed.
- Reduced-sized groups will be permitted in the Finals. If a group goes down to two or three, it becomes a Duet/Trio, however, a Duet/Trio may **NOT** be reduced to a Solo.
- Contestants must enter the same category in the Finals for which they qualified in the Regionals. (Music and routine may change, but category **MUST** remain the same.)
- Age is determined by the contestant's age on the Competition start date. **Changes to age at the event will disqualify performance from Showcase and Top Awards.**
- You **MUST** review your Confirmation of Entries for accuracy and notify the Starbound Office of any errors, at least 7 days prior to the event. Changes received after entries are confirmed are **subject to a change fee**. Categories left unmarked will be placed into the **OPEN** Category. A change received on those unmarked category entries will be **subject to a change fee**. Studios must provide proof of a change request at the show.
- Elite Gold, High Gold, Gold, High Silver and Silver winners at Regionals are eligible to enter the Finals.
- Types of entries are Solo (1 contestant), Duet/Trio (2 or 3 contestants), Small Group (4 - 9 contestants), Large Group (10 or more Contestants), Line (15 or more contestants) or Production (15 or more contestants). Please note that a Line is a group of 15 or more performers consisting of multiple formations for up to 8 minutes. A Large Group is a performance of 10 or more performers with a duration of up to 3 minutes.
- In the dance categories, the time limit is 3 minutes for Solos, Duet/Trios and Groups & 8 minutes for Production/Line routines. **A musical tag or dance-on or dance-off stage counts toward the allotted time.** A deduction of 1 (one) point per 5 (five) seconds overtime will be made. **If Props are used for a routine, the set-up time and take-down time will be counted as part of the routine.** Extended time routines must be declared immediately upon entering, in writing, with the exact routine length (in Minutes and Seconds) provided. Any extended time routine is subject to an additional charge of \$5.00 per contestant. Failure to declare an extended time routine in advance may result in disqualification.
- Vocalists need to supply their own microphones.
- **Each contestant must furnish his/her own music on CD. CD's must be properly labeled with title of the music, age group, division and category. On-Line Music upload, in MP3 format, is available, however, we require that you bring a backup hard copy.** Upload Deadline: Music must be uploaded at least 14 days in advance of all National Events or the uploaded music will NOT be available for use at the competition.
- **Dimensions and any assembly information for props and scenery must be declared, in writing, at least 1 week (7 days) in advance of the competition.** Any undeclared props may be prohibited from use at the event. Studios must provide proof of prop declaration at the event.
- There is a limit of two (2) Acro passes in all categories except Open, Character and Acro where they are unlimited.
- The Theater/Acting category must consist of a 3-5 minute routine from an original or published play, speech, book or movie. Judging will be based on difficulty and interpretation of the piece, use of voice, appropriate eye contact, poise and physical, presentation and memorization. Costumes are optional and will not be judged.
- Freestanding props are allowed; however, fire, swords or knives are **NOT** permitted.
- Contestants will compete in the following age groups: 6 years & Under, 7 & 8 years, 9 & 10 years, 11 & 12 years, 13 & 14 years, 15 & 16 years, 17 - 19 years and 20 & Over. For Duet/Trios, Groups and Productions the average age determines the age group in which they perform. If the average ends in .5 or over, round up to the next age. Names and birth dates of all contestants **MUST** appear on the entry form.
- **A contestant is not allowed to compete against himself/herself in any single category.**
- Entry fees are \$115.00 = Solo, \$120.00 = Duet/Trio, \$48.00 per person = Small Groups, Large Groups and Production & Line, \$30.00 - Outstanding Costume, \$30.00 - Photogenic (2 Photos - *additional photos \$5.00 each*). *Please note: Starbound cannot guarantee the condition or return of submitted photographs.* **Discounted entry fees are available when you "Register On-Line".**
- **Videotaping, Movie Cameras and Flash Photography are prohibited.** Non-Flash Cameras are permitted.
- All Starbound participants consent to the use of their picture and/or voice by Starbound National Talent Competition, Inc. without royalty, fee, or other compensation.
- Cash Prizes are awarded to the Dance Studio. We reserve the right to reduce cash amounts or award Gift Certificates in lieu of cash prizes.
- The Top 10 Junior Groups, Top 10 Senior Groups and the Top 5 Productions will perform at our Live Web Cast Showcase. (A minimum of 15 Junior Groups, 15 Senior Groups or 10 Productions must be entered for the Showcase to include the category.) Separate CASH & Prizes will be awarded to the winners of the Junior Groups division, Senior Groups division and the Production division. *(Please note: No more than 2 routines from each studio may be performed under each Group Division. If more than 2 routines qualify, the highest scoring routines or Studio Director's choice will determine the selections. ie: a Studio may have 2 Junior Groups and 2 Senior Groups. No more than 1 Production routine from each studio may be performed in the Live Web Cast Showcase.)*
- A 10% rebate will be provided for entries submitted, paid in full & postmarked no later than **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. NO EXCEPTIONS.** A Minimum of \$2,500.00 in total entries must be submitted to qualify for a Rebate. Completed entries **MUST include the Official Entry Forms, Studio Rebate Form and Payment in FULL** via Money Order or Cashiers' Check. **NO Personal or Studio Checks accepted.** Rebates will **NOT** be provided without a Rebate Form. Gift Certificates included as part of payment of entries, must be original certificates and any amount paid by Gift Certificate will not be included in rebate calculation. Entry fees paid via credit card may only qualify for a 7% Rebate. Rebate checks will be made payable to the name indicated on the Rebate Form and will be distributed at the competition to the director of the studio. If no name is listed on the Rebate Form, the check will be made payable to the studio.
- Trophies will be awarded to all Elite Gold, High Gold, Gold, High Silver and Silver winners. Awards are based on composite scores and **NOT** on placement within an age group. Therefore, there could be several Gold winners within one age group in a category.
- Petite Division. Children 8 years and under. This category enables young children to have an opportunity to win Top Awards.
- Teachers' category, with separate Awards and Prizes! A Teacher is any person who choreographs and conducts class that is 19 years or older. Teachers cannot compete in student categories, if a teacher is in a group with students, it becomes a teacher's category.
- Any routine not performing on the day it is scheduled will not qualify for Top Awards or Showcase.
- Competitive Category for all performers. Novice Division will receive a 5 point courtesy for any dance. For Novice Category we recommend that the performers have 2 years or LESS of training. Novice entry may be at the discretion of the Studio Director/Teacher.
- Separate Awards and Prizes for Adult groups 30 and over. In addition, 30 and over groups are not eligible for the televised showcase.
- Starbound National Talent Competition does not discriminate. We are an equal opportunity competition for the purpose of performing arts evaluation.

## STARBOUND NATIONAL TALENT COMPETITION

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