

## Rules and categories Championships Belly Dance:

<b>Main category:</b>	Solo
	Duo
	Showteam (3-24 dancers)
<b>Age:</b>	Juniors (0-15)
	Adults (16 and up)
<b>Dance discipline</b>	Belly Dance
	Folklore
	Belly Dance Fusion

All of the above categories may exist within a Belly dance Championship. However, the organization decides, in consultation with Dutch Dance Sports, which categories are actually going to take place within the respective championship. The categories in which one can register, shall be announced in advance to the start of the championship. In case of too few participants in a category, the organization can decide to merge categories.

### Candidates during the performance:

In the categories Duo and Showteam, all candidates must be on the dance floor during their performance from the start till the end.

### Classification age groups

- Age is based on the year of birth and not on the date of birth.
- In Duos and Showteams, younger participants may compete in an older age group if they do not cover more than 50% of the participants.

### In the Category Juniors it is not allowed to:

- Do a performance in the styles of Eskandaria (Alexandrian, Melaya Leff), Shamadan
- Use a partner
- Use sharp objects (e.g. knives, swords, etc.)
- Perform a Shimmy accounting for more than 20% of the entire dance piece

The choreography and image/costume of the dancer must match the age of the category in which they compete (a 12-year-old is not clothed like or does not perform the same movements as an adult).

### Classification on sex:

We do not classify on sex, because there are little or no men that participate in the belly dance championships. Men can register in the same categories as women.

### Classification of Dance Disciplines Belly Dance:

The category "Dance Disciplines" will be applied only if there are enough registrations for it. These are mainly used with Solo Adults and Duo Adults (when there are too few registrations, the organization may decide to merge them).

### Belly Dance:

Based on the classic style Raqs Sharqi. Allowed are classical oriental, (Turkish) floor dance, Takseem, drumsolo classical style, Baladi and classic dans routines including show folkloric pieces or entrance with accessories. The following props (or stage accessories) are permitted: zills, tambourine, veil, canes (sticks), sword. Isis Wings may be used only at the initial part or at the final part of the dance. It is not allowed to apply acrobatic movements and/or lifts.

Music: Music that is common for Belly Dance. The music should have an oriental base and should contain slow and fast movements. A piece of music in a pop version or pop music may be used as long as the above is taken into account.

### Folklore:

Arab folk dance (Saïdi, Shamadan, Eskandaria/Melaya Leff, Tambourine, Debke, Derwish/Tanoura, Ghawazee dance with stick, Hagalla, Baladi Shaabi Nubian, Fallahi, Zaar (trance), Saudi or Khaleegy, Iraqi, Roman Havasi).

The dancer should wear the corresponding costume and should use the characteristic movements, manners and themes of the regarding specific folk genre.

Music: the specific music of the folkloric style in question.

### Belly Dance Fusion:

Oriental technique and/or drumsolo, mixed with other dance styles, like Spanish/Flamenco, Rumba, Tango, Jazz, modern dance, African dance, Samba, Bollywood, acrobatic dance, Pharaonic dance. The oriental technique should prevail. Tribal belongs to this category as well.

All kinds of stage props may be used, and likewise all types of costumes. Acrobatic movements and lifts are allowed (in the Adults category only). Attributes and props may be used as long as the dancer can lay these out and remove these herself in one single walk to the podium without the help of others.

Permitted props: feather boa, candles, Isis wings, veil, fans, poi, fanveils, etc.

**Music:** all music which suits Belly Dance Fusion, which therefore can be all kinds of music.

**Acrobatic moves:** are allowed in the category "Belly Dance Fusion". Acrobatic movements are the movements involving the whole body to rotate lateral or forward horizontal around the axis such as somersaults, cartwheels and backflips. Acrobatic movements will not always lead to a higher score for the dancer. Acrobatic movements can lead to point deduction if it is not conducted in a proper technical way.

**Attributes (props):** are allowed in the appropriate categories when dancers dance to their own music. However, these props must be placed on stage/on the floor in one go by the dancers themselves. Stagehands/assistants are not allowed for this. Circuitous set pieces are forbidden for any dance, in any category, style or discipline during competitions from Dutch Dance Sports.

**Safety:** Liquids or other substances that pollute, damage or harm the safety of the dance floor in any way are not allowed. Also, the use of living animals is not allowed.

**Attributes such as:** zills/cymbals, tambourine, veils, swords and sticks etc may be used in the categories that allow them.

### **Music:**

Each category dance to their own music, unless the organization decides to add an improvisation round (see 'number of rounds'). Live music is allowed, provided it is part of the dance (zills/tambourine).

Music has to be sent digitally to the organization on beforehand:

- No later then 1 week before the championships.
- File type: mp3
- Dancers should cut their music to the allowed duration, see table below.

### **Duration of the performance:**

Solos and duos	Juniors and adults	All rounds (except final)	1:45-2:15 min.
		Final	2:00-3:00 min.
Showteams	Juniors and adults	All rounds (except final)	2:15-2:45 min.
		Final	2:30-3:30 min.

### **Length of solo pieces in categories:**

Duo and Showteams - no more than 30 seconds over the entire length of the choreography. All the solo parts are counted together. A Showteam is considered as a whole. Solo parts and duo parts may be used, but these should not dominate.

### **Number of rounds:**

First round (quarter final)	Own choreography and own music If there are 30 or more participants per class, there will also be a quarterfinal. Own choreography and own music.
Semifinal	Own choreography and own music (same choreography as quarterfinal or another choreography) and own music
Final	Own choreography and own music (same choreography as quarterfinal and semifinal, or another choreography) and own music.

You can therefore show a total of 2 to 3 different dances, but you may use also the same dance every round! The number of dance rounds depends on the number of participants in each category. When there are many dancers, the organization may decide to add an improvisation round. The jury will make a selection which candidates go to the first round with own choreography and own music.

### **Judgement:**

In the preliminary rounds the jury uses the 'crossen' system. From the quarter final the judges work with TCI (technique, composition and image). In the semifinal and final there is also 'show' as 4<sup>th</sup> criterion.

**Technique:** mastering of the belly dance techniques

**Composition:** using the dance floor, dancing an original composition.

**Image:** the image of the dancer(s), presentation, finishing touch, tidy and original costume (for example: bottom can not be seen during the dance). Pay attention: when dancing folklore, a costume appropriate with the style and music needs to be worn.

**Show:** the entertainment factor for the audience.

## **Practicalities:**

### **Filming and photography:**

Filming is allowed. We do like it when dancers upload their films to youtube and send us the youtube link. We will publish your link at our website.

Photographing without flash is permitted. **Flash photography may only be produced by our house photographers! Too many flashes may have a negative effect on the candidate and disturbs the jury in their concentration.**

### **Certificates:**

Each candidate will receive a certificate. This includes the candidates who finish last. All certificates are awarded during the prize ceremony. If a candidate leaves before the award ceremony, the certificate can be sent to that person at €2 shipping costs. However, we appreciate it very much if all candidates stay until after the ceremony.

### **Entry fee per person:**

Whether the entry fee needs to be paid beforehand by bank transfer, or at the day of the championships at the box office, the organization will state via the website and the newsletter. The organization also states the amount of the registration/entry fee via these channels.

**No dancer/team will compete with themselves.**

Yours sincerely,

**The organization: Sarabi, Belynia, Isis Zahara and Dutch Dance Sports**

[www.bellydancechampionships.nl](http://www.bellydancechampionships.nl)

<http://www.dutchdancesports.com>