



2026 AASCF DANCE DEDUCTION SYSTEM

Revised 24th August 2026 (V2)
Changes to 2025 in **Red**

ROUTINE INFRACTIONS

ATHLETE REQUIREMENT

- Failure to meet minimum athlete requirement to enter the petite or small division (Refer to AASCF Age Grid).
 - 1 dancer missing from minimum number – 1.0
 - 2 dancers missing from minimum number – DISQUALIFICATION

AGE/CROSSOVER VIOLATION

- Teams that perform with an athlete that does not meet the age grid requirements of their registered division (Refer to AASCF age grid).
- Any number of athletes within the team – DISQUALIFICATION

PERFORMANCE COMMENCEMENT

- Athletes take to the performance **floor** within 30 seconds of being announced, or directed to the floor by an AASCF official.
 - Failure to appear for performance within 30 seconds – DISQUALIFICATION

BOUNDARY VIOLATION – 0.5

- ~~A 0.5 deduction will be assessed per occurrence for an athlete that makes contact with both feet outside the competition floor.~~

MAJOR ERROR – 1.0

- ~~Drops or falls to the floor during choreography, jumps, leaps, tumbling, kicks, tricks, lifts, or freezes.~~

POM OR COSTUME HAZARD – 0.5

- Pom or costume **dropped or placed** will incur a deduction only if the item becomes a hazard i.e., pom or costume drops in middle of floor, but picked up quickly will not receive a deduction. Pom or costume **dropped or placed** in middle of floor with dancers performing over the top of it – team will receive a 0.5 deduction.

TIME LIMIT VIOLATIONS

- Routine undertime – 0.5
- 3-5 seconds overtime – 0.5
- 6-10 seconds overtime – 1.0
- 11+ seconds overtime – 2.0

Timing will begin with the first choreographed movement or note of music (whichever happens first). Timing will end with the last choreographed movement or note of the music (whichever happens last). Routines must adhere to their allocated time allowance as per their division, failure to do so may result in a deduction.



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UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT – 1.0

When a coach is in discussion with an official, other coaches, athletes, and parents/spectators they must maintain proper professional conduct. Failing to do so may result in 1.0 deduction and removal of coach or disqualification.

Includes but not limited to the following:

- Inappropriate and deliberate physical contact between athletes during the event
- Abuse of equipment or any items associated with the event
- Using language or a gesture that is obscene, offensive, or insulting
- Using language or gestures that offend race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin
- Failing to perform a routine
- Excessive appealing at Point Review
- Showing dissent towards scoring official decision by word or action
- Threat of assault to an event representative
- Public criticism of an event related incident or event official

IASF RULE VIOLATION – 2.0

Refer to current [IASF Dance Rules 2025 - 2028](#)

This includes:

- General Rules
- Choreography, Music & Costuming
- Props
- Division Specific Rules

AASCF NOVICE RULE VIOLATIONS – 2.0

Novice teams will receive warnings for athlete falls or where a rule violation was the result of a performance error.

Routines which intentionally break Novice rules will receive a deduction of 2 points. AASCF will track warnings and deductions given throughout the season to ensure teams are following the Novice dance rules with integrity.



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AASCF INTERMEDIATE RULE VIOLATIONS – 2.0

Any violation of the AASCF Intermediate rules may include a 2-point deduction.

DANCEABILITY – 2.0

Any violation of the DanceABILITY rules may include a 2-point deduction.

CHOREOGRAPHY, MUSIC & COSTUMING VIOLATION (As defined by IASF Dance Rules) – 1.0

1. Suggestive, offensive, or vulgar choreography, costuming, makeup and/or music are inappropriate for family audiences and therefore lack audience appeal. Regarding costuming this includes underwear worn as outerwear, suspender belts, etc.
2. Routine choreography must be appropriate and entertaining for all audience members. Vulgar or suggestive material is defined as any movement or choreography implying something improper or indecent, appearing offensive or sexual in content, and/or relaying lewd or profane gestures or implications. References in music must be age appropriate for the age division.
3. Teams may not compromise the integrity of the performance surface. (Examples: Residue from sprays, powders, oils, etc.).
4. Use of fire, noxious gases, live animals, and other potentially hazardous elements are strictly prohibited.
5. Inappropriate choreography, costuming and/or music may also affect the judges' overall impression and/or score of the routine.
6. All costuming, makeup and choreography must be age appropriate and acceptable for family audiences. What is considered “age-appropriate” may evolve with societal norms and varies according to cultural context, dance style, and performance intent. However, there are core principles that guide this determination:
 - a. Coverage: Costumes must provide adequate coverage for the dancer's age group, particularly for children and pre-teens. Exposed midriffs, low-cut tops, high-cut shorts, sheer & PVC fabrics are not suitable for young dancers & are not permitted in the Tiny & Mini divisions.
 - b. AASCF will apply a 12-month grace period to assist with the transition.
7. All costuming must be secure and offer full coverage of body parts appropriate for family viewing. Costume malfunctions resulting in team members being exposed may be grounds for disqualification. Appropriate undergarments must be worn for modesty.
8. Performing in socks and/or footed tights, high heels, roller skates, roller blades or any other footwear that is inappropriate for the sport is prohibited. If in doubt, please consult your Event Provider directly for approval.
9. Jewellery as a part of the costume is allowed.
10. No cheers or chants are allowed.
11. Exposed midriff is not permitted in Tiny and Mini divisions.
12. Music violations for inappropriate content will result in an automatic deduction with no warning, as this is considered a preventable infraction.