



JANUARY 27-28, 2023

San Marcos High School

**1615 W. San Marcos Blvd.
San Marcos, CA 92078**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE!
JANUARY 9, 2023**

GENERAL INFORMATION

ONLINE REGISTRATION

We are excited to offer 100% complete online registration with *DanceComp Genie* - the industry standard in dance competition software. To get started with the competition registration process, just follow these 3 easy steps:

- #1: Visit our website "**REGISTRATION**" page
- #2: Login with your existing account OR click the link to "**CREATE A NEW ACCOUNT**"
- #3: Fill out your team profile, team roster, select your events, choose your competition divisions: It's that easy!

Once you've submitted your profile information, you'll never have to do it again (unless you need to make changes with new dancers, new team members, additional entries, etc). Have any questions or technical issues? Please email us for assistance: registration@mddtusa.com

PERFORMANCE LINE-UP SCHEDULE

Routines compete in a randomly assigned order at a designated time. MDDT staff reserves the right to make division/size changes as needed to ensure the spirit of a high-quality competitive event. Performance lineup & final instructions will be emailed to the team Director by January 13, 2023 (**Note:** Teams will not be scheduled in the line-up if registration fees are not received by this deadline). Schedule conflicts must be resolved before January 16, 2023 (No exceptions). Once the schedule is finalized, teams and soloists must check-in with our backstage manager "on deck" at least (1) hour before their scheduled performance time.

MOBILE APP

Download the "**DAKIKI**" app for [iOS](#) and [Android](#). Once you login, just search for **MISS DANCE DRILL TEAM USA**. Your dancers and their families can view the performance schedule in real time during the event, as well as receive important announcements while at the competition.

WELCOME TO MDDT CALIFORNIA

The 47th annual Miss Dance Drill Team California regional dance competition is open to all dancers, school dance teams, dance studios, and independent dance programs catering to youth in grades K-12 (age 19 & under). Highlights of the event consist of team performances and the crowning of our MDDT California solo title champions who will represent the State of California at U.S. Nationals!

Please note: All "Miss", "Mr." & "Miss Teen" contestants wishing to compete in the solo title pageant at U.S. Nationals must qualify by finishing in the Top (10) at MDDT California.

LOCATION/VENUE INFORMATION

The upscale community of San Marcos is located in beautiful San Diego County. Visiting dance teams enjoy proximity to fine dining, shopping, and entertainment (located just minutes away from North San Diego's theme park attractions and spectacular Southern California beaches).

We highly recommend that traveling dancers & teams make lodging accommodations at one of the many local hotels as early as possible. There are a variety of comfortable hotel options within close distance to our competition venue at San Marcos High School.



RELEASE FORM/LIABILITY WAIVER

All participants and parent/guardians must complete the MDDTUSA liability release waiver in your online registration account for this event. There is a unique e-form for each dancer. Once you complete the form once, it is good for all MDDT events during the same calendar year.

SCORESHEETS & AUDIO ADJUDICATION

Directors will receive all scoresheets for their team routines and soloist performers at the conclusion of the awards ceremony when they sign out with competition staff. Audio critique from (1) judge will be emailed as a downloadable file to the team director for all their performances by January 29, 2023.

EVENT SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

Friday, 1/27 - Solo Title Contestants ONLY

- Luncheon for solo title contestants
- Preliminary round Judge's Question & Spotlight
- Opening Number Rehearsal

Saturday, 1/28

- Team Routines & All Other Solo Divisions
- Solo Title Finals
- Awards Ceremony

GENERAL ADMISSION (for non-performers)

Friday	\$ 10
Saturday	\$ 15
Both Days	\$ 20

RULES & REGULATIONS

ENTRY DEADLINE: JANUARY 9, 2023

JUDGING CRITERIA

All routines must demonstrate formation changes & specific technique of category entered. Teams and soloists are judged on routine construction, technical execution & showmanship. Judges' decisions are accepted as FINAL.

TEAM DIVISION CATEGORY GUIDELINES

Jazz: Routine emphasis must be on jazz dance technique. Props permitted but must not be the focal point of the routine.

Lyrical: Routine must be of a poetic style with soft, flowing choreography that focuses on lyrical interpretation. Music selection must contain audible song lyrics. Much more technical & controlled in nature than any other division.

Contemporary: Routine must contain creative, abstract, and dramatic movements that showcase emerging contemporary/modern dance, unique musical interpretation, and/or concert dance techniques.

Hip Hop: Routine must demonstrate street dance styles: hip hop, funk, freestyle, house, grooves, popping, locking, breakdancing, etc (may include up to 3 gymnastic feats).

Military: Routine displays precision movements. Choreography must demonstrate sharp angular arm sequences, a variety of marching styles & contagion/level dynamics (kickline sequence is allowed). Traditional military includes leading with the left foot.

Kick: Majority of routine must emphasize defined and precise kicks, with focus on technique, height, timing and unison.

Pom/Song: Routine must focus on the use of poms, featuring innovative dance and precision movements. All division sizes are separated by Varsity or JV, except for the "Pom/Song Team Performance" category which can include all dancers in your pom/song program. There are NO movement restrictions!

Novelty/Character: Routine emphasis must be on characterization or be of a unique, thematic nature. Must use clever costumes and unusual or innovative moves to convey the thematic character-driven choreography. Small sets are allowed.

Prop: Routine emphasis must be on the use of a prop or variety of props as the major focal point.

Short Flags: Routine must focus on use of short pep flags.

Dance/Drill: Routine must consist of 50% jazz or lyrical/contemp choreography and 50% military choreography.

Officer: Routine may be of any style, or combination of styles.

Open: For open dance division, routine may be of any style or combination of dance styles (excluding hip hop). For open hip hop division, routine must be street dance in overall composition.

Duet/Trio: Routines are limited to 2-3 performers of any age & in any of the following styles: jazz, lyrical/contemporary, hip hop.

Solo - Best of California (Grade Level Solo): For solos who wish to compete against other solos in their same school grade level & preferred dance style: jazz, lyrical/contemporary, hiphop.

Solo - Improv: Dancers perform a contemporary freestyle dance to random music selection (45 seconds). The Top improv solos advance to finals (must interact with all other improv finalists).

NOTE: There must be at least (3) teams in each division, or those routines will perform in the "OPEN" category. Teams are not allowed to compete against themselves in the same size division.

ROUTINE TIME LIMIT REQUIREMENTS

Teams have 30 seconds to enter/exit the floor. Timing and judging begins with the first beat of the music and ends with the last beat of the music. Team routines must be 2-3 minutes in duration. All solo & duet/trio routines must be not less than 90 seconds and not more than 2 minutes in duration.

MUSIC REQUIREMENTS (NO COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS)

MDDTUSA allows teams permission to use any music they wish (excluding profanity & suggestive lyrics). Please make sure all music is family-friendly.

To avoid a 5-point penalty, directors/coaches **MUST UPLOAD** their music using our online registration system by the music upload deadline: **January 16, 2023.**

Please email registration@mddtusa.com with any music upload questions or technical issues.

COSTUMES & FOOTWEAR

Performance costumes must enhance the theme and/or style of the routine. Costumes must be in good taste, appropriate for a family audience, and approved by the team's Director. With regard to footwear, our preference is performers wear any style of soft/rubber sole shoes; but half-soles/bare feet are permitted.

GUIDELINES FOR USE OF PROPS AND/OR SETS

Props and sets may be used in a routine. All props/sets must be rubber-tipped to prevent floor damage. If protective tips are not used, the routine will be disqualified. Any damage to facilities or performance floor caused by use of props and/or sets will result in disqualification. Damages are charged to the team's school.

PENALTIES & DISQUALIFICATION

RULE INFRACTION	PENALTY
Routine entered in wrong dance style	- 5pts. ***
Not performing at scheduled time	- 5pts.
Performing with more/less dancers than allowed	- 2pts./each
Non-compliance with music submission rules (CD only! No cell phones unless used as backup)	- 2pts.
Music with bad sound quality	- 2pts.
Entrance/Exit Music (Using music other than actual routine music & not within time limit)	- 2pts.
Under/Over routine time limit (up to 30 secs.)	- 2pts.
Under/Over routine time limit (beyond 30 secs.)	DQ
Same routine/choreography competing in multiple categories at same event	DQ
Use of pyramids/tricks more than (2) full body-lengths in vertical height	DQ
Videorecording other teams with cameras or mobile phones	DQ
Inappropriate Content (i.e. profane music lyrics, suggestive choreography, risqué costuming).	DQ
Coaches/Non-team members caught competing	DQ
Bad sportsmanship by performer, team, coach	DQ

*** May Also Result in Disqualification; at Judges' Discretion

SOLO TITLE INFORMATION

MISS DANCE, MR. DANCE & MISS TEEN

The highlight of the MDDT California dance team competition is the crowning of our "solo title" championship winners. State Champions are selected following a vigorous competition in three elements: dance routine, spotlight skills, and a question from the judges. Our solo title competition is the *only* dance competition patented by the U.S. Library of Congress as the official dance team solo competition in the United States of America!

Unlike our other solo dance categories, the Top 10 placings in each solo title division are **OBLIGATED & REQUIRED** to represent the State of California as a soloist at MDDT U.S. NATIONALS: America's FIRST & MOST PRESTIGIOUS national dance team competition since 1967 (where ALL other dance competitions began). Please make sure coaches/directors & solo title contestants are fully prepared to abide by this requirement! Otherwise any California state titles won shall be forfeited and awarded to the next runner-up. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Dancers who cannot fulfill this commitment in regards to the solo title division are still encouraged to participate in MDDT California as a soloist in our other dance solo divisions which do not require this obligation (i.e. Grade Level Solo & Improv Solo). Dancers may enter as many solo divisions as they wish... There is something for all dancers at every ability level!

CONTESTANT ELIGIBILITY & SPECIAL EVENTS

Each team may register up to (5) contestants per solo title category: Miss Dance, Miss Teen & Mr. Dance. Contestants must be a registered student at the school they are representing. For the Miss Dance & Mr. Dance divisions, age on January 27, 2023 shall be between 16-19 years old. For the Miss Teen division, dancer's age shall be between 13-15 years old on January 27, 2023.

All solo title contestants are required to participate in an orientation luncheon and opening number rehearsal to be held at the competition venue on Friday, January 27, 2023. More information to be shared as the event approaches!

RULES & REGULATIONS **NEW!**

Dance Routine (70% of Total Score)

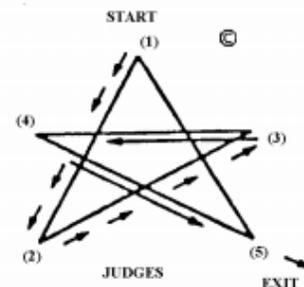
Contestant must display talent in a dance routine (90 secs - 2 min) using any dance performance genre. Soloists are adjudicated on routine construction, technical execution & performance showmanship. Dancer may wear any style of costume they wish, in good taste and family-friendly appropriateness.

Spotlight (15% of Total Score) *[CLICK FOR VIDEO EXAMPLES](#)*

This is the dancer's opportunity to demonstrate areas of skill that may or may not already be incorporated in their dance routine. However, contestants **ARE NOT ALLOWED** to incorporate entire phrases of choreography from their dance routine during their Spotlight skills element (please contact us if clarification is needed).

Dancers are to demonstrate five dance movement specialties and/or areas of strength that they wish to "spotlight" for our panel of judges. Contestant must perform the following patented compulsory format exactly as depicted in the diagram (to avoid penalty). Total timing must not exceed 45 seconds (to avoid penalty). Spotlight is not performed to music. This element is scored on content presentation and execution of the following:

- Position #1: SKILL/POSE (pause), then WALK 8 Steps to...
- Position #2: SKILL/POSE (pause), then WALK 8 Steps to...
- Position #3: SKILL/POSE (pause), then WALK 8 Steps to...
- Position #4: SKILL/POSE (pause), then WALK 8 Steps to...
- Position #5: SKILL/POSE (pause), and then Exit.



Walking *naturally* is permitted from position-to-position (NO strutting, jazz walks, runs, marching, dancing, or walking on toes).

Dress Code Requirement for Spotlight: All black form-fitting dance attire of your choice (No accent colors or rhinestones allowed; Lace & Cutouts are acceptable). Tops can be any style, but low-cleavage is not allowed. Lower body garments must cover legs at least past the knee (i.e. leggings, tights, pants, etc). Footwear can be any style/any color of non-marking dance shoe, or dancers can perform this element barefoot if desired.

Judges Question (15% of Total Score)

Contestant is judged on their response to a single question from the judges related to the dance team industry. Scoring is based on confidence, projection, poise, diction and enthusiasm (NO notes or props allowed). Contestants must wear their spotlight outfit in the preliminary round; during Finals, contestants are to wear semi-formal or formal attire of their choice that best embodies

SOLO TITLE FINALS & CROWNING **NEW!**

A final round will be held for solo title divisions that have at least 15 contestants (but there is no longer a final round for the Miss Teen division; all preliminary scores will count towards the total score). During finals for Miss Dance & Mr. Dance divisions, preliminary scores are wiped and the top (10) finalists re-compete in the dance routine category (after which the two lowest scoring competitors are eliminated). Next, the remaining (8) contestants re-compete in the Spotlight category (after which the three lowest scoring competitors are eliminated). Finally, the remaining (5) finalists re-compete in the Judges Question category (with a new question from the head judge). Scores are then tabulated, and the MDDT California "solo title" state champions are announced! The winner in each division receives a crown, with all five finalists in each solo title division receiving a sash, flowers, & other prizes!

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COMPETITION ENTRY FEES (with team size limits)

Solo Title: Miss Dance Drill Team California	\$135
Solo Title: Mr. Dance California	\$100
Solo Title: Miss Teen Dance Drill Team California	\$100
Solo: Best of California (Grade Level Solos)	\$ 75
Solo: Improv	\$ 35
Duet/Trio (2-3)	\$ 85
Mini Open/Officer (4-5)	\$ 90
Jazz: Small (6-10)	\$100
Jazz: Medium (11-17)	\$100
Jazz: Large (18+)	\$125
Contemporary: Small (6-10)	\$100
Contemporary: Medium (11-17)	\$100
Contemporary: Large (18+)	\$125
Lyrical: Small (6-10)	\$100
Lyrical: Medium (11-17)	\$100
Lyrical: Large (18+)	\$125
Military: Small (6-14) NEW!	\$100
Military: Large (15+) NEW!	\$125
Female Hip Hop: Small (6-10)	\$100
Female Hip Hop: Medium (11-17)	\$100
Female Hip Hop: Large (18+)	\$125
Male Hip Hop: Small (4-10)	\$100
Male Hip Hop: Medium (11-17)	\$100
Male Hip Hop: Large (18+)	\$125
Open Hip Hop: Small (6-10) NEW!	\$100
Open Hip Hop: Medium (11-17) NEW!	\$100
Open Hip Hop: Large (18+) NEW!	\$125
Open Dance: Small (6-10)	\$100
Open Dance: Medium (11-17)	\$100
Open Dance: Large (18+)	\$125
Dance-Drill: Small (6-14)	\$100
Dance-Drill: Large (15+)	\$125
Kick: Small (6-14)	\$100
Kick: Large (15+)	\$125
Novelty/Character: Small (6-14)	\$100
Novelty/Character: Large (15+)	\$125
Pom/Song: Small (4-7) - Varsity or JV	\$100
Pom/Song: Medium (8-12) - Varsity or JV	\$100
Pom/Song: Large (13-20) - Varsity or JV	\$125
Pom/Song: Team Performance (21+)	\$125
Prop: Small (6-14)	\$100
Prop: Large (15+)	\$125
Short Flags: Single (3+)	\$100
Short Flags: Double (3+)	\$100

PERSONALIZED MDDT CALIFORNIA TEAM T-SHIRTS

Pre-order this year's commemorative MDDT California T-shirt during online registration, and your team/studio name will be custom printed on the back! Shirts are available in short-sleeve design for \$20/each during this registration special (6 shirt order minimum). Order before the registration deadline for custom printing (shirts are available for pick-up during team check-in).

VIDEO RECORDING POLICY

Still-shot photography and video recording are allowed (You may only record your own team or soloist). This policy helps protect the choreographic originality & integrity of each routine. And it also helps to ensure that California solo title contestants' dance routines are not leaked on the internet prior to U.S. Nationals. Please advise team members, spectators, and family members of this rule. Your team or soloist may lose points or be disqualified if caught filming routines that are not your own. We will **NOT** have a videographer at this event, and respectfully ask all spectators to adhere to the above rules when using personal video-recording devices.

REGISTRATION PAYMENT METHODS **NEW!**

We accept certified funds, cashier's check/money order, and school/booster checks only (NO personal checks OR credit/debit cards). All competition fees are non-refundable.

Please make checks payable to: Miss Dance Drill Team USA

FOR MORE INFORMATION:



[MDDTUSA.COM](https://www.mddtusa.com)

[@MDDTUSA](https://www.instagram.com/mddtusa)

