

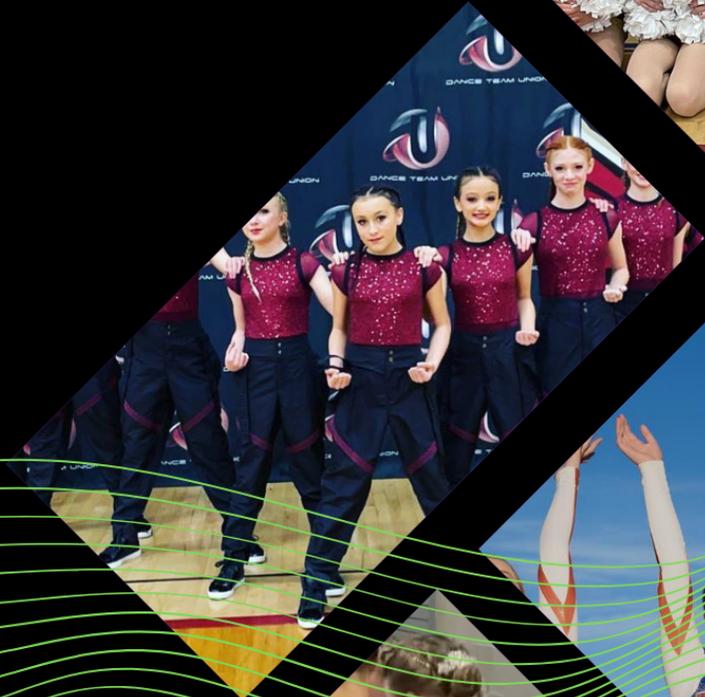
Spark



ALL STAR COMPETITIVE TEAM

INFORMATION PACKET

2023/2024 SEASON





INTRO

Welcome to the SPARK family! We are SO excited to officially release information for the upcoming 2023/2024 season!

At SPARK, we work with dancers to provide a breakdown of the unfailing fundamentals necessary to succeed. Dancers acquire refined skills as they focus on strength, alignment, injury prevention, power, and flexibility in a carefully calculated layout.

Within our All Star team, dancers will specialize in *either* pom or hip hop, with an emphasis on learning and refining technique, choreography, and performance quality for their given style. Throughout the season, the dancers, coaches, and choreographers will work together to create dynamic, entertaining, and engaging routines that showcase their skills and give the team a competitive edge.

We value your interest in our All Star team and look forward to seeing your passion and energy as you work hard to become the best dancer you can be!

GENERAL INFORMATION

In years past, our competitive teams have been divided based on location, school district, style, and more. This year, we are combining all of our competitive dancers under one single team - the "SPARK All Stars".

Middle school aged dancers from any and all school districts are invited to tryout for our All Star team. Dancers do NOT need to reside in any specific boundary or school district in order to participate.

Tryouts are required for ALL dancers who are interested in joining the competitive team. Any and all ability levels are welcome!!

Dancers who make the team will compete in either Pom or Hip Hop. In addition to their assigned/chosen style, dancers will learn a Game Day routine to help refine their skills and to perform at various events throughout the season.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 12th - 6:30 PM
Location TBA

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

****We will be raffling off TWO FREE memberships for our SPARK Summer Dance Camp at the meeting!****

You must attend the meeting in person to receive the prize. Winners will receive all 3 days, free of cost.

The raffle will be completed at the end of the meeting.

TRYOUTS

Tryouts will be held on April 29 & 30, 2023

[Location: Michelle Latimer Dance Academy]

[Times: 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM]

We believe that everyone has unique talents and strengths, and we strive to provide an opportunity for those that have a passion for dance! We aim to make the tryout process fun and stress free. We want dancers to feel comfortable and excited to show us who they are and what they can do.

ALL dancers who are interested in joining the All Star team must be registered and attend both days of tryouts. (See registration link/QR code below)

TRYOUT FEE

There is a \$15 tryout fee due at the time of registration. This fee is non-refundable and goes towards covering rental and staffing costs for the two days of tryouts.

TRYOUT PROCESS

April 29th

Dancers who have registered will sign-in and receive a number when they arrive. We will start with a group warm-up & stretch. Dancers will then be asked to demonstrate various skills (see recommended skills below) followed by learning choreography for a short routine. This will be a single routine that contains both pom & hip hop styles. Dancers do *not* need to be proficient in both styles in order to make the team.

April 30th

Dancers will receive their same number at sign-in when they arrive. Again, we will begin with a group warm-up & stretch. Dancers will be asked to demonstrate skills again, and additional skills may be added on this day. We will then briefly review choreography for the routine and answer any questions that the dancers may have. The dancers will then be asked to perform the choreography multiple times. Pending timing and the number of dancers, dancers may be called in to perform the routine or skills in smaller groups.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

We ask that dancers wear all black athletic clothes (no sweatshirts, sweatpants, etc.). Hair should be securely pulled back and completely out of your face. Please bring the following items:

- Jazz shoes and/or tennis shoes
- Water
- A snack (*optional*)

RECOMMENDED SKILLS

The following skills are NOT required. This list is provided as a reference for dancers to utilize as they prepare for tryouts. All skills will be demonstrated and broken down (taught) during the tryout process.

Pom Skills

Turns
 Single Pirouette
 Double Pirouette
 A La Second (tours)
 Jumps
 Toe Touch
 Charge
 Calypso
 Other Skills
 Right splits
 Left Splits
 Leg Holds (either side)
 Kicks (both sides)

Hip Hop Skills

Strong motions
 Fast Footwork
 Top & Back Rocks
 Freezes
 Stalls
 Specialty Trick
 Head Springs
 Kip Ups

For BOTH

Strong Facials
 Enthusiasm
 Desire to learn

RESULTS/PLACEMENTS

Dancers who make the team will compete in either Pom or Hip Hop. During registration, dancers will be able to select which style they are most interested in. They may select pom, hip hop, or either. Preferences will be taken into consideration though ultimately, placements will be made at the discretion of the SPARK All Star team staff.

We make every effort to accept all dancers who show passion, energy, and a strong desire to dance and compete.

****PLACEMENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED VIA EMAIL BY 8:00 PM ON SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH****

****Dancers who make the team will compete in either Pom or Hip Hop. They will NOT compete in both****

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

We continually aim to be transparent with our costs here at SPARK. As you read through the following financial information, we ask that you please carefully consider the financial responsibility that is tied to participation in our competitive program. Once your dancer has been placed in a competitive routine, you are financially responsible for all contracted months or until SPARK is notified in writing a minimum of 30 days in advance.

TUITION **\$271/month**

Your monthly tuition for our All Star competitive team includes annual registration, practices, technique classes, choreography, music, and competition fees. These costs/fees are added and divided equally across the 11 months of our season.

Your tuition cost is the same whether your dancer is competing in pom or hip hop.

ADDITIONAL COSTS

Uniform/Costume

Each dancer is required to purchase a uniform or costume based on which routine they are placed in. Items that fall within this category for the POM routine include uniform, undergarments, jazz shoes, tights, poms, and any additional accessories as decided by the choreographer. Items that fall within this category for HIP HOP include costume, performance shoes, undergarments, and any additional accessories as decided by the choreographer.

In total, these items (for either pom or hip hop) will not exceed \$400. The assessed total will be due around Mid-June, after uniform measurements have been taken.

Practice Apparel

All dancers must purchase the designated practice apparel assigned by team coaches after tryouts. These items will not exceed \$120.

Team Items

All dancers in either routine must purchase the team warm-up jacket, team backpack, team tennis shoes, and a makeup/hair kit.

In total, these items will not exceed \$250. The assessed total will be due by August 1st.

USASF FEE

All dancers on the competitive team are required to complete USASF registration in order to compete. USASF charges a yearly fee of \$45 per dancer.

PAYMENTS

Tuition payments begin in May 2023 and run through March 2024. The first payment is due by May 3rd and secures your dancer's spot on the team. Remaining **payments are due by the 10th of each month**. All payments will be made through our website via GoMotion. We do not mail invoices or statements. All account information and charges can be accessed via your GoMotion profile. All payments are run on an auto-pay system and **a valid card is required on file at all times**.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

[Click here](#) for a detailed payment schedule that includes estimated additional costs due dates as well.

PRACTICES/TECHNIQUE

Please review the season calendar for specific dates & times for all classes through the end of the season

Regular season practices for all dancers are broken up as follows:

- Tuesdays (2hrs)
 - Technique & Game Day - ALL DANCERS
- Wednesdays (1.5 hrs)
 - Pom Practice - Pom dancers only
- Thursdays (1.5 hrs)
 - Hip Hop Practice - Hip Hop dancers only

COMPETITIONS

Dancers will compete their pom or hip hop routine at 3-4 competitions in the Denver Metro area, starting in November and ending in January.

Competition fees are included in your monthly tuition.

ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES

Dancers will perform their pom or hip hop routine at the SPARK Spring Showcase in May, 2024.

Additional performance opportunities may be available throughout the season and will be communicated well in advance by coaches.

IMPORTANT DATES

April 12 @ 6:30 PM

Info Meeting

[RSVP HERE](#)

April 13 @ 7:00 PM

Mock Tryouts *FREE*

Zone Athletic Club - Southlands

April 29 & 30

Tryouts for the 2023/2024 Season

May 10 - June 7

Technique/Team Bonding classes

Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00 PM

June 13-15

Summer Dance Camp

(Optional - additional cost)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

June 19 - July 31

NO classes or practices

August 1-3

Choreography Dates

August 8

Regular season practices begin

REGISTER FOR TRYOUTS

Click the following link to register for tryouts!

<https://www.gomotionapp.com/team/cosdftp/page/class-registration?subProgId=26106&classId=114135>

QUESTIONS?

Check out the FAQ on the next page OR contact Antoinette Golesh at SparkJrPrograms@gmail.com

Question

Are tryouts required? What if my dancer was previously on a competitive SPARK team?

Answer

Yes, tryouts are required for ALL dancers who wish to join the SPARK All Star team for the 2023/2024 season. Dancers who were previously on a competitive SPARK team are required to try out as well.

Question

What if my dancer is unable to be at tryouts?

Answer

Let us know! We will do our best to make sure all interested dancers have a fair chance of placement on our competitive team.

Question

Do all dancers who try out make the team?

Answer

We make every effort to accept all dancers who show passion, energy, and a strong desire to dance and compete. Placements will ultimately be at the discretion of the SPARK All Star team staff.

Question

Will SPARK have any other competitive teams like they have in previous years? Like the Junior Wolves or Junior Raptors?

Answer

At this time, we have chosen to disband our school specific competitive teams to form one single competitive team - the "SPARK All Stars".

Question

What style of dance will the SPARK All Stars compete in?

Answer

For the 2023/2024 season, dancers will have the opportunity to compete in *either* pom OR hip hop. Following tryouts, dancers will be placed in one routine or the other.

Question

What if my dancer doesn't want to do one routine or the other? Do we have a choice for which routine they are placed in?

Answer

Yes! During registration, dancers will be able to select which routine they would like to try out for. They can choose between pom, hip hop, or either.

Question

I'm confused about game day. Why are they learning a game day routine if they won't compete it?

Answer

The game day routine serves multiple purposes for our competitive team. First, it provides an opportunity for all dancers in both routines to interact, grow, and learn from one another. Second, game day includes skills that are invaluable for dance teams to continually practice including: energy, sharpness, levels, projection, confidence, and more! Third, game day helps dancers learn additional skills (outside of their pom or hip hop routine) that they will carry on to their high school dance teams.