

Participation & Attendance Policies

2026–2027 Dance Season

These policies outline attendance expectations, festival and performance procedures, costume rental responsibilities, and participation requirements for PUDS families during the 2026–2027 dance season. By participating in the program, families acknowledge that they have reviewed and agreed to these policies.

1. Attendance Policy

At Parkland Ukrainian Dancers Society (PUDS), consistent attendance helps dancers develop their skills, build confidence, and contribute to the group's success. As Ukrainian dance is a team activity, regular participation benefits both individual dancers and the group as a whole.

Attendance Expectations

Dancers are expected to attend all scheduled classes, rehearsals, performances, festivals, and events whenever possible.

Attendance is taken at each class. To remain in good standing within their group, dancers should strive to maintain at least 90% attendance throughout the season.

Reporting an Absence

If a dancer will be absent, parents or guardians are asked to notify the instructors as soon as possible, preferably at least 24 hours in advance.

Excused absences may include:

- Illness or injury
- Family emergencies
- School-related activities
- Religious observances

Impact of Absences

When dancers miss classes, it can be challenging for the group to learn choreography, maintain formations, and prepare for performances.

For this reason:

- Dancers with frequent absences may be asked to review choreography independently.
- Participation in specific routines, performances, or festivals may be adjusted at the instructor's discretion.
- Dress rehearsals are considered an important part of performance preparation. Missing a dress rehearsal may affect a dancer's ability to participate in the associated performance.

Families are encouraged to consider the dance calendar when scheduling vacations or other activities during the season.

Festival and Performance Commitments

Once festival registrations have been submitted, PUDS is responsible for the associated fees. Festival participation costs are included in the annual tuition.

Families are expected to make every effort to attend all registered festivals and performances. If a dancer is unable to attend, the dancer should notify the instructor or executive as soon as possible.

Please note

No refund or credit will be given for missed festivals or performances.

Communication and Support

We understand that illnesses, family commitments, and unexpected circumstances arise throughout the season. Open communication is encouraged, and families are asked to speak with the instructors if attendance becomes a concern.

Whenever possible, PUDS will work with dancers and families to support continued participation in the program.

2. Festival, Event & Performance Policy

To help performances and festivals run smoothly, all dancers and families are asked to follow the procedures below.

Ready, Practice & Performance Times

Ready Time

Dancers must arrive at the time specified by their instructors. This allows time for stretching, warm-ups, and group preparation before the performance.

All dancers must arrive:

- Fully dressed in costume
- With hair and makeup completed
- Ready to participate

Practice Time

Attendance at practice time is important, as it allows dancers to review choreography, confirm formations, and build confidence before performing.

Performance Time

All dancers must be present and ready before their scheduled performance. Late arrivals may affect group formation and participation in performance.

Festival & Performance Handoff Procedure

To ensure the safety and organization of all dancers, the following procedures must be followed at festivals and performances.

Costume/Communication/Group Parents are required to assist at all assigned festivals and performances. If they are unable to attend, it is their responsibility to arrange a replacement.

1. Hair, Makeup & Costumes — Parents or guardians are responsible for ensuring their dancer arrives by the designated ready time with hair, makeup, and costume fully prepared.
2. Handoff to Group Parent — Once ready, dancers will report to their designated group parent, who will supervise the group until the group is handed off to the instructor.
3. Handoff to Instructor — The group parent will escort the dancers to the designated meeting location and transfer responsibility to the instructor.

- 4. Post-Performance Pick-Up — Following the performance, instructors will bring the group to the designated pick-up area. Parents or guardians must collect their dancer from this location.
- 5. Dancer Release — For the safety of all dancers, parents and guardians must not remove a dancer from the group without first notifying the instructor or group parent.

Communication

Performance schedules, arrival times, and event details will be provided in advance whenever possible. Families are encouraged to review all communications carefully and contact their Group Parent or instructors with any questions. Thank you for helping us provide a safe, organized, and positive experience for all dancers.

3. Costume Rental Policy

PUDS costumes are handmade, and many have been sourced directly from Ukraine. These costumes are valuable club assets, and we ask that all families treat them with care and respect.

Costume Rental Fees

Costume rental fees are included in tuition and help cover routine cleaning, maintenance, and minor repairs.

Costume Type	Rental Fee
New Costumes (0–5 years old)	\$75 per costume, per dancer
Older Costumes (6+ years old)	\$50 per costume, per dancer

Additional costume fees may be required depending on the season's needs. Families will be notified as early as possible if additional fees apply.

Costume Care

Families are responsible for the care and safekeeping of all costume pieces while they are in their possession. Please do not wash, alter, or attempt significant repairs to costumes without approval from the Costume Directors. If a costume is damaged, stained, or requires repair, contact the Costume Directors at costumes@pudsociety.ca for guidance.

4. Costume Damage & Replacement Waiver

Before a costume is released to a dancer, a Costume Damage and Replacement Waiver must be signed by the dancer or parent/guardian.

By signing this waiver, the dancer and/or parent/guardian acknowledges responsibility for the care, safekeeping, and timely return of all costume pieces assigned to them.

If any costume item is lost, stolen, damaged beyond normal wear and tear, or not returned, the dancer and/or parent/guardian agrees to pay the full repair or replacement cost as determined by PUDS.

Costumes must be returned in the condition in which they were received, excluding reasonable wear from normal use.

Failure to return a costume or pay applicable repair or replacement costs may result in suspension of future costume assignments, participation restrictions, or other actions deemed necessary by the PUDS Executive.

If a costume requires repairs that exceed the rental fee paid, the family may be invoiced for the additional repair costs.

5. Solos, Duets & Trios

PUDS costumes may be rented for solos, duets, and trios at the same rental rates listed above.

Rental fees apply only when an additional costume is required beyond the dancer's regular group costume.

Please note:

- Costume rentals for solos, duets, and trios are subject to availability.
- PUDS does not guarantee that a specific costume style, size, or region will be available.
- Group costumes always take priority over solo, duet, and trio requests.
- Families may source or purchase costumes elsewhere with instructor approval.
- All rented solo, duet, and trio costumes are subject to this same policy, including deposit and replacement requirements.

6. Items Not Provided by PUDS

Families are responsible for providing:

- Practice attire
- Dance shoes and footwear
- Hair accessories and products
- Makeup and makeup supplies

In some cases, specialty footwear may be provided as part of a costume (for example, Hutsul footwear). These items must be returned with the costume and are subject to additional rental fees.

7. Footwear

All footwear is the responsibility of the family.

Instructors may recommend specific footwear suppliers to ensure proper fit, safety, and performance quality. Families are responsible for purchasing footwear that meets the requirements of their dancer's group.

Occasionally, PUDS may have donated items such as practice shoes, leotards, tights, or other dancewear available for purchase or rental. Availability is not guaranteed.

8. Questions

For any costume-related questions or concerns, please contact the Costume Directors at costumes@pudsociety.ca.

Questions about these policies?

Please contact the appropriate PUDS Executive member before completing registration.