

DANCE TEAM UNION

VIDEO TAPING GUIDELINES

Use these guidelines when recording and submitting your routines for our Virtual National Championship. Please note- **the same video from the semi-final round will be used for finals.**

PREPARE

- Secure a location.
 - Make sure you have a large enough space reserved to record your routines.
 - We recommend a full gym or space that allows you to record at an elevated angle (see example photo below).
- Plan for your dancers to be in full makeup, hair, and costuming.

RECORD

- Make sure no passerby enters your frame while recording and that there is no background noise.
- Fancy filming equipment is not necessary. We recommend using a smartphone or tablet.
 - Set up your centered camera in an elevated area.
 - Turn your camera **horizontal**.
 - Your camera frame should include all dancers throughout the entire routine. Make sure to not cut out the dancer's feet from your frame.
 - Make sure the video is being recorded in high definition: 1080p and in either 24, 30 or 60 frames per second.
 - Use the same instructions when setting up any additional video cameras for multiple angles of your routines. We suggest submitting two additional angles of your routines: Stage Left, and Stage Right.
 - The side angles do not have to be elevated, as is requested for the center angle. These angles can be set up and filmed from the ground level. Check each angle to make sure you do not see additional camera set-ups in the background of your shots.
 - Set the side cameras at the front of the stage, shooting diagonally across the performance area.
 - Please note that **only the center angle will be used for the judging portion** of the Championship, and the stage right and left angles will be used only for the production of the live streamed show.
- Make sure the room is well lit.
- Your music should be audible in your recording. Our production team will be overlaying your uploaded music to match your video and will ensure that the audio is competition-ready.
- Start your recording when your dancers are in their beginning positions (you may record a walk-on, but judging will not start until the music begins).
- If possible, do not move the camera to follow dancers while recording. Aim to fit all dancers in the frame and keep the camera stationary - utilize a tripod if possible (we understand this may not be possible due to space limitations).
- Once the routine has finished and the dancers have hit their last position, you may stop your recording (you may record a walk-off, but judging will stop when your routine has ended).

Example of Camera Angle and Frame:



SUBMIT

- All videos and music are due no later than March 29th at 11:59 PM central. **NO extensions will be given** under **any circumstance**, so please tape early and often to ensure your videos will be submitted on time.
- Download your videos to your desktop or laptop computer.
- Name your team routine video files following this pattern: School or Studio Name, Team Level, Style, Angle
 - For example: Central High School-Junior Varsity-Jazz-Stage Left
- Access the private Dropbox link provided to you by DTU.
- Upload your named video files to this folder.
 - You will not be able to view your uploads once completed.
 - If you try submitting directly from your phone, you will not be able to rename your videos and the submissions will not be accepted.
- If you upload your original video submissions and would like to update your entry, you may upload new videos prior to the time the link closes. DTU will use the most recent video uploads unless you tell us otherwise in writing.

We encourage you to follow these guidelines, however, there will be no penalty if you choose or are unable to follow every guideline. Just remember that the judges will only be able to judge what they can see on your recording. For example, if the judges can't see your dancer's feet in your recording, it will negatively impact their technique score. If the recording doesn't show your entire team for the whole routine, it will negatively impact all scores based on how many dancers are missing from the frame and for how long. You may wish to consider zooming in on your dancers when it is in a close formation to better show facial expressions and projection.

If you are unable to follow these guidelines due to space limitations, email us at registration@danceteamunion.com to schedule a call with our office staff. We will talk through your options and give you our best recommendation.