



2020-2021



Thorhild Ukrainian Dancing Club Handbook

TUDC would like to thank all of you for choosing to dance with our club. In today's busy lives and schedule's, we appreciate the families that come out and support our club and keep it alive and thriving. We are grateful to have such hard-working, helpful, caring and wonderful families in our club. Thank you for all your efforts, without all of you it just wouldn't be the same. We look forward to another exciting and rewarding year of dance.

Thorhild Ukrainian Dancing Club

The Thorhild Ukrainian Dancing Club was formed in the fall of 1973. It was one the first Ukrainian dancing clubs formed in North Eastern Alberta. The first instructors were Elaine Golka and Dennis Cushman. The first president was Alice Toronchuk and there were 37 dancers that first year. Classes back then were held at the Thorhild Central School gym. Since then we have installed a dance floor upstairs at the Thorhild Agriplex where we now hold our weekly rehearsals. Over the last several years we have built up a very large inventory of costumes from the six different regions of the Ukraine. We continue to draw dancers from a large geographic area surrounding Thorhild. The club attends many festivals and holds its annual year-end celebration at the end of April or beginning of May each year.

General Calendar

September 8 to 22, 2020 – Online Registration

September 29, 2020 - Annual General Meeting (AGM) and General Meeting at 7:00 pm

October 20, 2020 - Registration cut-off date & Dancer placement finalized

October 27, 2020 - Deadline: Payment Contract & Volunteer Sign-Up

November 3, 2020 – Fees are Due

November 10, 2020 – No Classes (Nov. School Break)

December 22, 2020 – No Classes, Christmas Break

December 29, 2020 – No Classes, Christmas Break

January 5, 2021 – First Class back after Christmas/New Year Break

January 17, 2021 – Group 3 & 4 Workshop

TBA– Club Photo Day

TBA – Groups 1 & 2 Dance at Thorhild Seniors Lodge (after or before pictures)

March 14, 2021– Group 3 & 4 Workshop

April 24, 2021 – Year End Concert rehearsal and set up

April 25, 2021 – Year End Concert

Last Practice of every month – Parent Viewing Night (last 15 minutes of each class) **Please wear mask in dance studio and use social distancing along the wall facing the ice (east side of building).**

Please watch the whiteboard and Facebook for event details, important dates, and date changes.

Instructors

Jessie Balan and Odessa Bahri – see our website, www.thorhildukrainiandance.com, for full bios.

Please note this year we will be using the Return Policy 2020-2021 Covid-19 Protocols. Some of the following information will not be in used at this time.

Classroom Etiquette

These are the rules on classroom etiquette that need to be followed while in class:

- Arrive 5 minutes before your class starts dressed and ready.
- Dancers must come to class ready to learn, work hard, and have a good time.
- Each student must give 100% effort every time.
- **Dancer's parents** must report all injuries or illness to the instructor prior to the start of class.
- Dancers will act respectfully without talking so they can learn as much as possible and to contribute positively to class.
- No running, screaming, tag, wrestling, or uncontrolled behaviour permitted.
- Being late or absences must be reported to the instructor prior to your class by your group representative or by contacting the instructor.
- Bring a water bottle to every class as water breaks will be given when needed.
- Food, chewing gum, and candy are not permitted in class.
- Only dancers belonging to that particular group are allowed to attend the class.
- Clean up after yourself if you make a mess.
- Bring your smile.

Ukrainian dancing is FUN, but requires the full attention of the class. It is disruptive to the other dancers when someone misbehaves. The time and energy used to deal with discipline situations takes time away from those who are prepared to practice. If a dancer is unruly and disruptive, the following steps shall be taken:

1. 1st time – the dancer will be asked to sit to the side of class for a 5-10 minute time out. The parent/guardian will be notified within 24 hours by either the Instructor or the President.
2. 2nd time – the dancer will be sent out of class to the waiting room for the remainder of the class. In order for the dancer to return to the class, the parent, child, and instructor must meet. This meeting is to occur when it will not disrupt other classes. Either at the beginning before the first group practises or at the end of the evening after all the groups are finished. The President and one other Board member will attend, if requested.

Dress Code

Girls

- All Black
- Form fitting bodysuit or top, no spaghetti straps
- Form fitting leggings, capris or bike shorts (no short-shorts)
- Skirt is optional
- Hair off face, bun is ideal for older groups
- Black or red slippers/ballet slippers/Jazz shoes/Black or Red Boots

Boys

- All Black
- Group 4 & up, no shorts
- Form fitting clothing, nothing baggy
- Black slippers/ballet slippers/Jazz shoes/Black or Red Boots

Please be mindful of personal hygiene and not wearing strong scented perfumes/body sprays.
Bring a water bottle.

Expectations

Dancers

- Dancers should come prepared to listen to instructions and cooperate in practices following the classroom etiquette rules.
- Practice at home between your classes. Talk with your instructor on how to get a copy of your dance music.
- Know your dance steps, it is the responsibility of dancers to practice material learned in class.
- Talk with your instructor if you don't understand what is being taught.
- While participating in classes, dancers will demonstrate respectful, responsible behaviour.

- If ongoing disruptive behaviour is observed by our dance instructor, the parent's/guardians will be notified within 24 hrs by either the Instructor or the President.
- Tardiness and absences will be brought to the attention of the Board.
- Placement in choreography is subject to attendance, class conduct and the instructor's discretion.

Parents

- Remind your dancer of classroom etiquette prior to class.
- **If child is injured or ill please report to instructor prior to the start of class.**
- Read the white board in the meeting room every dance night, note and record any important information and/or dates.
- Follow us on Facebook.
- Be ready for Parent Viewing nights which are the last 15 minutes of the last Thursday of each month. Enter the dance studio quickly as straggling or missing parents causes stress for the younger dancers.
- Remove your shoes before going on the dance floor for parent viewing.
- Ask questions if you need clarification.
- Support your child's efforts by being on time and prepared for all events.
- Encourage your child to practice at home.
- Volunteer in the club.
- If you have a concern regarding your child please take it to either your group rep or someone on the board. They will discuss it with the President and try to come up with a solution. If needed the President will take any concerns to the Instructor. Please do not contact the instructor directly on anything other than your child missing a class or an injury. If a solution is not found by the Board or President a meeting can be set up between the parent, President, a Board Member and the Instructor by appointment so that instructional times are used for teaching purposes only.
- Enjoy the performances and cheer on all of the dancers.
- We are renters at the Thorhild Waste Management Agriplex, so please help us ensure that we are welcome back by keeping the meeting area and washrooms clean.
- Please keep all children not dancing quiet in the meeting room as this is disruptive to the classes being taught.

Attendance

Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class. It is important that your child attends dance class every week. Good attendance is imperative, as absences and tardiness can hold back an entire class. TUDC cannot jeopardize its responsibilities to the rest of the class for one student. If a student misses too many lessons (3 or at the discretion of the instructor) they may fall behind the rest of the class and may be removed from choreography. The dancer will still be welcome to attend class and continue with their training.

If the dancer experiences an injury that does not allow them to dance, the dancer is still encouraged to attend class to keep up on the progression of the dance. Their attendance helps with choreography and timing. If you are planning a vacation sometime during the dance season, and are going to be away for at least two or more consecutive classes, please advise the instructor at the beginning of the year or as soon as possible.

If a dancer is unable to attend a rehearsal please notify their group representative no later than 2:00 pm so they can advise our instructor. Or email the instructor.

Students are expected to perform at the annual year-end concert. This is the culmination of all the year's hard work and students/parents should respect the concept that dancing is a team activity that works best when all attend and are involved. The club realizes that there will be occasional scheduling conflicts regarding the year-end concert and other dancer activities. In such cases, if a student foresees not being able to attend the year-end concert, the instructor(s) and the Board should be notified at the earliest possible date.

Social Media/Videotaping

At **all** competitions it is insisted that everyone refrain from videoing the dances when they are being performed on stage. The choreography belongs to each dance instructor, and should these dances be taped or posted using social media the instructor can then go after the organization that held the competition and they in turn can go after the individual responsible for videotaping and our club.

This is also a Freedom of Information and Protection (FOIP) issue as many times names of the dancers are given out without the parent's/guardian's consent. Some families do not want this information posted. We have to respect all of our dancers and organizations when we are performing, so it is asked that you refrain from videoing any of the dances.

The only exception is at the discretion of our dance instructor for training purposes and at the year-end concert when a videographer records the performance. Any person in violation of this policy will be financially responsible for all costs incurred.

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather, a decision will be made by the executive members and our instructor to cancel dance class by 2:00 pm. Group representatives will notify each member in their group of the cancellation by phone or text but they must get an acknowledgement from every family. If you can see that the weather is unfavourable please be checking for messages to make everyone's job a bit easier. The class will be rescheduled to one of the pre-set make-up days. An executive member will notify the caretaker at the Thorhild Waste Management Agriplex of the cancellation.

Grievances

If a parent has concerns regarding their child's progress, they are encouraged to discuss the matter with their group representative. The group rep will take the concern to the Board and President to try and find a solution. If your concern is not met to your satisfaction a meeting can be arranged between the parent, the President, and another Board Member (who will make up a Grievance Committee) by appointment so that instructional times are used for teaching purposes only. Please do not take anything other than your child missing a class or an injury directly to the instructor. Every attempt will be made to address and discuss possible solutions to the concern.

Rehearsal Schedule

TUESDAYS - Thorhild Waste Management Agriplex (upstairs) 15 - 7th Avenue

Throughout most of October dancers will be placed into groups at the discretion of our instructor according to age, dance ability, experience, and technique. Finalized Group Dance groups and times are settled by October 20, 2020.

- **Group 1: 45 min. class**
- **Group 2: 1 hr. class**
- **Group 3: 1 hr. class**
- **Group 4: 1 hr. & 30 min. class**
- **Adult dancers: 1 hr. & 30 min. class**

Dance times, age groups, and placements will be determined by the instructor. Any changes by the instructor will be communicated to the President or Executive to be communicated to the dancer or the parents/guardians. Dancer placement will be finalized by the end of September and be posted in the meeting room October 1, 2019.

Parent viewing nights will be the last 15 minutes of class on the last dance class of each month. If you cannot attend, please advise your younger dancer(s) so they are not upset that you are not there to watch. This time also provides an opportunity for the instructor to pass on information to you. Additional rehearsals may be scheduled in order to prepare for performances. Information outlining the details will be forwarded to you as they become available.

Payment Contract & Fees

Note: There is no registration fee or costume fee this year because of the 2020-2021 Protocols.

Fundraising

In the past families commit to assisting with a mid-year performance and/or fundraiser in the winter, and a casino every other year. Other small fundraisers may be added throughout the year. There will be a volunteer position to organize and decide on fundraising options with recommendations from members.

Casino Expectations

There will be information on casino this year.

Member Expectations

TUDC requires all families to help throughout the year in some way. In order to continue the excellent program offered at TUDC we require members to volunteer on various committees or help coordinate events. Some committee/coordinators are short term for specific events and others are for the whole year.

Each family is to submit a \$400.00 cheque PER FAMILY (post-dated for March 20) by end of October along with the Payment Contract and fees. All cheques are to be made payable to TUDC. If your volunteer duties are deemed by the executive not to have been fulfilled at the end of the season, your cheque will be cashed. These cheques can be either mailed to TUDC box 441, Thorhild, AB, T0A 3J0 or put in a drop off box in the Waiting Room.

All members are expected to help with the Year-End Celebration. Prior to these events, a sign-up sheet (for duties to be completed) will be posted online.

TUDC is operated by volunteers and it is imperative that we all do our share to ensure our club's continued success.

TUDC Board Positions

The role of the board as a whole, is to make decisions regarding the day-to-day operations of the club, keeping in mind the philosophy of our club. Election of board positions will take place at our AGM before the end of September. Please note the executive committee members are the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer.

President (2 Year Term):

- The President shall be the chief executive officer of TUDC.
- The President shall preside and be responsible for chairing at all meetings of the TUDC and of the Board. The President shall develop agendas for general and board meetings.
- The President shall see that all objectives of TUDC are carried in effect.
- The President will ensure that all TUDC matters are handled properly and will be responsible to orientate any new Board members.
- The President along with the assistance of the Board will hire an instructor and ensure the instructor's contract is complete.
- The President will have all the communication with the instructor and keep the membership advised of all dealings with the instructor as needed.
- Arrange instruction facility rental and rental contracts.
- Contact the caretaker of the Thorhild Waste Management Agriplex of any date changes.
- In the event of inclement weather, notify group representatives and call the Agriplex caretaker to cancel the dance class.
- Gather competition venues and dates to present to the club for voting.
- Keep the website and Facebook page updated.
- Be the contact for questions regarding the apparel company that we use.
- Ensure all duties are being fulfilled by all other positions and volunteer committees.

Vice-President (2 Year Term):

- The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, chair meetings of the TUDC. In the absence of both, a chairman may be elected at the meeting to preside there at.
- The Vice-President shall assist the president with correspondence as needed.
- Support volunteer coordinators/committees in their roles. The Vice-President will keep track of volunteers and volunteering in the club so that all jobs are completed and report to the President.
- Ensure the Picture Coordinator has booked club photos for the next year.
- Will work with the Supper Fundraiser and Year-end committees.
- Will keep the executive informed of all the above.

Secretary (2 Year Term):

- The Secretary shall attend all meetings and act as clerk thereof, recording all votes and minutes of all proceedings.
- In case of the absence of the Secretary his/her duties shall be discharged by such officer as may be appointed by the Board.
- The Secretary shall have charge of all the correspondence of TUDC under the direction of the President and the Board.
- The Secretary shall distribute registration packages, keep a record of all the members of TUDC and their addresses and personal information in a locked secure place.
- Send all notices of all the various meetings as required under the direction of the President.
- Prepare all minutes from the AGM, Board and General meetings and send out to the membership or board within two weeks of meeting date.
- Publicize concerts and events to general public through local newspaper.
- Cards and thank you notes, sympathy cards/flower, etc. as needed.
- Place a registration ad in the newspaper and other media (school newspapers).
- Give important information to the Newsletter Coordinator so they can get a newsletter out each month.

Treasurer (2 Year Term):

- The Treasurer shall receive all monies paid to TUDC and shall be responsible for the deposit of same in whatever Bank the TUDC Board may order within 2 weeks.
- He/she shall properly account for the funds of TUDC and keep such books as may be directed.
- He/she shall present a full detailed account of receipts and disbursements to the Board at every Board meeting. Also, shall prepare for submission to the Annual General Meeting a statement duly audited as here-in-after set forth of the financial position of TUDC and submit a copy of the same to the Secretary for the records of TUDC.
- Refund dance families their fundraising profits/credits (40% towards the dancer's fees and 60% to the club) after March 31, 2020.
- Prepare annual budget with input from other Board members.
- Treasurer will make sure the casino reports are submitted to AGLC by the Gaming/Casino & Grants Committee.
- Provides a working float for special events and concerts.

Costume Advisor (2 Year Term):

- The Costume Advisor will take responsibility for TUDC's costumes. She/he will be in charge of ordering costumes, costume maintenance, inspecting costumes upon return for damage, and arranging for cleaning of the costumes if required.
- Distributing costumes and collecting costumes from members and keeping proper documentation of each costume, along with the assistance of the Group Reps.
- Distributing with each costume, the "Costume Care" instructions.
- Show the membership with the help of the Group Reps how the costumes should fit and how they are to be worn. Do a demonstration for each costume that each group is using.
- Instruct Group Reps on proper costume distribution procedures.
- Coordinate costume work bees with the Costume Maintenance Committee as required.
- Organize and package costumes for storage with the help of the Costume Maintenance Committee.
- Make sure all costumes are returned to the club within 1 month after the year end concert or the last competition.
- Make sure all costumes are washed and returned to the costume room within a month after costume return night.

Grants Advisor & Gaming and Casino (2 Year Term):

- Organize workers for casino dates.
- Report granted Casino monies to the board and TUDC families via newsletter or meeting.
- Purchase licenses for raffle fundraisers.
- Submit all application forms for grants (Alberta Arts Foundation, Waste Management, Enbridge, etc.) and keep the board updated as to what has been applied for.
- Submit all grants reporting.
- Prepare and submit casino reports to Alberta Gaming Commission.
- Organize and oversee the TUDC cash calendar.

Members at Large - Group Representatives (1 Year Term):

- Members at large will be a member from a group at TUDC, also known as a Group Representative.
- Each member will act as a liaison between the Board and the members of TUDC by being the contact person for relaying messages in the event of a quick call out for cancellations or changes.
- He/she will assist in the COVID-19 protocols that are emblomed by TUDC and Agr. Society.
- He/she will assist the Costume Advisor with measurements for costumes for their group.
- He/she will assist the Costume Advisor with signing out all costumes to their group members and help fill out all forms needed.
- He/she will arrange for the props and/or music be taken to competitions or festivals or special events.
- They shall be involved in projects undertaken by the Board as required.
- Supervise their group (younger children), or assign a member, while waiting to perform at competitions/festivals/performances.
- Will attend all TUDC general and board meetings. Help collect TUDC payments, fundraising payments etc. and give to the Treasurer.
- Be responsible to take pictures at events their group attends and provide this to the President for long term storage and the Photographer and Newspaper Contact for use with local papers, advertising, etc.

OUR SUCCESS DEPENDS ON OUR VOLUNTEERS! Some committees/coordinator jobs are short term, for specific events, others are for the year. Each family must sign up for a TUDC Committee/Coordinator position unless you hold a position on the Board. Committee/Coordinator positions will be filled during the AGM meeting. If you are unable to fulfil your duties, you will be responsible for finding your own replacement. If you have any concerns, please contact the Vice-President.

TUDC 2020-21 VOLUNTEER POSITIONS DESCRIPTIONS – 11 TOTAL

Competitions Coordinator: This position will be determined if there are any competitions this dance season.

- Keep a list of competition venues and the dates of competitions provided by the President
- Complete applications and paperwork for all competitions. Get copies of birth certificates from Secretary that need to be sent in.
- Notify group reps and dancers of their dance times for all the Festivals/Competitions as soon as they are received.
- Check with families if there are any duets/solos, etc. going to competitions assist them in registering and organizing their payment.
- Pay registration fees and supply receipts to the Treasurer.
- Provide the club with hotel information that is close to the competition. Make group block bookings for the club (as long as it does not require a credit card).

Costume Assistance/Cleaner and Costume Maintenance & Adjustment: (2 positions)

- Work with Costume Advisor to ensure costumes are ready for distributing.
- Help inspect costumes for damage and repair costumes as necessary.
- Help with costume work bees.
- Order costume labels and help label all costumes.
- Alter costumes and give to families when completed.
- Assist the Costume Assistance/Maintenance position with their tasks as required.

- Work with Costume Advisor to ensure costumes are organized.
- Work with Costume Advisor to keep an updated costume book and detailed inventory.
- Assist Costume Advisor with ordering of costumes.
- Coordinate Group reps to assist with handing out and returning costumes.
- Ensure all costumes are properly labelled and help update inventory.
- Must have a front load washing machine.
- Must have good water to wash whites and colours in.
- Clean all costumes as assigned by the costume coordinator.
- Collect costumes at costume return night.
- Wash, return and hang costumes once cleaned within one month of costume return day.

Picture Day Coordinator / Photographer and Newspaper Contact:

- Set up group times as per SDI recommendations and arrange for any family photos.
- Be available on picture day to organize as pictures are being done.
- Order club pictures.
- Ensure that the President is emailed a copy of the Group picture for Facebook and website.
- Deliver picture packages to members.
- Book photo day for the next year (always the first Saturday of March).
- Set up schedule for families that want additional pictures (sibling pictures, duet pictures, etc.)
- Attend activities and events that the Club is involved with (workshops, dancing at Lodge, cheque presentations, etc.) to take pictures and submit to newspaper with description.
- Showcase what the club has been doing and what is upcoming.
- Keep in contact with the paper to organize articles for special events, news, etc.
- Provide pictures to the president for uploading to Facebook, website. At the end of year provide the executive with a memory-stick of all the pictures of the year for storage.
- Assist with slideshow if required for an anniversary year celebration (i.e. 50th, 60th, etc.)
- Ensure that groups pictures are taken with any guest performances at TUDC events. Communication to guests ahead of performance that a picture will be taken.
- Communicate with the group reps to get pictures from events that this position member cannot attend.

Fundraising Organization:

- Organize any fundraisers and the volunteers for the evening which could include, but not limited to: 50/50, liquor basket auction, door prize raffles, etc.
- Take ideas from members for fundraisers and choose a few to complete throughout the year, with assistance, input and information from Board
- Print, distribute, and collect raffle tickets for fundraisers.
- Keep record and inform our treasurer of the fundraising amounts.
- Ensure floats are prepared and balanced, if required.
- Work with Grant Advisor on TUDC cash calendar, if required.

EVENT ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE (MID-YEAR CONCERT/FUNDRAISER):

These positions will be determined if events will take place with the COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

This Committee will consist of one Manager, two Assistants and the President and Vice President for a board of 5 members.

Each position is expected to keep notes, appropriate paperwork and suggestions for next year and provide this to the Committee Manager for their final report, which is then presented to the Club and given to Executive for storage.

Event Organization Committee Manager:

- Overseeing the committee to create and post a duty sign-up sheet and seeing that all duties are filled. All TUDC members are expected to help organize and sign up for a duty to help with the event.
- Organize date and time with information from the board.
- Organize either catering ourselves or hire out as this is our large fundraiser event for the year.

- Organize location, times and schedule for evening events. Ensure the keys are arranged to gain access to the location. Sign contract and communicate details of the rental agreement and what is included to the executive.
- Ensure everyone on the committee is fulfilling their duties.
- Give the executive routine updates so that all members can be kept of the progress.
- Alert executive if more assistance is needed on any of the tasks required.
- Organize and print programs for the evening, working together with the president and instructors.
- Ensure that the following, if needed is organized and volunteer lists are created:
 - o Liquor/licensing/bottle return
 - o Set up, décor and tear down
 - o Tickets, floats are prepared
 - o Fundraising information is shared and prepared with fundraising position
 - o Music/portable flooring/speakers, etc.
 - o Food lists, etc.

Event Organization Committee Members (2 positions):

- Assist with all above tasks necessary and required.

YEAR END COMMITTEE

This Committee will consist of one Manager, two Assistants and the President and Vice President for a board of 5 members.

Year End Manager:

- Overseeing the committee to create and post a duty sign-up sheet and seeing that all duties are filled. All TUDC members are expected to help organize and sign up for a duty to help with the event.
- Organize date and time with information from the board.
- Organize location, times and schedule for evening events. Ensure the keys are arranged to gain access to the location. Sign contract and communicate details of the rental agreement and what is included to the executive.
- Organize additional entertainment or guest performers for the event. Find out if there is honorarium involved and report information to treasurer and have a card prepared to present it. Ensure there is a space for the guests, and provide water, snacks, mirrors, clothes racks, etc.).
- Ensure everyone on the committee is fulfilling their duties.
- Give the executive routine updates so that all members can be kept informed of the progress.
- Alert executive if more assistance is needed on any of the tasks required.
- Work with budget and ensure each committee member has sufficient funds to complete their duties. Have executive approve draft budget, and inform of major adjustments throughout event planning if required.
- Organize and print programs for the evening, working together with the president. Assist the president by providing information on the evening's events and schedule for the MC notes. Work with instructors to know the timeline and order of dances performed. Obtain the student list from the President.
- Ensure any 'thank you's that are necessary are prepared.
- Posting a sign-up sheet for food to be brought to the social following the event.
- Set up and tear down
- Tickets, advertising and Flowers
- Graduate gifts for 2020 grads
- Luncheon Organization and Videographer
- Posting a sign-up sheet for food to be brought for the lunch.
- Ensure lunch gets set out and cleaned up. Ensure families are to bring their items cut up and on disposable trays.
- Organize a videographer and provide club with information of purchase of videos. Have a table for sale of the videos that day as well. Deliver videos once received. Ensure one is purchased for the club.

Year-End Committee Members (2 positions):

- Assist with all above tasks and necessary and required.

Festivals/Competitions — Competitions will be announced if any are taking place this dance season.

TUDC dancers will participate in Festivals/Competitions to a maximum of three competitions that allows them to showcase their dancing abilities. Festival/Competition preferences will be discussed at our AGM. Each group will vote to decide how many competitions they want to attend. Then they will make choices on the options available to them. If a dancer does any solos or duets, it is the dancer/parents' responsibility to inform the competition coordinator if you would like to attend competitions with your dance, and the fee is your responsibility. If you have any questions, please ask our Competition Coordinator for information. Listed below are the recommendations for this year and confirmed dates:

➤ **TBA**

Members will be responsible for finding their own accommodations at festivals. Registrations are paid early in the year so if a dancer does not attend a festival and does not have a valid reason, they may be required to reimburse the club for their registration fee. Please watch for Festivals/Competition information in upcoming newsletters or posted on the whiteboard.

Duets and Solos

Duets and Solos are to be coordinated by the instructor in direct contact with the dancer/parent. The fees for the duet or solo go toward instruction time and choreography, and the dancers are responsible to practice on their own time. More time can be requested directly through the instructor. Your competition registration fees, costumes rentals and other expenses is the responsibility of the dancer/parent.

Competition Etiquette

Meeting Time/Areas: All dancers must meet at the designated meeting areas (usually the practice area) at each festival, one hour prior to the start of their session. If the instructors are not at the designated area at the time specified, please be patient as they are probably backstage with another group, and he will meet you as soon as possible. For the younger groups the group representative or an assigned parent must stay with the group at all times. We may not practice prior to the performance as sometimes the designated practice areas are quite small and could result in injury.

Costumes: Please ensure that you double and triple check that all costume pieces are accounted for and that you have brought the "correct" costume. Bringing along extra safety pins and hockey tape is a great idea. Boys should have (only) long black socks that should be taped to their pants so bare legs are not seen. Belts and sashes should be pinned and taped into place so they do not fall off or twist. Head pieces must be pinned with at least 4 bobby pins (no exceptions). Costumes should be clean and free of wrinkles. Footwear must be free of scuffs and polished.

Hair & Makeup: Boys should have their hair tidy. Girls should have hair braided or gelled if too short. Makeup should be applied according to the specifications provided from our instructor. Please ensure that hair and makeup is done prior to the meeting time. No jewellery (earrings, necklaces, etc.) or nail polish should be worn.

Costume Fees, Damage Deposit & Care – This will not be implemented this dance season with COVID-19 PROTOCOLS but for your information.

All costumes belong to our organization and TUDC is proud to be able to offer complete costuming for our dancers. Costumes are assigned to dancers, with the understanding that they are to be returned in the issued condition. Costume fees are as follows:

- \$30 per costume
- \$15 for two or less items
- \$10 for one item

The costume fee for each dancer's first costume is payable by the end of September. If you require an additional costume for another dance, payment arrangements will be made at a later date.

A \$50 Damage Deposit per costume is required at the time of sign out. Payable by a post-dated cheque dated for May 15. Please ensure to carefully check costumes before signing them out and mark down any damage seen.

Non-members of TUDC may request to rent TUDC costumes depending on availability, at \$20 per piece of a costume. A

damage deposit of \$100/piece will be requested in cash and paid back when the costume is returned in the same condition as rented out. If more than one piece/costume is required the damage deposit will be to a maximum of \$250/costume.

Female dancers will need to provide their own white slip for their costumes. Please contact the Costume Committee with any questions regarding this.

Costumes are a very important and very expensive part of dancing. TUDC **expects** costumes be cared for in a specific manner. Please follow the "Costume Care" instructions provided below:

- **DO NOT** eat, drink, or smoke in or near costumes; water only if required.
- **DO NOT** put costumes on the floor as they get stepped on.
- Always transport costumes in garment bag to protect from the elements.
- Always hang up costumes immediately after use.
- When ironing ribbons, use low heat as they burn easily or steam in the shower.
- If a costume requires laundering, contact a costume coordinator and follow their instructions.
- **DO NOT** pin one piece of a costume to another as the costumes will tear during performances. Instead use hockey tape as it works best (do not place hockey tape on ribbons).
- When in doubt, do nothing.
- Ensure your costume is in good repair; mend any loose buttons, holes, pompoms, snaps, trim, etc. Do not remove buttons to move them, simply add a new button where it is needed.
- If you are unsure or unable to do so then please contact the Costume Advisor ASAP so that we can assist putting your child on stage looking their best.

Costume instructions will be given when costumes are handed out as well as instructions for hair and makeup. Lost costumes will be charged to the dancer.

We hope that this information is helpful to you and your dancers. Any further questions or concerns please speak with your group rep or anyone on the board so we can help in any way possible.

Ukraine Dance Regions & Costumes

Pryvit

Pryvit is a Ukrainian welcome dance. Many regions can be represented in this dance. Dancers offer bread, salt and wheat to their guests, which represent a wish of prosperity and health.

Bukovinian

This area is located in the transitional highland between Ukraine and Romania. Costuming for this region is very narrow with coins often being a part of the costume as they represent a Ukrainian superstition that coins ward off evil spirits. The men are dressed in white with a decorated vest, belt and hat for accessories. The women wear a traditional white blouse with darker embroidery. The dark skirt is sometimes open at the front revealing an embroidered slip. The women's headpieces are very distinct, consisting of tall wheat stalks, ostrich feathers or other unique protuberances. Much of the decoration on these costumes share attributes with Byzantine ornamentation. The dances from this region are lively, energetic and characterized by high stepping, intricate foot stamping combinations.

Gypsies

This represents the cultures and traditions of the Ukrainian Tsyhany. The Roma people living in the Carpathian Mountains have developed their own dialect, customs and traditional dances limited to their own villages. In these dances you will see the men clapping and slapping their boots or chest.

Hutsul'shchyna (Hutzul)

This region is located high in the Carpathian Mountains and the people had to be adaptable due to the severe climate and limited living space. This is represented in the costumes with the narrower skirts and pants and the rich colours and details used. All dancers wear leather moccasins (postoly) and highly decorated vests known as keptari. The men's pants are straight legged and the women's skirt consists of front and back panels, tied at the waist. Hutzul costumes incorporate orange, brown, green, and yellow embroidery. Hutzul dances are lively and energetic, characterized by quick stamping and intricate footwork, combined with swift vertical movements. This dance has become the second most recognizable style of Ukrainian dance.

Poltava (Central)

Representing the culture and traditions of the Ukrainian Kozaks, Poltava and other lands in central and eastern Ukraine surrounding the Dnipro River, these are the dances most commonly associated with Ukrainian dance. The Poltava culture developed under many influences, the greatest being from the semi-military society of the Kozaks. Their love of social dances spawned the Hopak and Kozachok. The men's costumes for these dances are styled after the Kozak dress, with boots, a comfortable, embroidered shirt, a sash (poyas) tied around the waist, and loose, billowy riding pants (sharyvary); common accessories include overcoats, hats, and swords. The women's costume consists of a blouse with red and black embroidery, a full or straight skirt worn in many colours with the most common being a straight skirt (plakhta) made of colourful, geometric woven fabric; long vests with matching aprons are sometimes worn, red leather boots or shoes, red beaded necklace and a headpiece of flowers and ribbons. All of these pieces vary from village to village and even family to family. The style of these dances is acrobatic and physically demanding for the men, while the women display grace and beauty while dancing in technically demanding unison. This style of Ukrainian dance is easily recognizable and the costume of this area has been deemed the national costume of Ukraine.

Polissian

This area of the Ukraine is below sea level and therefore has very marshy soil. Residents of this region are cattle farmers and fishermen. The costumes incorporate white, red, and beige as the main colours and the girls often wear aprons. This fast paced, bouncy dance incorporates high leg movements with repetitive tapping and stamping.

Transcarpathian

Also known as Zakarpattia, this consists of a large area of both foothills and fertile plains. These regional dances are known for their large sweeping movements and colourful costumes. Costumes from this region have similarities to Polish folk dress with a lot of lace and floral detail. Women's skirts are full and swish with movement; a traditional embroidered blouse is worn with a short, dark, decorated vest. The man wears narrow white pants with the traditional white shirt. A dark embroidered vest is also worn by the man. Decorated hats are common accessories for all dancers. The moderately paced dances are characterized by the males clapping and slapping their boots and bodies. It is rhythmical and bouncy with distinct twisting motions.

Volyn

Volyn lies in north-western Ukraine. This region is rich in tradition and culture. The costumes and dances from this region have been influenced by Poland's extended rule over the area. Men wear long, swirling jackets and the women have skirts that swirl when turning. The costumes are bright and vibrant. Dances from this area are couple oriented and polka-like. Dance steps are characterized by energetic jumping, high legs, lively arms and twirling steps. Generally, the choreography is light and fun.