To: CIAC Member Schools  
From: Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference  
Re: CAS-CIAC/CSAC Dance Team Championships  

The Connecticut Student Activities Conference under the authority of the Connecticut Association of Schools will for the fiftieth time conduct an Association Dance Team championship. In order to more accurately estimate the number of schools competing, CAS/CSAC requests that you complete the enclosed Entry Form if you intend to enter.

Please submit the Entry Form to CAS, via the password-protected online eligibility center by January 14, 2011. Your promptness is appreciated.

The competition that is planned will be as follows:

A. **State Championship** – Saturday, March 5, 2011  
   Site - Hamden High School  
   Hamden, CT  
   Snow date – Sunday, March 6, 2011

B. **Entry fee** of $85 per team will be charged.

C. Each squad will **PERFORM A ROUTINE NOT TO EXCEED 2:15** (two minutes and 15 seconds).

D. 2010-11 National Federation Rules will be followed. It is the responsibility of each Advisor/Coach to become familiar with the National Federation guidelines for High School Spirit groups (dance teams). BE ADVISED OF THE FOLLOWING RULES FOR THIS CHAMPIONSHIP: **NO JEWELRY, NO BARE FEET OR SPIKED HEELS, AND NO CHEER STUNTING**. SEE 2011 SPECIFIC ROUTINE RULES AND GUIDELINES SECTION OF THIS TOURNAMENT PACKET FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS YEAR’S RULES. Coaches/Advisors – keep in mind that we are still High School Dance Teams and that we will be judged as such. Emphasis should be made as to the appropriateness of routine moves, music and costume/uniforms. When putting together costumes/uniforms, keep in mind the 3 B’s – bellies, behinds and busts. Penalties will be assigned to all teams not following the regulations set forth by this committee. We cannot make our guidelines less strict than National Federation rules, but we can make them stricter.

E. The number of divisions, such as Pom, Jazz, Hip Hop, Kickline, will be determined based upon the number of schools that enter the competition.

F. Teams entering may compete in more than one division, but a separate entry fee of $85.00 must accompany their registration. A maximum of 2 routines per team will be allowed this year.

G. Appropriate awards similar to CIAC awards will be presented to the Champion (1st place), and First Runner-up (2nd place) teams in each division.

Questions or concerns may be addressed to the CAS office – telephone (203)250-1111 or Fax (203)250-1345

Please share this information with your Dance Team coach/advisor.
TO: CAS/CSAC Member Secondary School Dance Team Advisor/ Coaches
FROM: CAS/CSAC Dance Committee
RE: 5th Annual CAS/CSAC Dance Team Championships

The information in this packet covers in detail the 2011 CAS/CSAC DANCE TEAM Championships.

Your school is encouraged to participate in this activity, which has been well received in the last four years. If you intend to enter, please do the following:

Complete the Entry Form and submit it via the password-protected online eligibility center by **Friday, January 14, 2011**. Mail the $85 entry fee, payable to CAS, to the CAS-CIAC office, 30 Realty Drive, Cheshire, CT 06410.

NOTE: Place all of the dancers in your Varsity Dance Team program on the entry form (including alternates). There is no limit to the number of dancers who may compete, but they must be certified by your school’s principal as being “students in good standing.” **Make sure that you indicate the exact number of dancers who will be competing in each division you are entering** – for example: you might have a varsity team of 25 dancers with 20 competing in Jazz and 15 competing in Hip Hop – indicate that number of the entry form, but include all of your varsity dancer’s (plus alternates) names. If you have a JV team, they may travel to the event with you, but they must pay to watch the event as spectators.

The CAS/CSAC Dance Committee encourages you to participate and support this program. These championships are a worthwhile activity for all high school youth.

**ALERT**

- Please be advised that all members on the entry form have been medically cleared by the appropriate school personnel.

- There are **four** (4) divisions for the 2011 competition – Pom, Jazz, Hip Hop and Kick.
1. **AUTHORITY**

   The decisions of the CAS/CSAC Dance Team Committee and/or Meet Directors relative to the operation of the competition shall be final.

2. **AWARDS**

   In each division, a plaque and individual medals will be awarded to each of the champion, (1st place) and runner-up (2nd place) teams.

3. **DATE OF COMPETITION / SITE / STARTING TIMES**

   **DATE:** State Championship – Saturday, March 5, 2011
   Snow Date -- Sunday, March 6, 2011

   **TIME:** To be announced with a follow-up communication

   **SITE:** Hamden High School

   The CAS/CSAC dance committee will determine the starting time for each division competing and a follow-up letter will be mailed to participating schools indicating the starting time.

4. **DIVISIONS**

   The 2011 Dance Team Championship divisions will be determined when the entry forms are returned to the CAS Office. The divisions of dance will be: Pom, Jazz, Hip Hop and Kickline. Determination of any splits in divisions into Large or Small, will be made once all teams have registered by the deadline given.

5. **ENTRY FEE / ENTRY FORM**

   Each dance team entering the Championships will be assessed an entry fee of $85 per routine, which must be mailed to CAS, 30 Realty Drive, Cheshire, CT 06410. Entry form and fee must be in the CAS office not later than January 14, 2011. Entry forms are to be submitted via the CAS website.

6. **LATE ENTRY POLICY**

   - No tournament entries will be accepted after the established deadline except those approved by the CIAC Board of Control.
   - Corrections requested by a school to an entry form that was submitted by the established deadline, but prior to the seeding/pairing data published on the web site will be assessed a fee of $50 per correction to a maximum of $250.
   - All requests for corrections must be submitted on a support ticket via the online eligibility center. **No phone requests will be considered.**

7. **MEET REGULATIONS**

   A. Only member schools of CAS/CSAC may enter these championships.
B. EACH DANCE TEAM MUST PERFORM A ROUTINE THAT LASTS NO LONGER THAN TWO MINUTES AND FIFTEEN SECONDS (2:15). Teams that perform for more than the allotted time will result in points being deducted. Two points will be deducted for each 5-second violation or any part thereof. TIME OF PERFORMANCE FOR EACH TEAM WILL START WHEN THE MUSIC BEGINS OR AT THE FIRST MOVEMENT (after taking the floor) AND WILL STOP WHEN THE MUSIC ENDS. Formal entrances and exits are not allowed.

C. A disc jockey equipped with a tape and CD player will be provided at the site, however a team may use their own tape player if they so choose. IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT EACH SQUAD BRING A BACK UP OF THEIR MUSIC.

D. Three or four performance judges and a safety judge will score each team. If two divisions are competing at the same time there will be two sets of judges. Technical difficulties will be adjudicated by the judges.

Kathy Swillinger, Hamden High School, is the Tournament Official Coordinator - Cell Phone (203) 675-6237/email: kescoach@comcast.net . Kathy will hire and assign judges with the assistance of a subcommittee of the CAS/CSAC Dance Committee.

E. The 2010-11 National Federation Rules for Spirit squads must be followed. Actions judged to be illegal by the National Federation Rules will result in penalty points assessed. NO JEWELRY, NO BARE FEET OR SPIKED HEELS, NO CHEER STUNTING. ** SEE ATTACHED SHEET FOR SPECIFIC ROUTINE RULES AND GUIDELINES ** -- These will all be assessed penalty points.

NFHS Rule 3-1-6 …. Dance, drill and pom teams must wear athletic shoes or appropriate dance shoes that cover the toes and entire sole of the foot.

Exception: Dance paws and Pedini-style dance shoes that have heels of sufficient height to raise the bottom of the foot off the floor.

F. NO “Props” are permitted in this competition other than “poms” for teams entering the Pom Division only.

G. Judges decisions on scoring will be final and binding on entries. Technical difficulties, such as music stopping, will be adjudicated by the judges.

H. The Dance Committee will determine the “order of performance” for the championship prior to the competition and will mail this order to those member schools entered.

I. Only one squad per member school may enter the competition.

J. All competitors must be grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 and must be a member of your Varsity Dance Team.

K. Each team will receive five complimentary tickets (if entry fee is paid). These complimentary tickets are to be used for school personnel and spouses, NOT parents.

There will be no presale of tickets. Ticket prices will be: Children five (5) and under are free; Senior Citizens (age 65 and older) $5.00; Students (Grades 1-12) $5.00; Adults (All others not in any of the above categories) $8.00.

L. Dance team advisor/ coaches are expected to maintain discipline among the competitors and make certain that good sportsmanship prevails in both winning and defeat. Schools will be held liable for the actions of their competitors, which may include, but is not limited to, property damage or assault. LEAVE ALL VALUABLES AT HOME. The host school is not responsible for any lost items. Coaches should carry a bag to hold any needed items such as cell phones, etc.
M. Competitors will not be permitted to compete without the presence of their dance coach/advisor, or having in writing from the Principal of the school a statement designating an adult replacement.

N. Coaches are to bring a large plastic bag so that what their team “packs in” may be packed out.

O. Score sheets will be presented to each coach/advisor at the conclusion of the competition. Also available to coaches will be an order of finish and point totals for their division.

P. Scoring will be done in accordance with the score sheet. A detailed score sheet will be mailed to those entered in February, 2011.

8. **TEAM COMPOSITION**

Each team must be a Varsity level High School Dance Team and its members must be certified by their school’s principal as being a “student in good standing” at the time of the Championship.

9. **TRAVELING EXPENSES**

Competing schools must provide their own transportation at their expense.

10. **WARM-UP AREA**

A warm-up area will be provided at the competition site for use by teams prior to the start of the competition. Each team will be allowed four (4) minutes for warm-ups.

11. **DRESSING FACILITIES**

Facilities will be available at the site.

12. **MEDICAL SERVICE**

Medical personnel will be on site at the competition to attend to any emergency needs of competitors.
In addition to the rules set forth in the 2010-11 National Federation High School Rules Book for Spirit Groups (dance teams), the following specific guidelines will be in place for this year’s tournament.

A. **TUMBLING AND TRICKS**

Tumbling is allowed in all divisions as long as one hand, foot or body part remains in constant contact with the performing surface. These skills can be performed individually or in combination. Airborne skills are not allowed when hip over head rotation occurs.

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Drops to the knee, thigh, seat, front, back, jazz split (hurdler) or split position onto the performing surface from a turn, jump, stand or inverted position must first bear weight on the hands or feet in order to break the impact of the drop. You may do a hurdler position (jazz split) as long as you slide into that position.

B. **DANCE LIFTS AND PARTNERING**

General Guidelines:

1. Jumping or tossing from one dancer to another is not allowed.
2. Jumping or tossing from one dancer to or from the performing surface is not allowed.
3. All cheer stunts and/or pyramids are prohibited. (Exceptions: pony sit, thigh stand, shoulder sit.)
4. All tosses including toe-pitches are prohibited.

Dance Lifts:

1. Dance lifts are permitted and are defined as an action in which a dancer(s) is elevated from the performing surface by one or more dancers and set down. A dance lift is comprised of “lifting” dancer(s) and “elevated” dancer(s).
2. A lifting dancer must maintain direct contact with the performance surface at all times.
3. A lifting dancer must have hand/arm to body contact of the lifted dancer(s) at all times.
4. A lifting dancer must maintain control of the momentum, positioning, changes in position and return to the performance surface of the lifted dancer(s).
5. Swinging lifts are allowed, provided the lifted dancer’s body does not make a complete circular rotation and is in a face up position at all times.
6. Hip over head rotation of the lifted dancer may occur as long as his/her hips maintain a level at or below the shoulders of a standing dancer. (Exception: chorus line flips and assisted back tucks are NOT ALLOWED.)
Partnering:

1. Dance partnering skills are permitted and are defined as an action in which two dancers use support from one another, but are not elevated.
2. Partnering skills are permitted and must maintain body-to-body contact throughout the duration of the skill. One partner must maintain constant contact with the performing surface.

C. CHOREOGRAPHY AND COSTUMING

Suggestive, offensive, or vulgar choreography and/or music is inappropriate for family audiences and therefore lacks audience appeal. Routine choreography should be appropriate and entertaining for all audience members. Vulgar or suggestive material is defined as any movement or choreography implying something improper or indecent, appearing offensive or sexual in content, and/or relaying lewd or profane gestures or implications. Inappropriate choreography affects the judges overall impression of the routine. Make sure that all choreography is age appropriate. All costuming and make-up should be age appropriate and acceptable for family viewing.

ALL COSTUME MALFUNCTIONS RESULTING IN TEAM MEMBERS BEING EXPOSED ARE GROUNDS FOR PENALTY. Please make sure you have several dress rehearsals prior to competition to work out any costume problems. SHOES MUST BE WORN DURING THE COMPETITION. Wearing socks and/or footed tights only is prohibited. Spiked heels are prohibited. JEWELRY IS PROHIBITED (see Federation Rule Book). When dancers are standing at attention, all costumes/uniforms must cover the midriff area completely. The midriff includes the entire midriff section from the bra line down all the way around the body. Nude bodyliners are acceptable. All male dancers costumes must include a shirt that is fastened, however it can be sleeveless.

D. PROPS

Props are NOT ALLOWED except for poms which must be used by teams in the Pom Division. A prop is defined as anything that you dance with that is not attached to your costume. NOTE: If you remove an article of clothing such as a hat or jacket, etc., and throw it onto the performing surface it is NOT considered to be a prop and is therefore allowed. Make sure that any item that is removed and is on the floor is placed in a position where it cannot be “stepped” on, which would then cause penalty points to be awarded. The ruling about dancing with articles in your hands (sunglasses, money, etc.) still stands as not being allowed.
2011 CONNECTICUT HIGH SCHOOL DANCE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS
Sponsored by CAS/CSAC

2011 Dance Team Entry Form
Form to be submitted via the password-protected online eligibility center
For the Attention of the Principal as well as the Athletic Director

This entry form must be on file in the CAS office, via the password-protected online eligibility center no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 14, 2011. The $85 entry fee must be mailed to the CAS office, 30 Realty Drive, Cheshire, CT 06410. A late fee of $50 will be charged if the entry form is not in the CAS office by 4:00 p.m. on January 14, 2011.

There is no limit to the number of dancers who compete. Submit the names of all of the dancers in your Varsity Dance Program (even if you are not sure if they will be competing at this time).

If schools require a P.O. for fee payment, indicate that payment of the entry form will be forthcoming.

Please fill in the school information requested and your statement of intent and return via the password-protected online eligibility center by January 14, 2011.

LIST ALL THE MEMBERS OF YOUR DANCE TEAM ON THIS ENTRY FORM (varsity members only). REMINDER: All of the dancers, whose names appear on the entry form, must be certified as being students “in good standing” from the school that they are competing with.

THE PRINCIPAL CERTIFIES THAT THE INDIVIDUALS LISTED ON THIS OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM ARE STUDENTS IN “GOOD STANDING” AT THEIR HIGH SCHOOL AND HAVE SATISFIED THE STATE HEALTH STATUTES AND LOCAL REGULATION REGARDING PHYSICAL EXAMINATION AND ARE PHYSICALLY FIT TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS COMPETITION.

School ______________________________ City/Town ______________________________
Principal ___________________________ Principal’s School Phone ( ) ______________
Athletic Director ______________________ Principal’s Home Phone ( ) ______________
AD’s School Phone ____________________ AD’s Home Phone ( ) ______________
AD’s Email ___________________________
Coach/Advisor ________________________
Coach/Advisor Home Address ____________________________
City ____________________________ State _______ Zip __________
Coach/Advisor School Phone ( ) ______________ Coach/Advisor Home Phone ( ) ______________
Coach/Advisor Email ____________________________ Coach/Advisor Cell ( ) ______________

INDICATE THE DIVISION YOU WILL BE COMPETING IN AND THE NUMBER OF DANCERS WHO WILL BE COMPETING:

POM -- #_____ JAZZ -- #_____ HIP HOP -- #_____ KICK -- #_____
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2010-11 NFHS SPIRIT RULES CHANGES

2-1-15 An athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional.

2-2-8 Supports, braces, etc., which are hard and unyielding or have rough edges or surfaces must be padded with a closed-cell, slow recovery foam padding no less than one-half inch thick. Padded knee and ankle braces which are unaltered from the manufacturer’s original design/production do not require any additional padding. A participant wearing a cast (excluding a properly covered air cast) must not be involved in a stunt.

2-6-7 Add exception: 1 ¼ twists are permitted from side-facing stunts.

New 2-8-14 Suspended splits (involving bracer(s) that originate at any height and drop to any level are legal provided all the following conditions are met.
   a. The flyer has both hands in contact with the bracer(s).
   b. The flyer does not become inverted.
   c. The flyer has at least two bases.
   d. The flyer and bracer(s) each have a separate spotter. (Exception: Bracers in shoulder sits or thigh stands.)
   e. In suspended splits when the flyer is not released by the bases, the bracer(s) must maintain hand/arm contact with the flyer until she/he is no longer in a split position.
   f. In suspended splits when the flyer is released by the bases, the release must be a continuous, vertical up-and-down movement in which the flyer remains over the base(s). The bracers must maintain hand/arm contact with the flyer during the entire loss of contact with the bases.

Comment: Bracers are frequently used in many types of stunts. This rule allows a flyer in suspended splits to have contact with bracer(s) rather than with base(s).

3-1-6 Exception: Dance paws and pedini-style dance shoes that have heels of sufficient height to raise the bottom of the foot off the floor.

Comment: Dance paws allow movement of the foot without compromising the look and feel of barefoot dancing. Dance paws also help protect the foot by preventing friction burns and skin tears.

New 3-7 Assisted Inverted Floor Stunts (New Section)
Assisted Inverted floor stunts are legal provided both the following conditions are met:
   a. The inverted participant is in direct, weight-bearing contact with the performing surface and provides primary self-support throughout the stunt.
   b. The assisting non-inverted participant is in direct, weight-bearing contact with the performing surface and provides only partial support of the inverted participant.

Comment: Assisted floor stunts are becoming common, especially in hip hop routines. Previously the only reference to this type of stunt was a situation/ruling for Rule 2.
A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury or (TBI), “that changes how the cells in the brain normally work. A concussion is caused by a blow to the head or body that causes the brain to move rapidly inside the skull. Even a “ding,” “getting your bell rung,” or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious. Concussions can also result from a fall or from players colliding with each other or with obstacles, such as a goalpost” (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2009).

PART I -- SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF A CONCUSSION
– A concussion should be suspected if any one or more of the following signs or symptoms are present, or if the coach/evaluator is unsure.

1. Signs of a concussion may include (what the athlete looks like):
   • Confusion / disorientation / irritability
   • Trouble resting / getting comfortable
   • Lack of concentration
   • Slow response / drowsiness
   • Incoherent / slurred speech
   • Slow / clumsy movements
   • Loss of consciousness
   • Amnesia / memory problems
   • Act silly / combative / aggressive
   • Repeatedly ask same questions
   • Dazed appearance
   • Restless / irritable
   • Constant attempts to return to play
   • Constant motion
   • Disproportionate / inappropriate reactions
   • Balance problems

2. Symptoms of a concussion may include (what the athlete reports):
   • Headache or dizziness
   • Nausea or vomiting
   • Blurred or double vision
   • Over sensitivity to sound / light / touch
   • Ringing in ears
   • Feeling foggy or groggy

Note: Public Act No. 10-62 requires that a coach MUST immediately remove a student-athlete from participating in any intramural or interscholastic athletic activity who (A) is observed to exhibit signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion following a suspected blow to the head or body, or (B) is diagnosed with a concussion, regardless of when such concussion or head injury may have occurred.

PART II – RETURN TO PARTICIPATION (RTP)
– Currently, it is impossible to accurately predict how long concussions will last. There must be full recovery before someone is allowed to return to participation. Connecticut Law now requires that no athlete may resume participation until they have received written medical clearance from a licensed health care professional (Physician, Physician Assistant, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Athletic Trainer) trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.

Concussion management requirements:

1. No athlete SHALL return to participation (RTP) on the same day of concussion.
2. Any loss of consciousness, vomiting or seizures the athlete MUST be immediately transported to the hospital.
3. Close observation of an athlete MUST continue following a concussion. This should be monitored for an appropriate amount of time following the injury to ensure that there is no escalation of symptoms.
4. Any athlete with signs or symptoms related to a concussion MUST be evaluated from a licensed health care professional (Physician, Physicians Assistant, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Athletic Trainer) trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.
5. The athlete MUST obtain written clearance from one of the licensed health care professionals mentioned above directing them into a well defined RTP stepped protocol similar to one outlined below. If at any time signs or symptoms should return during the RTP progression the athlete should cease activity*.

6. After the RTP protocol has been successfully administered (no longer exhibits any signs or symptoms or behaviors consistent with concussions), final written medical clearance is required by one of the licensed health care professionals mentioned above for them to fully return to unrestricted participation in practices and competitions.

Medical Clearance RTP Protocol (Recommended one full day between steps)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rehabilitation stage</th>
<th>Functional exercise at each stage of rehabilitation</th>
<th>Objective of each stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. No activity</td>
<td>Complete physical and cognitive rest until asymptomatic. School may need to be modified.</td>
<td>Recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Light aerobic activity</td>
<td>Walking, swimming or stationary cycling keeping intensity, &lt;70% of maximal exertion; no resistance training</td>
<td>Increase Heart Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Sport Specific Exercise</td>
<td>Skating drills in ice hockey, running drills in soccer; no head impact activities</td>
<td>Add Movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Non-contact training drills</td>
<td>Progression to more complex training drills, i.e., passing drills in football and ice hockey; may start progressive resistance training</td>
<td>Exercise, coordination and cognitive load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Full Contact Practice</td>
<td>Following medical clearance, participate in normal training activities</td>
<td>Restore confidence and assess functional skills by coaching staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If at any time symptoms should return during the RTP progression the athlete should stop activity that day. If the athlete’s symptoms are gone the next day, s/he may resume the RTP progression at the last step completed in which no symptoms were present. If symptoms return and don’t resolve, the athlete should be referred back to their medical provider.

References:

Resources:
Many local tournament organizers have gone on to be prominent streamers and eventually professional broadcasters in the e-sports world. It’s a great way to help support a local business while simultaneously granting moneymaking opportunities to small-time professional gamers. But most importantly, it’s the best thing you can do to support an e-sport you love. In short, this whole section is a long way of saying, don’t bite off more than you can chew. Choose a game that you have passion for, but also that you have the resources for. Finding a Venue. And do all of this before the tournament even starts! The venue should be totally set up an hour or two before the game playing begins. This will give you enough time to handle any last minute problems that arise. Rules have consequences, and routines have reminders. What worked for me was far fewer rules and many, many more routines and procedures. Once you make a rule, you have to stick with it. Students will expect a warning, a second warning, and then a consequence. If we just sigh, shake our head, and let it slide, students will not see being on time as a rule. We need to be selective when choosing that small handful of rules because those will need to be enforced. Choosing Routines to Emphasize. There will be procedures and routines that will take several seconds to go over and others that are more in-depth. The ones that take extra effort to explain and model are often those that are border on being rules, like getting out of your seat. Bureau Veritas develops Rules, Rule Notes and Guidance Notes to benefit our clients, partners, and the marine industry overall. We use the vast experience of our engineers, gained through years of service in the marine industry, combined with advanced research into structure and hydrodynamics, to ensure development of the most relevant and up-to-date Rules. Bureau Veritas provides a collection of more than 140 technical documents freely available for download. Rules and Rule Notes are technical publications related to marine units and/or specific equipment for marine and offshore units. These