Ballet Any Style

Definition

Recognised classical ballet repertoire is not permitted in this category.

- Ballet must remain the foundation of the choreography and movement vocabulary. This category allows original choreography in a range of ballet styles, including classical, neo-classical and modern ballet.
- For solos only: classical music may be used for original choreography. However, dancers and teachers are advised to avoid music strongly associated with a recognised classical ballet solo or variation.
- The use of parallel leg positions is permitted as an extension to the five established positions of classical ballet, provided that the overall movement vocabulary remains clearly rooted in ballet technique.

Notes

- Floor work should be minimal and always in keeping with ballet aesthetics.
- Character dance excerpts from classical ballets, such as the Spanish Dance and Czardas from Swan Lake and the Russian Dance from The Nutcracker, should be entered in Ballet Any Style and not in the National/Folklore category.

Marking Criteria

TECHNIQUE — **30 points**

- Placement and alignment of the body; secure posture; secure use of turnout; stability and control
- Coordination of the whole body; balance, control and weight transfer; clarity and fluency of transitions
- Appropriate use of épaulement and port de bras
- Clear demonstration of ballet technique, i.e. stretched feet, leg extension, classical line, etc.

MUSICALITY — **20 points**

- Sensitivity to dynamics, phrasing and tempo changes
- Fluidity and/or attack, depending on musical style

ARTISTRY AND PERFORMANCE — **30 points**

- Virtuosity and precision in the execution of the choreography
- Presentation that complements and enhances the choreographic intent
- Emotional depth, expression and stage presence

- For Duets, Trios, Quartets and Groups: synchronisation and stylistic cohesion between dancers

CHOREOGRAPHY 20 points

- Choreography should be suitable for the dancer's age, physical development and interpretative ability
- Originality and creativity within ballet technique principles and vocabulary
- For Groups: effective use of space, choreographic patterns and clearly defined formations