



Dancer Safety Announcements

Instructions for Announcer: The following announcement should be shared publicly prior to the beginning of the dance events in the morning program and again before dancing resumes following the lunch break.

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Welcome to the (*insert the Name of the Competition*) hosted today by (*name of Organization or Region*). This event is sponsored in conjunction with ScotDance USA, our national association.

All of us are committed to providing a safe, positive, and respectful environment for everyone in attendance today and especially for our talented young dancers. In fulfilling that goal, we are guided by the **Code of Ethics** created by the Royal Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing. Every teacher, parent, judge, and dancer has been asked to read and sign this document. We expect that everyone here will abide by all the standards outlined in the Code of Ethics, and we want to draw your particularly close attention and ask for your special cooperation in observing aspects of the ethical standards that are especially timely and important.

First, we must require strict adherence to guidelines governing photographs, videos, and any other recordings of the dancers.

Many families want to capture photos and videos of their star dancers. You should feel free to record **only** your **own** dancer's special moments. Please respect the privacy of all other dancers by being careful to make sure that only your own child appears in recordings. This is particularly important regarding images that might be posted in online public spaces. This is an emerging safety issue. We all must cooperate in protecting our young dancers.

Second, we offer this reminder regarding costume changes during the day.

Please use the designated changing areas that have been provided by our organizers and sponsors. We have ensured time in the schedule to allow dancers to change costumes in these safe and monitored locations. There is no need to change costumes in public areas. When using the designated costume changing areas, and wherever you find yourself in the competition area, we ask that you be fully respectful of others and their privacy.

The safety and security of everyone involved in our events is paramount to all of you and to our organizers and sponsoring groups. We appreciate your support for the dancers and our Highland Dancing community shown by your presence here, and we beg your cooperation with these important guidelines as we celebrate a safe and enjoyable day together.