



BC Ukrainian Cultural Festival Society proudly presents:

May 9, 2026

BC Ukrainian Cultural Festival

'Keeping Ukrainian Culture Alive'

5819 189A Street
Surrey, BC V3S 7R7

info@bcucf.ca

<https://members.bcucf.ca>

Competition Terms and Conditions

1. Dance Group / Troupe Competition package

1.1. A competition package must be submitted over the BCUCFS website:

<https://bcucf.ca/register/dance-competition/>

1.2. The competition package must include all the following:

1.2.1. A completed 'Dance Entry Form' for each entry.

1.2.1.1. As you are saving each entry form prior to submission, add a submission number to the appropriate survey field. This helps our Treasurer and Competition Coordinator keep appropriate track of each entry. The sequence of entry submissions has no bearing to/on their scheduling, or consideration.

1.2.1.2. The dance entries submission numbers will be needed for the 'Entries Tally List' found in the 'Registration Package.' Please ensure that the submission number on the 'Entries Tally List' matches the submission number on the 'Dance Entry Form.'

1.2.2. A completed 'Registration Package' describing all entries.

1.2.2.1. Details regarding any of your dancers who are also in another group's competition entries. This information will be used for scheduling purposes to allow time wherever possible for costume changes between the individual's various performances. Please use 'Submission Notes Form'.

1.2.3. A payment for the **total submission fees** in one of two ways:

1.2.3.1. An E-transfer addressed to register@bcucf.ca

1.2.3.2. A cheque, or money order payable to 'BC Ukrainian Cultural Festival Society'.

1.3. All dance entry forms remain the property of BCUCFS.

1.4. Dance entry submission closes on 1st March.

2. Participant Eligibility

2.1. All entries are open to amateur and semi-professional dancers only. In this instance an amateur or semi-professional is defined as an individual whose primary income is not derived from performing or instructing.

2.2. Instructors are not permitted to compete in an entry they instruct.

2.3. The stated age of all competitors shall be as of 1st March of the current year. Date of Birth (DOB) must be listed on relevant entry form(s).

3. Dance Entries

3.1. All dance selections must be Ukrainian.

3.2. Ukrainian costumes must be worn by all competitors (costumes to be accurate to Region/Style).

3.3. Dance entries must contain three (3) or more competitors. We do not accept duet or solo entries.

3.4. Region/Style category entries are limited as follows:

3.4.1. Only one (1) Character entry is permitted per dance group. Character dance entries aged '10 and under' will be combined to a single age category.

3.4.2. Only one (1) entry is permitted from Polissian, Volyn, or 'other' regions per age category.

3.5. Age categories are determined by the average age of all competitors in an entry. Ages of .5 (6 months) are rounded up.

3.5.1. A dance group may only have one (1) entry in the '19-21' age category.

3.5.2. A dance group may only have one (1) entry in the 'Adult' age category (aged 22 and over).

3.5.3. 'Adult' age entry will compete for the Adult Trophy only (Dr. Josef Oleskow trophy).

3.6. Timing will begin upon the commencement of the music and will end upon both the completion of the music and the competitors exiting the stage. If the time limit is exceeded, marks may be deducted at the adjudicator's discretion. The following time limits are to be followed:

3.6.1. 'Age 10 and under': 3 minutes.

3.6.2. 'Age 11 – 18': 4 minutes.

3.6.3. 'Character': 4 minutes.

3.6.4. 'Hopak' and 'Pryvit': 8 minutes.

3.6.5. '19 – 21' and 'Adult': 5 minutes (or 8 minutes if Hopak or Pryvit).

3.7. Substitution of a competitor is only permitted if the replacement does not affect a change in the age category of the entry.

3.8. All entries must remain in the category as registered or withdrawn from competition. For example, if a 'mixed group' competitor is absent and therefore the group consists of all female competitors, the entry will remain in the 'mixed group' category. If this is to happen, please inform a member of backstage crew so the adjudicator can be advised.

3.9. 'Double/Matching Entries' are not permitted. A dance group may have only one of each (1) entry region/style, age, and group category. Example: A 15-18 Mixed group in the Poltava region.

3.10. **(New 2026)** Entries can be identified as 'Original Choreography'. These entries are eligible to be selected for the Gladys Andreas Visionary Award (See section 7.7).

3.10.1. For the purpose of this award, BCUCFS defines 'Original Choreography' as: *"Works created solely by the instructors of the performing group. Choreography commissioned from or created by individuals outside the organization, as well as choreography replicated or adapted from other groups, is not considered original and will render the piece ineligible."*

4. Fees

4.1. A 'Dance Registration Fee' of \$10.00 per entry.

4.2. A 'Per Dancer Fee' of \$6.00 per competitor in an entry.

4.3. A refundable 'Volunteer Commitment Deposit' of \$100.00 per group. The deposit will be refunded to the payee on the day of the festival- provided the Minimum Volunteer Requirements as outlined in section twelve (12.) have been met.

4.4. A fee of \$20.00 per additional coat rack required. Coat racks will be provided for each dance group at a ratio of one (1) coat rack per ten (10) competitors. A request for additional coat racks must be submitted at the time of the competition package submission.

4.5. A late fee of \$150.00 will be charged for a Submission Package received after the deadline stated (1.4.) for competition submissions. Absolutely no entries will be accepted after 4 March.

4.6. There will be a \$25.00 charge on all non-sufficient funds (NSF) cheques.

4.7. All fees are in Canadian Dollars.

4.8. A refund will be provided on any entry cancellation prior to 1 March. No refunds will be offered once registration has closed.

5. Music Submission

5.1. The deadline for music submission is 1st April. Entry numbers will be provided prior to this date.

5.2. All music must be submitted in MP3 format. It may be submitted via the 'Dance Entry Form' or to music@bcucf.ca.

5.3. Music files must be labelled with the following information: "[Entry Number] – [Dance group] – [Name of Music]".

5.4. No music will be shared. All music files will be destroyed after the day of the festival.

5.5. Music must be submitted ready to be played. It is the responsibility of the group to ensure the file is complete and queued with appropriate trimming (if necessary). BCUCFS will not make alterations to the sound file.

6. Competition Scoring

6.1. Gold medals are awarded to scores of 90% and higher.

6.2. Silver medals are awarded to scores of 80% - 89%.

6.3. Bronze medals are awarded to scores of 70% - 79%.

7. Trophies (also worded as Awards)

7.1. All trophies remain the property of BCUCFS.

7.2. All trophies are awarded based upon the marks of an impartial adjudicator.

7.3. Trophies are to be returned to BCUCFS no later than 15 March prior to the following year's Festival.

7.4. Recipients are financially responsible for the following:

7.4.1. Plate engraving and mounting.

7.4.2. Return of trophy to BCUCFS.

7.4.3. Replacement trophy if lost or damaged.

7.4.4. Repairs to any damage as seen fit by BCUCFS.

7.5. Recipients are responsible for a trophy from the time it is awarded to the dance group until the time it is either:

7.5.1. Returned to BCUCFS.

7.5.2. Delivered to another dance group with whom a trophy is being shared. An email to info@bcucf.ca must be sent when a trophy has entered or left your possession, so the BCUCFS is aware of its whereabouts.

7.6. In the event of a trophy being shared, the trophy will be shared among dance groups equally.

7.6.1. Dance groups are responsible for the arrangement of transfer of trophy – example: if shared by two (2), each group could hold the trophy for five (5) months. If shared by three (3) groups, each group could hold the trophy for three (3) months to allow for trophy transfer.

7.7. The following trophies will be awarded on the day of the festival. *Please note that entries in the 'Adult' category only qualify for the one trophy – Dr. Josef Oleskow Trophy.*

- **(New 2026)** Gladys Andreas Visionary Award – Adjudicator's choice award for 'Most Outstanding Original Choreography'.
- Andreas Founder Trophy – Highest mark in Hopak category.
- BC Ukrainian Cultural Festival Society Trophy – Highest mark in Pryvit category.
- Boris and Savelia Stasiuk Family Trophy – Highest mark in the Volyn category.
- Dr. Josef Oleskow Trophy in Memory of Ivan & Anna Halkow Families – Highest mark in the Adult category.
- Fraser Valley Ukrainian Cultural Society Trophy – Highest mark for mixed group, age 14 and under.
- Gordon Yakimow Trophy – Highest mark by group of 5 or more, age 10 and under.
- Harry and Annie Michaluk Memorial Trophy – Highest mark in the mixed group Hutsul category.
- Isidore and Anne Goresky Memorial Trophy – Highest mark in the Transcarpathian category.
- Lark Consultants International Inc. donated by Len and Maggie Arychuk – Highest mark for boys group, age 11 and up.
- Peter Arychuk Memorial Trophy – Highest mark in Bukovynian category.
- Sam and Martha Lebedovich Trophy – Highest mark in the Poltava category (excluding Hopak and Pryvit).
- Sergiy Minenok Memorial Trophy – Highest mark in the Polissian category.
- Tropak Ukrainian Cultural & Educational Society – Highest mark in a character dance.
- Ukrainian Club of Abbotsford Association Trophy – Highest mark in a girls group, age 10 and under.
- Ukrainian Self-Reliance Association (TYC) Trophy, Surrey Branch – Highest mark for boys group, age 10 and under.
- Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada, Surrey Branch – Highest mark for girls group Poltava category.

8. Festival Procedures

- 8.1. All competitors and instructors are to enter the facility via the Participant Entrance.
- 8.2. Competitors and instructors are to report to the sign-in table located near the Participant Entrance to sign in and receive a hand stamp.
- 8.3. Instructors will receive a sign-in package which will contain all receipts, one (1) program, and tickets for a hot dog and drink for each competitor.
- 8.4. Only those change room assistants whose names appear on the Tag Security System List previously submitted (to register@bcucf.ca) by the Artistic Director, or Designate, will be permitted access to the change room area. Change room assistants are to pay their entry fee and then report to the competitor sign-in table to receive a wristband which will allow them access to the change room area.
- 8.4.1. The registered Artistic Director, or Designate, is capable of adding or removing names from the Security List on the day of the Festival.

- 8.5. Each dance group will be assigned an area within the change room.
- 8.6. Competitors must be ready to perform and report to a backstage staff member fifteen (15) minutes prior to the allocated time.
- 8.7. No late entry may perform once a category has been adjudicated.
- 8.8. Walk-through and practice of dances are permitted only in the designated practice area.
- 8.9. Instructors are not permitted to communicate with their entries during performances. This can result in disqualification. An exception is made for categories aged 6 and under.
- 8.10. Audio of the adjudication will be provided by email in the weeks following the festival.
- 8.11. Instructors are to ensure their competitors are dressed appropriately when leaving the change room areas.
- 8.12. All competition protests are to be made in writing to the Secretary before the end of May, along with a \$10.00 fee. This fee is refundable upon a successful protest.

9. **Theatre Rules**

- 9.1. Spectators must remain seated during each performance.
- 9.2. Spectators are not permitted to enter or exit the theatre during a performance unless for an emergency situation.
- 9.3. No food or drink is permitted in the theatre at any time.
- 9.4. Flash photography is *prohibited* during performances.
- 9.5. Videotaping is to be made of your own dance group only.
- 9.6. No competitor is to leave the stage via the front, nor is any spectator permitted access to the stage.

10. **Admission**

- 10.1. Admission is payable at our festival entrances. We accept cash, debit, and many credit cards (Square payments). Prices are set as follows:
 - 10.1.1. Adults - \$13.00
 - 10.1.2. Youth (7 – 18) & Seniors (65+) - \$10.00
 - 10.1.3. Children 6 and under - \$1.00.
- 10.2. All non-competing attendees will be charged an admission fee. Please ensure all parents of performers and change-room assistants are made aware of the admission price.

11. **Security Gateway System**

- 11.1. The goal of the 'tag' system is to create a safe and secure area for competitors. The 'tags' allow our volunteers to control who is permitted to enter the change room area where dancers organize, change, and store valuables while they are performing.
- 11.2. All people wishing access to the competitor area (change rooms, rehearsal areas, green room) must have a festival-provided 'tag'.
 - 11.2.1. Dancers and instructors will be provided with a hand stamp.
 - 11.2.2. Change room assistants will be provided with a wrist band after payment of their admission fee.
- 11.3. Change room assistants must be registered with the festival to receive a wristband. A 'Tag Security System Form' must be submitted with the festival competition package.
- 11.4. The artistic director or designate of the group may update the list throughout the day of the festival to add or remove names.
- 11.5. Access to the rear entrance of the building (change room area) will be permitted by stamp and wristband holders only. Vehicles will be allowed access after all occupants have a wristband or stamp.

12. **Minimum Volunteering Requirements**

- 12.1. Our goal is to foster an understanding to all participating groups that this festival is 100% volunteer-run. No executive member, director, or society member receives compensation for the hard work they put towards every successful event that is hosted. Without the valuable support of volunteers and participants, the festival can not continue to operate annually.
- 12.2. As a minimum, each dance group must provide one (1) volunteer for a two (2) hour shift per ten (10) total dancers competing. The minimum requirement is proportional to the group size to respect smaller groups and their limited resources.
- 12.3. A volunteer provided by the group / troupe does not have to be a participating member of that organization. Associates to and family of participating groups are welcome to be active in the festival.
- 12.4. A 'Group Volunteers' form must be completed by each dance group / troupe.
- 12.5. If one of the designated volunteers is unable to attend the festival (or make their shift), the onus is on the dance group / troupe to notify the society's volunteer coordinator with their suitable replacement.
- 12.6. Members, families and associates of a dance group / troupe are encouraged to volunteer over and above the group minimum. The more volunteers we have, the better our festival can become.

13. Miscellaneous

- 13.1. BCUCFS reserves the right to request that any individual or group of persons to leave the theatre and or/ Festival venue at any time.
- 13.2. Registering to participate or purchasing a ticket to the BC Ukrainian Cultural Festival affirms your consent to direct/indirect film, sound recording, or photography for archival and advertising purposes.