**McKinnon Dance Member Agreement
(2023- 2024)**

**McKinnon Dance Member**: a dancer who is attending regular Highland and/or Step dance classes on a weekly basis.

**Fees:**

Pre-registration – A fee of $30 must be paid (using email money transfer) before completing the online registration. New students must pay prior to registration in order to hold a space in a specific dance class.

\*Dance class payments – payments for the 2022-2023 dance year will be completed using email money transfer:

* August 15th 2023 (Term 1)
* November 15th 2023 (Term 2)
* February 15th 2024 (Term 3)
* Discontinuing dance classes- in the event a member withdraws from the dance school they are asked to communicate in writing with the dance teacher. Once the term fee is paid, there is no reimbursement.

**Price List**

\*\*\*Dancers attending two 1.5 hour classes will be charged as per 3 one hour classes\*\*\*.

\*\*\*Dancers attending three 1.5 hour classes will be charged as per 4.5 one hour classes\*\*\*.

Private Lessons - $60 per hour, $30 per half hour

Terms- Term 1 (September, October, November), Term 2 (December, January, February), Term 3 (March, April, May).

Term fees which cover three months of classes:

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| * 1 class a week per dancer- $160
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| * 2 classes a week per family- $290
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| * 3 classes a week per family - $375
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| * 4 classes a week per family- $465
* 4.5 classes a week per family - $510
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| * 5 classes a week per immediate family- $555
* 5.5 classes a week per family - $600.00
* 6 classes a week per immediate family- $645
* 6.5 classes a week per immediate family- $690
* 7 classes a week per immediate family- $735
* 7.5 classes a week per immediate family- $780
* 8 classes a week per immediate family- $825
* 8.5 classes a week per immediate family- $870
* 9 classes a week per immediate family- $915
* 9.5 classes a week per immediate family- $960
* 10 classes a week per immediate family- $1005
* 10.5 classes a week per immediate family- $1050
* 11 classes a week per immediate family - $1095
* 11.5 classes a week per immediate family - $1140
* 12 classes a week per immediate family - $1185
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Recital Payment Information - in order to avoid dance class interruptions with money collections at three separate dates, and to ensure all dancers have recital tickets and costumes, recital expenses are paid in advance. Each class will have a dance parent responsible for assisting in purchasing the recital costumes. The fee per dancer will be $105.00 and shall be paid on or before **February 1st 2024** (via email money transfer). This fee includes:

* $45 - three recital tickets per dancer (additional tickets will also be available for sale in April)
* $30 - costume fee (if the full fee is not used, the dancer will be reimbursed, we are very budget friendly with recital costumes. Dancers attending several Highland and Step classes per week, the fee may go over $30).
* $30- recital fee to assist with venue rental, awards, sound, etc.

Medal Tests – a fee list will be sent out in September. Fees must be paid on or before September 15th 2023. Medal Tests will take place in November 2022.

**Summary of Financial Commitment:**

* Term 1 Fee – August 15th 2023
* Term 2 Fee – November 15th 2023
* Term 3 Fee – February 15th 2024
* Medal Test Fee – September 15th 2023
* Recital Fees- February 1st 2024 ($105.00)

**Scottish Dance Teachers Alliance exams and medal tests:** these are offered to Highland dancers. Much like Royal Conservatory music exams or swimming badges, medal tests give the dancer an opportunity to showcase their knowledge of Highland dance as well as their knowledge of theory, which is tested by a certified adjudicator. The exams take place in the fall and our requests (meaning our numbers for exam levels) must be sent in advance. Dancers are encouraged to take the same exams as their classmates so that everyone can follow the same path. The exams may take place during the weekday and/or on the weekend and vary in time depending on the level of the dancer. If interested, at the age of 16, dancers have the opportunity to be tested for their Associates, which would certify them as a Highland Dance Instructor.

Medal Test fees need to be paid in advance in order to ensure your dancer will have the opportunity to complete the exam. Once all dance schools in the Maritime Provinces send in their requests, a schedule is drafted and the teacher communicates the schedule with the dancers. Dancers having only 2 months’ experience are encouraged to take the exams, as they are often able to demonstrate the basic positions and movements after 8 classes. Medal tests will take place at the McKinnon Dance studio.

**Outside Instruction:** McKinnon Dance members who wish to attend workshops, which are offered in conjunction with dance competitions, are asked to inform their instructor in advance. McKinnon Dance offers workshops with guest instructors for Highland and Step dance annually. McKinnon Dance members are not permitted to obtain instruction from, be members of or affiliated with other Highland or Step Dance schools or instructors.

**Parent Committee:** the parent committee is a group of elected dance parents that meet several times during the year to discuss various topics that relate to the dance school and its dancers. The committee was formed in 2012. The current positions are:

* Co-chair
* Co-chair/Competition Organizer
* Secretary
* Treasurer 1
* Member at Large
* Member at Large

Minutes from parent committee meetings are sent to all dance parents via email.

**Volunteering:** All dance parents are asked to volunteer for **ONE** mandatory fundraising event during the dance year. The parent committee will communicate the details of this event.

**Website:** the dance school website address is www.mckinnondance.ca

**Monthly Newsletter:** A monthly newsletter is sent via email with information regarding the dance school, upcoming events, deadlines, competition information and other important information. It is the dancer and/or parent’s responsibility to read the monthly newsletter and to keep up to date. This is the most efficient method to relay important information. If you have questions regarding information in the newsletter please email the dance teacher.

**McKinnon Dance Code of Ethics**: McKinnon Dance and its members, parents and guardians will abide by *The Scottish Official Board of Highland Dance Code of Ethics*.

**Covid-19**

We will continue to advise dance school members of all necessary protocols that should be followed during dance classes.

**Dress Code:** Highland dancers – black or navy tank top or bodysuit, spandex or tight fitting black or navy shorts, white knee socks and dance slippers (ghillies). First year students are not required to purchase dance slippers. Competitive dancers are required to have a practice skirt. Hair must be tidy and worn up off of the face in a ponytail, bun or braid. Dancers who do not meet dress code will need to borrow dance studio clothing. Step dancers – comfortable clothing, step dance shoes or clean indoor shoes. All dancers are asked to remove jewelry (necklaces and dangly earrings) while dancing. All dancers are asked to take a water bottle to class as well as a notebook to take notes. Cell phones are not permitted in the studio!

**S.O.B.H.D. CODE OF ETHICS**

**GENERAL BEHAVIOUR**

1. Participants will display honesty, fairness and equality of opportunity in all relationships in association with Highland Dancing, this includes but is not limited to social network communication (e.g. Facebook).
2. Participants will not engage in behavior which undermines the status and esteem of Highland Dancing.
3. Participants will recognize the authority of judges and other officials and treat them with courtesy and respect.
4. Participants will treat all other participants with courtesy and respect, whether successful in competition or not.
5. Participants will not discriminate between other participants on the grounds of sex, ethnic background, religion or ability.
6. Participants will respect the competence of teachers and judges and will not engage in public criticism; nor will participants be exposed to  adverse public criticism. This includes but is not limited to verbal, textual or social networking communication.
7. Participants will not compromise the integrity of any competition result by seeking to influence any judge’s decision.
8. Participants will not actively persuade dancers to change teacher nor will participants seek to influence other participant’s choice of teacher.
9. Participants are responsible to maintain trophies and return them in the same conditions as received.

**Photography and Video Recording:** McKinnon Dance members may be photographed during performances. If you do not want photos of your dancer to be posted on the McKinnon Dance website or used for promotional purposes, it is your responsibility to indicate this while completing the online registration. McKinnon Dance members and families must obtain permission from every dancer (and/or parent/guardian) appearing in any photo and/or video.

**Parent Viewing:** All dance parents are invited to watch one dance class in October/November (pending SDTA Medal Test date) and again in March. Parents and guests are not permitted to watch regular classes, as it can be distracting for the dancers. Parents are encouraged to ask questions throughout the class to help improve their understanding of the dances and movements.

**Private Lessons:** private lessons are not offered on a regular basis; however, you may request a private lesson via email. A parent or guardian MUST be present during the lesson.

**Practice Scribbler:** All McKinnon Dance members (Highland and/or Step) have the opportunity to participate in the *Practice Scribbler Challenge*. Information is sent out with the monthly newsletters.

**Attendance:** 100% attendance is strongly recommended. As Highland and Step dance is very detailed and fast paced, beginner dancers are learning something new almost every week. Dancers must arrive on time for class. Dancers who are more than ten (10) minutes late for class will be asked to sit and watch for the entirety of the class. It is very important that a dancer does not miss the warmup segment and that they do not disrupt the class when entering the studio.

**Summer Dance Camp:** A three-day dance camp may be offered for Highland Dance.

**Summer Dance Classes:** Competitive Highland dancers are eligible to attend summer dance classes (during the month of June) to assist in preparation for upcoming competitions.

**Inclement Weather:** In the case of inclement weather, it is the dancer’s and/or parents’ responsibility to check the McKinnon Dance FaceBook page or website [www.mckinnondance.ca](http://www.mckinnondance.ca). Updates on classes will be posted at 2pm. If weather changes between 2-6pm there will be updates to the website one hour before the scheduled class. There is one week of classes that is fit into the schedule (every year) to make up for inclement weather. If classes are cancelled above and beyond the makeup week, you will be advised of the makeup schedule.

**Studio Location:**McKinnon Dance classes are held at the Bridgewater Curling Club Hall. Please enter and park on the right side of the Curling Club and exit at the left side of the building. The Curling Club is well marked with entrance and exit arrows. Dancers will be using the right side door to enter the hall.

**Drop-off and Pick-up**: Parents/Guardians are asked to accompany the dancer into the studio entry way before and after classes if the dancer is under the age of 10.

**Purchasing Costumes:** Members must consult with their instructor before purchasing new or used costumes for competition and performance purposes. Costumes are very expensive and should meet regulation as well as compliment the dancer's overall appearance.

**Logo:** The McKinnon Dance logo is copyright material. In order to use this logo you must have approval from the dance teacher. McKinnon Dance clothing can be purchased through the dance school as requested.

**Competition:** McKinnon Dance members have the opportunity to compete in Highland Dance once their dance teacher approves. Dancers wishing to begin competition must attend the *Competition Information Session* in the fall. The dancer must also attend one competition as an observer before applying for their dance card and begin competing. Dancers must attend a minimum of six competitions in the competitive year and inform the dance teacher prior to the signature of the dance card renewal form. All competitive dancers must attend a minimum of two Highland dance classes per week.

**McKinnon Dance Performances:**

With the dance school - McKinnon Dance members are invited to perform at several events during the year. If you sign up to perform at a performance, you will be added to the set list and it is your responsibility to attend the practice as well as the performance. If you sign up for two performances and do not show up for said performances without just cause, you will not be permitted to perform (other than during the annual recital) for one dance year.

Dancers performing on their own – In the event you are asked to perform, please remember you are representing McKinnon Dance. Dress appropriately in your dance costume or ask to borrow a dance costume from your dance teacher. Hair should be tidy and off of the face and you should always act in a polite manner. Please inform your instructor if you will be performing.