ABBREVIATED RULES & REGULATIONS

This document provides an easy to understand version of the HHI Rules & Regulations.
For the complete version please visit the HHI website at www.hiphopinternational.com or click HERE.

About Hip Hop International (HHI)

HHI is a global organization recognized in over 100 countries, upholding the values of hip hop culture while maintaining professional standards in its events and certification of its judges and educators.

Entry & Eligibility Criteria & Policies

- Crew members must be citizens or residents of the country they represent.
- Participants cannot represent more than two countries in three years.
- A crew member cannot represent two countries at the same event and/or within the same year.
- Crews from countries without an HHI affiliate may participate in an affiliated HHI Championship in another country. They will receive a score but will not be eligible for placement. Participation in the World Hip Hop Dance Championship may be considered upon written request and routine video review by HHI Headquarters.

Composition of a Dance Crew

- **Junior Division**: 5-9 members, ages 12 and younger.
- **Varsity Division**: 5-9 members, ages 13-17.
- **Adult Division**: 5-9 members, ages 18 and older.
- **MiniCrew**: 3-4 members, any age.
- **JV MegaCrew:** 10-40 members, 17 and younger (up to 10% of the crew may consist of members who are 18 years old turning 19 within the calendar year of competition).
- **MegaCrew**: 10-40 members, any age.

Age Requirements for Junior, Varsity & Adult Divisions

- Age eligibility is determined as of December 31 of the competition year. A crew member whose age falls between two age divisions in the competition year (ending December 31) may compete in either division within that year. For example: A 12-year-old turning 13 within the competition year (by 12/31) may compete in the junior and/or the varsity division. Likewise, a 17-year-old turning 18 within the competition year (by 12/31) may compete in the varsity and/or the adult division.
- A maximum of three younger members may compete in an older division but not vice versa.

Participation Limits

- Participants cannot compete in more than two crews per division.
- No more than 1/3 of a crew's members may also compete in another crew in the same division.
- The crew members in a MegaCrew may not include more than 1/3 of the crew members in a JV MegaCrew competing in the same competition.

Routine/Music Length Requirements

- Junior & MiniCrew Divisions | 1:25–1:35.
- Varsity & Adult Divisions | 1:55–2:05.
- JV MegaCrew Division | 2:30-3:30.
- MegaCrew Division | 3:00–4:00.

Music Criteria

- Music must be submitted as requested by the event organizer.
- Music must not contain explicit or offensive content.

Dance Styles

Crews should include one or more dance styles in their performance without excessive use of the same moves or patterns. To receive the highest point value a routine should include three styles.
The following is a list of street/club/funk dance styles from early foundation to present that crews can incorporate into their routine. Routines are not limited to these styles as there may be street/club/funk dance styles that are not listed. If a crew has a question about a style that is not listed, contact Hip Hop International headquarters for clarification.
Hip Hop Dance / Locking / Popping / Breaking / Whacking / Voguing / House Dance
Party Dances or Club Dances (popular or trendy dances) / Krumping
Stepping/Gumboot Dance / Dancehall / Afro Style / Reggaeton / Commercial

Judges

Judges are certified and will score routines based on performance and skill criteria.

Scoring

Total possible score: 10 points.

- **Performance – 50% of the score or 5 points**:
    - **Creativity**
    - **Staging/Spacing/Formations/Level Changes**
    - **Showmanship**
    - **Style/Presence & Attire**
    - **Entertainment Value/Audience Appeal**

  The judges will reward routines for incorporating unique and original/creative moves, good usage of the stage, formations, showmanship and authentic presence of dance styles resulting in an entertaining routine that evokes emotional response.
- **Skill – 50% of the score or 5 points**
    - **Musicality**
    - **Synchronization/Timing**
    - **Execution/Controlled Mobility and Stabilization**
    - **Difficulty of Execution of Authentic Dance Styles**
    - **Variety of Dance Styles**

  The judges will consider the quality of movement throughout the routine, including arm, leg and body placement, combinations of five levels: floor, kneeling, crouching, standing and air, and the synchronization of the crew members. The judges will evaluate the execution and difficulty of the style(s) performed.

Ranking

- Final rankings are based on scores from the final round only.
- Ties are broken by the higher performance score and if the score is still tied then it will be based on the higher skill score**.** If the skill score is tied, then it will be based on the ordinal ranking.

General Criteria

- Attire must reflect hip hop culture and street presence.
- Props are prohibited for MiniCrews and 5 to 9 member crews however small handheld props are allowed for JV MegaCrews and MegaCrews if related to the performance.

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- All crew members must remain on stage throughout the entire performance except for JV MegaCrews and MegaCrews where it is mandatory for all crew members to remain on stage during the opening and closing 30 seconds.

Stage Size

- The standard stage size is 32’ x 40’. The exact size of the stage may be confirmed with the event organizer prior to the event.

Order of Performance

- Preliminary Round: Random draw.
- Semifinal Round: Reverse order of preliminary scores.
- Final Round: Reverse order of semifinal scores. The defending champions automatically advance to the finals and perform last.

Practice Rounds/Tech Rehearsal/Competition Rounds

- Crews are allotted rehearsal time on the competition stage when possible. Late arrivals may forfeit this opportunity.
- Competitions may include one (final), two (preliminary and final), or three (preliminary, semifinal, and final) rounds determined by HHI event organizers, time permitting.

Routine Changes

- Routines may be different (modified or new choreography) for subsequent rounds.

Number & Selection of Dance Crews for the World Hip Hop Dance Championship

- Crews qualify at national championships conducted by HHI licensees. If there is no HHI representative in a country, crews should contact HHI headquarters to request an official invitation.
- Top five crews in each division (per country) advance to the World Championship, with defending champions automatically qualifying.

List of Deductions

- The list of deductions can be found in the Official Rules & Regulations Manual.

Keep the following in mind when creating your routine:

- **Authenticity:** Choose moves and styles that represent the crew's strengths and personality.
- **Originality:** Be imaginative and innovative, avoiding imitation of previous winners.
- **Creativity:** Be mindful of music editing and avoid excessive sound effects.
- **“Groove”:** Focus on showcasing the groove to the music being presented, through uninhibited expression of dance movements.
- **Variety of Styles:** Try to include a selection of styles but execute them correctly.
- **Crew Strength:** Understand that the judges will assess the crew based on the weakest member.
- **"Signature Moves":** Develop unique signature moves to enhance creativity, identity and impact.
- **Staging:** Utilize the entire stage.

This document highlights the essentials for dance crews participating in HHI events.
It is meant as a helpful guide and does not replace the complete Official Rules & Regulations manual. To fully prepare, all participants **should read the full Official Rules & Regulations manual** for complete understanding and successful participation.

For more details, please refer to the complete Official Rules & Regulations manual available on the HHI website www.hiphopinternational.com or click HERE