



Excellence in dance education

Exam Rules and Procedures – 2017

**Please read and use this updated version of
New Exam Rules and Procedures**

(Updated February 2017)

CONSTITUTION

- Teachers must adhere to the BAL Constitution regarding membership. See membership definitions at the end of this booklet.
- BAL member studios must enter candidates for examinations conducted by the organisation within two years of joining and at least once every two years thereafter.

1. ENTERING BAL EXAMINATIONS

MEMBERSHIP

- Only financial members of BAL may enter students for BAL exams in the genre of their membership
- All Assistants who conduct BAL syllabus classes must upgrade to Provisional teaching membership

ENTRY FEES

- Entry fees must accompany your entry forms. Also send your exam day timetable with your entries.
- Payment can be made either by cheque, EFT or credit card.
- All payments for New Zealand entries must be deposited by EFT or Direct Deposit into **BAL** New Zealand Westpac account.
- Please forward only ONE cheque covering all entries made out to Ballet Australasia Limited.
- MasterCard and Visa are the only credit cards accepted.
- An additional 2% surcharge will apply to all Credit card payments.
- Please **DO NOT SEND CASH** in the mail.

REFUND POLICY

- Exam fees are non-refundable.
- It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure that students and parents are aware of this rule.
- Candidates who missed their exams through illness or accident may reschedule their exam, if a convenient exam date can be allocated. A transfer fee will then be charged. [Refer to Fees & Charges on page 13].

ENTRY FORMS

- All entry forms must be completed in full and submitted on the official BAL entry forms and accompanied by the appropriate Summary Sheet for each section, i.e. ballet, jazz, tap etc. Please ensure that the time allocated to each group is also filled in, on the right side of the summary sheet.
- A Summary Sheet for each section will be sent out early each year. Should you have more students than one sheet can fit, please make further copies.
- Fill out forms in a systematic manner, keeping groups according to standard, ie: all pre-primary together, all primary together, etc. Do not waste paper by using one page per grade – simply leave a line between grades.
- **PLEASE TRY TO KEEP NAMES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, WRITE CLEARLY and CHECK YOUR SPELLING.**

- Remember to **KEEP A COPY** of your Summary Sheets before you send them to Headquarters and make sure candidates' names are spelt correctly and are clearly written so that staff can produce accurate certificates for your students.
- Details of all Senior Candidates are to be listed with entries for Elementary and above in all Genres i.e Name, Address, and DOB. This is to keep the BAL database current and also to provide the details necessary to invite senior students to become BAL Members.
- **FAXED EXAMINATION ENTRIES ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**

EXAM FEE SURCHARGES

- A list of BAL examination fees should be listed at the studio for parent's information.
- BAL administration has had a number of enquiries from parents regarding the fees for examinations. If a studio feels it necessary to add an additional fee to cover studio expenses of the examination day, parents must be advised that this is a surcharge imposed by the studio (not by BAL). Exam fees will be listed on the BAL website for all parents to confirm, should they wish to.
- If queried, BAL will only inform parents of the fee stated on the BAL entry form. We will not attempt to justify an exorbitant surcharge added by some teachers. Please be realistic and encourage your parents to support the examinations by limiting any surcharge imposed.

LATE ENTRIES

- Always ring BAL headquarters first to advise them of any late entry.
- Late entry fees should be paid in advance directly to BAL and **NOT TO THE EXAMINER.**
- Remember to advise all parents and students of the additional late fee.

CATEGORY ONE – Late entry of individual candidates to an existing booking.

- Should late entry candidates be accepted, there will be a \$15.00 late entry fee charged per candidate per exam. These late entries will be accepted up to 3 weeks prior to exams on condition that they can be fitted into the existing timetable.

CATEGORY TWO – Late entry of bulk studio exams past the published closing date.

- Late entries submitted after the published closing date are discouraged as they not only disrupt but delay the process of scheduling exams and confirming dates to other teachers. However, wherever possible, they may be accepted but only up to 2 weeks after the actual closing date. The late entry fee in this case is \$15.00 per student, or \$200.00 maximum studio fee. Late bulk entries result in the teacher having no choice of exam date, as their exams can only be scheduled around the dates already allocated to other teachers.

EXAM ENTRY CLOSING DATES

- All completed exam entry forms and the correct entry fees, and if possible, the timetable, must be received by BAL headquarters by the published closing date as noted in the Exam Calendar which will be sent to members in February/March each year (with this document)
- Should a studio request exams outside the exam tour dates for their particular geographical area then there may be additional fees payable for the examiner's airfare and possibly accommodation and meals.

EXAM SESSION START DATES

- Exam dates will be allocated once all exam entries are received by the published closing date. Exam dates will then be allocated for each studio in each geographical area, consecutively from the start date.
- Depending on the number of exam entries in each geographical area, the exam tour could last from one week to four weeks.
- Your exam dates will be confirmed as soon as the exam tour has been organised.
- You may advise us of one or two dates that are not convenient but we cannot guarantee that we can accommodate you and you must make every effort to adhere to the dates set for you.
- Exam session start dates are listed in the Exam Calendar, are approximate, and BAL reserves the right to alter published start dates. Should it be impossible for a studio to do the exams on the allocated dates, it may be necessary for the studio to pay the examiner's airfare, accommodation and/or meals if they wish an examiner to accommodate them on another date, especially if re-scheduled outside allocated session time.

REPORT FORMS

- Report forms act as your form of receipt, and upon receipt of your entry forms and fees, BAL will forward to you a report form for each of your examination candidates.
- Please ensure that you have received your report forms **WELL BEFORE** your examination date (at a minimum ten to twelve days). If not, please contact headquarters immediately.
- Prior to your exam day, Report forms must have the necessary details filled in on the top section.
- **EXAMINERS DO NOT ALWAYS CARRY REPORTS WITH THEM.**

EXAM VENUES

- Exams can be:
 - a) taken at your own studio premises, or in conjunction with another teacher at their studio premises (these are Private Centre exams) OR
 - b) taken at BAL headquarters on mixed day exams.

α) TEACHER'S STUDIOS [PRIVATE CENTRE]

- Minimum private centre exam entry fees are A\$1,300 [NZ\$1,500].
- Teachers can combine with other teachers and thereby jointly meet the minimum fee.
- Teachers are responsible for arranging their own timetable which must take into account the total time for all exams. Note exam hours are 9am to 5pm (including breaks)
- Please refer to the exam time allocations listed in this document.
- Two (2) copies of your timetable must be sent to BAL headquarters not later than four weeks (4) prior to the commencement of your exams. Time tables will be checked by office staff.
- Teachers must provide a large table with a firm surface for the examiner [not a card table] and a comfortable chair. Preferably not plastic.
- All care should be taken to ensure the examiner is sitting in a warm, draft-free area.
- Morning and afternoon tea [15 minutes each], and lunch [40 minutes] must be provided for the examiner by the teacher.

- The teachers must arrange for the examiner to be picked up from and returned to their accommodation [or airport/train station/bus station].
- All teachers are charged a daily private centre fee for exams held at their studios [or another private location]. The fee is A\$30 per day or part day (NZ\$35). This fee must be paid in advance and accompany your exam entry fees.

b) MIXED DAYS AT BAL HEADQUARTERS - SYDNEY

- These are examination days held at headquarters at pre allocated dates throughout the exam season [see exam calendar for dates].
- They are suitable for schools which have either an unsuitable exam venue of their own, or no access to an exam venue, or perhaps only a small number of students.
- Mixed days are also available for candidates who have missed their exam due to illness, etc.
- There is an additional \$3.00 fee per candidate per exam (\$5.00 for all senior Ballet exam candidates due to longer exam times) for all mixed day exams.
- Mixed days are not private examination days. BAL will set the timetable for the day and although we will try to accommodate a time suitable to all teachers involved, teachers must adhere to, and accept, the timetable advised.
- Teachers should be aware of the requirements and considerations needed for exams at headquarters. Please see the information under “Exams at BAL Headquarters” later in this booklet, and please copy the full page “Information for Parents” to be posted on your studio noticeboard.

2 . EXAMINATION DAY PROCEDURES

- Students must arrive 45 minutes before the scheduled start of their exam.
- Please Note: Students are penalised if steps are shown incorrectly so please ensure that you have studied and taught the syllabus carefully

DRESS CODE

Details of the examination dress code can be found on later pages of this document.

- Students must wear required exam uniform (no jewellery or coloured nail polish to be worn).
- It is important that hair is neat and tidy and appropriate for the genre of examination.

SHOES

- Please inspect your pupil's shoes prior to them entering the examination room to ensure ribbons [where required] are correctly tied and tap screws are secured.
- An examiner has the authority to refuse to permit a candidate to proceed with the examination if shoes are unsatisfactory.

MUSIC

- Ensure the person operating the music in the examination room for your students is competent. Much time is lost during examinations because the operator is not conversant with the music or with the equipment. It puts extra strain on students when this occurs.
- Be sure they have at least one practice session with the operator prior to the exam.

- Music operator must not bring a Mobile phone or personal iPod into the studio at exam sessions.
- A screen should be placed where the music operator is sitting
- The music operator must NOT be the teacher or a parent of the students taking the examination.
- The music operator must be able to see the examiner but NOT the candidates. Please request the music operator to have their back to the students.

NUMBERING CANDIDATES

- Ensure that students are numbered back and front and that the numbers are large enough, very clearly displayed and firmly secured.
- Have two sets of numbers in case one set is lost during changeover of examination groups.
- Candidates are organised by height, e.g. the shortest is number one, graduating to the tallest at the end of the line. This also applies to senior examinations.

SUBSTITUTION OF CANDIDATES

- Substitution of examination candidates is NOT ALLOWED.

DOUBLE ENTRIES - STUDENTS ENTERING FOR MORE THAN ONE GRADE

- The lower grade MUST be taken first and it is the TEACHER'S responsibility to ASK THE EXAMINER if the lower grade has been passed before the candidate is permitted to attempt the higher grade.
- It is essential to understand that if the candidate is not successful in the first exam, then they will not be entitled to a refund of the fee paid for the second exam.

BALLET THEORY BOOKS

- Each candidate must have their own theory book and take it into the examination room. It will be returned to the teacher at the conclusion of the examination day.
- REMEMBER, PHOTOCOPYING IS A BREACH OF COPYRIGHT.

COPYRIGHT

- Remember all theory, music, notations, videos, etc. can be purchased from headquarters. Do not breach copyright laws. Syllabi are copyright of Ballet Australasia Limited and may not be sold, hired, lent, duplicated, reproduced, performed, or exploited in any manner in whole or in part

3. AFTER YOUR EXAMS

RESULTS AND CERTIFICATES

- BAL undertakes to issue results within four (4) weeks of the end of the session.
- BAL will endeavour to issue certificates within (4) weeks of the end of the session.
- If there are any errors in the certificates issued please ensure that the faulty certificate/s is returned to BAL showing all corrections necessary. BAL will then re-issue the correct certificate.
- As all report forms will now show the actual mark attained, teachers' requests for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd placings will not be accommodated by examiners under any circumstances.

TRANSFERS & ILLNESS

- It may be possible to transfer a candidate to another exam session if he or she has a legitimate reason. All transfers will incur a \$20 (\$24NZ) transfer fee.
- It is the teacher's responsibility to contact headquarters to arrange an alternative examination date. Please keep in mind that any specific date you request may not be available.

REPORT TAMPERING

- Teachers are reminded that tampering with reports and/or results is not permitted under any circumstances.
- Teachers found to be tampering may face legal action and have their membership revoked.

4. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

BEGINNERS ASSESSMENTS

- Dances are now taken 2 at a time for Ballet, BAL Tap, and Jazz. If an odd number the examiner will either take 3 together, or ask a previous candidate to re-do the dance with the odd candidate. Tap' N' Beats dances are conducted in groups (up to 4 candidates take altogether, 6 candidates take 3 at a time, if 8 candidates take 2 sets of 4)
- Blue Star - HD & Hons, Red Star - HC & Comm, Green Star - P. Plus & Pass
- There are no honour points awarded for any Beginners (or Pre Stage) Assessments.
- For Beginners & Pre-Stage the studio teacher, or any registered BAL member, can choose to take the candidates into the exam room and remain with them through all exercises. Instructions regarding the next exercise or placement in the room can be given by the teacher prior to each exercise but the teacher must move to the side and refrain from any prompting during all exercises. The teacher does not remain in the room during the dance.

SENIOR BALLET

- Pre- Elementary Foundation - BAL members can enter students for Pre Elementary Foundation which requires no pointe work – Pointe section to be demonstrated on demi-pointe in ballet shoes.
- Pre Elementary - As current syllabus - This includes pointe work
- Elementary Foundation - BAL members can enter students for Elementary Foundation which requires no pointe work. Pointe section to be demonstrated on demi-pointe in ballet shoes.
- Elementary - As current syllabus- This includes pointe work.
- BAL has determined that from 2017 all exam candidates will be required to demonstrate the Pointe section of the syllabus during their exam - Foundation students however will demonstrate the Pointe exercises on demi-pointe in ballet shoes.

As this is an easier task, the marks allocated to Foundation students for the Pointe exercises will be limited (see below), regardless of the standard of this demi-pointe work shown by candidates. Students entering for Foundation exams will therefore receive a slightly lower pass than a comparable student showing Pointe work in pointe shoes.

Candidates will also no longer be required to pass the Pointe section to receive an overall pass in the exam, further encouraging teachers to enter as many students as possible for the full pointe section.

- Demi- pointe shoes are no longer required for Pre Elementary & Elementary
- Senior ballet students should consider having an extra pair of pointe shoes in case the pair they are wearing should break.

- Senior ballet examinations may be held in a teacher's own studio provided these examinations are included in the teacher's exam schedule. In such cases, a minimum of three students in a grade would need to be entered. If you have less than three students you must combine with another studio.

SENIOR GRADES

- The minimum age for entering Elementary Foundation Ballet, Elementary Ballet, Jazz, Tap, or Character is twelve (12) years.
- All senior examinations must be taken in sequence, ie. Pre-elementary, Elementary, Intermediate, Advanced, Solo.
- It is necessary to pass BAL Grade 5 before entering for the Grade 6 or Pre Elementary Ballet examinations.
- Students must pass Grade 5 before entering for the Elementary Tap, Jazz, or Character examinations.
- For Grade 5 Ballet, Grade 6 Ballet, and all major examinations in all genres: The maximum number of candidates is six only and never more. If, for example, you have thirteen candidates entered in any senior examinations of the same standard, you must divide them into three groups - two groups of four and one group of five.
- Grade 6 Ballet Grade is optional.

JAZZ (New Rules for Jazz – 2017)

- Teachers may use their own choice of music for syllabus. Dance must use original music.
- Combinations required: Pre Primary, Primary & Grade 1 - The teacher will choose only 2 combinations from the 4 demonstrated on the DVD and printed in Syllabus. All students in the same group will perform the same 2 Combinations. Grade 2 to Advanced will perform all 4 Combinations.
- Candidates to enter studio one at a time to perform combinations for all standards, Pre-Primary to Advanced.
- Recommended minimum age for Jazz exams are: Beginners 6, Pre-Primary 7, & so on.

HIP HOP

- Teachers may use their own choice of music for syllabus. Dances must use original music
- Candidates to re-enter studio one at a time to perform dances for all standards.
- Recommended minimum age for Pre-Primary Hip hop exam is 7-8 years.

TAP'N'BEATS

- Examinations are taken in a relaxed manner, with assistance from the examiner throughout.
- Pre-Stage – Stage 4: Barre work is taken altogether. Centre and Corner exercises are taken one at a time. Dances are taken in small groups (up to 4 candidates take altogether, 6 candidates take 3 at a time, if 8 candidates take 2 sets of 4).
- Stages 5 – 8: Barre, Centre, Corner, and Dances are taken one at a time.
- Candidates will wear the same uniform as specified for BAL Tap exams.

CHARACTER

- Grade 5 must be completed before entering the senior grades.
- There are no notations for Intermediate or Advanced character as the DVDs are clear and detailed.
- A theory book is required by character students from Grade 1 to Elementary and is available from Headquarters.
- For grade 4 examinations, a skirt similar to the one described in the syllabus must be worn.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR JAZZ SOLOS – OPTIONAL EXAMS

Each examination consists of two dancers in stage costume.

1 – Jazz Routine

2 – Musical Theatre/Musical Comedy Routine

Maximum time limit 3 minutes

This is a stage presentation examination, and each dance must be executed with style, expression and personality.

Each dance is judged on the following:

Technique (execution)

Flexibility

Musicality (rhythm)

Pattern (arrangement)

Style and Presentation

JUNIOR JAZZ SOLO

There is no age restriction; however the candidate must have already passed the Grade 5 Jazz examination.

SENIOR JAZZ SOLO

Candidate must be at least 15 years of age, and must have passed Advanced Jazz examination.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR TAP SOLOS – OPTIONAL EXAMS

Each examination consists of two dances in stage costume.

1 – Slow Routine

2 – Fast Routine – (Metronome count not less than 192 crotchets)

Maximum time limit 3 minutes per dance

This is a stage presentation examination, and each dance must be executed with style, expression and personality.

“Stop Time” or Tacit Sections are permitted.

Each dance is judged on the following:

Turns, Time and Rhythm

Beats and Winging
Dance Execution
Style and Personality
Dance Arrangement.....includes Floor Pattern and choice of music etc.

JUNIOR TAP SOLO

There is no age restriction; however the candidate must have passed the Grade 5 Tap examination.

SENIOR TAP SOLO

Candidate must be at least 15 years of age, and must have passed the Advanced Tap examination.

JUNIOR BALLET SOLO - OPTIONAL EXAM

Consists of 2 Classical dances

1 - Classical Dance in Ballet shoes. TUTU to be worn

2 - Demi- Character in Ballet shoes. Character costume

There is no age restriction; however the candidate must have already passed the Grade 5 Ballet examination.

SOLO DANSEUSE

This examination is taken after Advanced Ballet. Pointe shoes worn throughout. Syllabus is available from HQ.

TEACHER'S CLASSES

- It is compulsory for teachers to attend BAL Syllabus Workshops or Summer School at least every two (2) years. [This is also a condition of membership].

PERMANENT DISABILITIES/HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

- Candidates will be examined by the same standards used for all candidates, without exception.

EXAMS AT HEADQUARTERS

- **TEACHERS**, please read the following information carefully to ensure that you fully understand the rules regarding exams at headquarters, and to avoid any misunderstanding with the parents of your pupils on exam day. Make a copy of the following page, headed "Exams at BAL HQ - Information for Parents" and place it on your noticeboard for parents to clearly see.
- Access to the kitchen is via the Boardroom. Teachers must not allow students or unauthorised people in the Boardroom and the Board table and chairs may not be used by anyone at any time.
- Please remove any leftover food from the kitchen at the end of the day.
- Bins are provided so please remember to use them.

Exams at BAL Headquarters Information for Parents

TRANSPORT

- If travelling by train, alight at Central Station and catch bus 311 or 378 departing from Eddy Avenue (Belmore Park) to the first stop past Hyde Park (College Street). Cross Oxford Street, then walk down Brisbane Street to Goulburn Street. Our building is just a short distance from that corner toward the Sydney Police Centre.
- Train travellers may prefer to alight at Museum Station and then walk up Liverpool Street into Oxford Street, then down Brisbane Street to Goulburn Street.
- If travelling by car, there is the Goulburn Street Parking Station located at the corner of Goulburn and Elizabeth Streets.
- Street parking is extremely restricted.

PARENTS

- The teacher is permitted to authorise no more than two helpers for the dressing and numbering of candidates and the preparation and serving of refreshments to the examiner. These helpers may either be Provisional teacher members or other elected adult persons. No other parents/carers can remain on the premises during exams.
- There is a coffee shop located on the ground floor (Mon to Fri). Please do not sit in the coffee shop unless you are a paying customer, and do not remain there for long periods of time. Parents and teacher of students are responsible for the behaviour of their children at all times. Children should be quiet, and avoid running in the foyer, courtyard or coffee shop
- **Do not dress your children, or spray hair in the foyer.** Parents could consider bringing their child to headquarters already dressed and groomed, if you wish to personally dress your own child.
- The Strata Manager has informed us that the original artwork in the foyer has cost many thousands of dollars and BAL may be held accountable for any damage caused by students coming to BAL HQ for exams.

DRESSING ROOMS

- The toilets on Level 7 **ARE NOT TO BE USED** for changing. BAL has two adequate dressing rooms for this purpose.
- **PLEASE REMEMBER** to leave these dressing rooms in a clean and tidy manner at the end of each day and take all your rubbish with you.
- Anything left in the dressing room will need to be collected within the week or it will be disposed of.

STUDIO

- To avoid damage to the studio floor please ensure that examination candidates do not have loose tap screws.
- An examiner has the authority to ask a student to leave the studio if their shoes are damaging the floor.

EXAMINATION TIME ALLOCATIONS

Maximum candidates for grades are eight [8].
 Maximum candidates for Grade 5 jazz and all majors are six [6].
 15 minutes morning and afternoon tea and 40 minutes for lunch.

BALLET (adjusted for 2017 exams)

No	Beg	Pre Pri	Pri	1	2	3	4	5	6	Pre- Elem & Fdt	Elem & Fdt	Int	Adv	Junior Solo	Solo Danseuse Dipl.
1	15	15	15	15	25	30	30	30	1	1	1	1½	1¾	15	1½
2	20	20	20	30	30	35	35	35	1	1	1	1¾	1¾	20	1¾
3	30	30	25	30	30	35	35	40	1	1½	1½	1¾	2	-	-
4	30	30	25	35	35	45	45	45	1¾	1½	1½	1¾	2	-	-
5	35	35	30	35	35	50	50	50	1¾	1½	2	2¾	-	-	-
6	35	35	30	40	45	60	60	60	1¾	1¾	2	2¾	-	-	-
7	40	40	35	45	45	70	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	40	45	40	50	50	75	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Add 20 minutes onto times if there are male entries in Major examination

HIP HOP

No	Prim	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Elem
1	15	15	15	20	20	20	20
2	15	15	15	20	20	20	20
3	20	20	20	30	30	30	30
4	20	20	20	30	30	30	30
5	30	30	30	40	40	40	40
6	30	30	30	40	40	40	40
7	40	40	40	45	45	45	-
8	40	40	40	45	45	45	-

JAZZ AND CHARACTER

No	Beg	Pre Pri	Pri	Pre Grd Character	1	2	3	4	5	Elem	Int	Adv	Junior Solo	Senior Solo
1	15	15	15	15	20	20	25	25	25	30	35	35	15	15
2	20	20	20	20	30	30	30	30	30	30	40	40	15	15
3	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	40	40	40	-	-
4	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	40	40	40	1hr	1hr	-	-
5	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	45	50	50	1hr	1hr	-	-
6	40	40	40	40	45	45	45	50	50	50	1hr	1hr	-	-
7	45	45	45	45	45	50	50	1hr	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	50	50	50	50	1hr	1hr	1hr	1hr	-	-	-	-	-	-

For Inter & Adv Character - add 20 mins due to two syllabi examined

BAL TAP

No	Beg	Pre Pri	Pri	1	2	3	4	5	Elem	Int	Adv	Junior Solo	Senior Solo
1	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	20	20	20	15	15
2	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	30	30	35	20	20
3	20	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	35	40	-	-	-
4	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	40	50	-	-	-
5	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	40	45	1h	-	-	-
6	30	30	30	40	40	40	40	40	1h	1h	-	-	-
7	40	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	-	-	-	-	-
8	50	50	50	1h	1h	1h	1h	1h	-	-	-	-	-

TAP'N'BEATS

No	Pre-Stage	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6	Stage 7	Stage 8	Stage 9	Stage 10
1	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	20	30		
2	15	15	15	20	20	20	20	30	30		
3	15	15	20	20	30	30	30	35	40		
4	20	20	20	25	30	30	30	40	50		
5	20	20	25	25	30	30	40	45	1hr		
6	25	25	30	30	35	40	40	40	1hr	1hr	
7	25	25	30	35	40	45	45				
8	25	25	30	35	40	1hr	1hr				

Examination Dress Requirements

Ballet [Classical] - Girls

Studio Leotard or BAL logo leotard. If wearing studio leotards they must be the same style and colour.	Beginners to Grade 5 - Compulsory
Candidate's choice of leotard and colour.	Grade 6
Sheer Skirt to mid calf	Grade 6 – Dance – Expressive only
Navy or Black leotards, or studio leotard (All candidates wear same style and colour), or BAL uniform.	Pre-Elementary to Advanced
Ballet Shoes: Pink elastic on shoes Pink Ballet Ribbons on shoes Pink elastic on shoes	Beginners to Grade 2 - Compulsory Grades 3 to 5 – Compulsory Grade 6
Ballet shoes with ribbons Pointe shoes to be taken into examination and used in pointe work section. Ballet Shoes with ribbons Pointe shoes for pointe work	Pre-Elementary & Elementary Foundation Pre –Elementary & Elementary Intermediate and Advanced - Compulsory Intermediate and Advanced
Tights – flesh pink	All Grades - Compulsory

Ballet [Classical] - Boys

White t-shirt, well fitting black tights, jock strap , white socks and black ballet shoes (black elastic)	All Grades - Compulsory
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Hip Hop – Boys & Girls

Pants - $\frac{3}{4}$ or long pants [any colour or style] NO OVER-LONG PANTS PAST ANKLE LENGTH	All Grades - Compulsory
Top - close fitting top [singlet, tank, T-Shirt or crop top] NO LOOSE TOPS OR JACKETS	All Grades - Compulsory Elementary must wear sleeveless top
Shoes – any shoes [joggers, gym boots, jazz sneakers, etc.]	All Grades - Compulsory
Hair – any tidy style worn off the face	All Grades - Compulsory

Jazz - Girls

Studio Leotard or BAL logo leotard If wearing studio leotards they must be the same style and colour.	Majors may wear Navy or Black Leotard, or studio leotard, or BAL uniform.
Own Studio Shorts or BAL shorts.	All Grades – Compulsory
Camel or black jazz shoes	Beginners to Grade 5 (entire grade must wear the same colour)
Own choice of jazz shoe or black jazz sneaker	Seniors
Tights – tan coloured	All Grades - Compulsory

Jazz – Boys

Black tights or black narrow legged track pants, jock strap and white t-shirt	All Grades - Compulsory
Shoes – black jazz shoes	Beginners to Grade 5 – Compulsory
Black jazz shoe or black jazz sneaker	Seniors

BAL Tap & Tap’N’Beats - Girls

Studio Leotard or BAL logo leotard If wearing studio leotards they must be the same style and colour.	Majors may wear Navy or Black Leotards, or studio leotard, or BAL uniform
Own Studio Shorts or BAL shorts.	All Grades – Optional [if worn, then the whole group should wear them]
Shoes – All candidates must wear the same colour tap shoes, Own choice	Up to Grade 5 - Compulsory Seniors
Tights – tan coloured	All Grades - Compulsory

Tap - Boys

Black trousers, jock strap, white t-shirt and black tap shoes.	All Grades - Compulsory
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Character - Girls

[National costume acceptable in all grades]

Studio Leotard or BAL logo leotard. If wearing studio leotards they must be the same style and colour. Skirt - own choice of colour	All Grades - Compulsory Character costume can be worn but this is optional
Shoes – red, black or camel character shoes	All Grades – Compulsory with exception of Pre Grade (Welsh) who wear pink or black ballet shoes
Tights – flesh pink	All Grades - Compulsory
Skirt – own choice of colour Exception – Grade 4 Mexican as noted in syllabus.	

Character - Boys

Optional at teacher’s discretion with suitable character shoes.	All Grades
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MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

Full Teacher Member [FT]

Fees: A\$130 [1 section] or A\$185 [2+ sections]

Defined as a Teacher of BAL syllabus who has attained BAL approved qualifications, either BAL Teaching Certificate III or CUA40313 Certificate IV in Dance Teaching & Management, and is entering students for BAL exams.

Full Teacher members must enter their students for exams at least every two (2) years.

Full Teacher members must attend Summer School at BAL Sydney Headquarters at least once every two (2) years.

This membership category entitles you to:

- teach the BAL/NDAA syllabus in any style for which membership has been approved.
- Attend BAL's annual AGM in November each year, vote on member issues, participate in Board initiatives and sub-committees.

Member benefits include:

- Newsletter two (2) times per year.
- Membership Card
- Prompt assistance on syllabus queries from the Technical Committee representatives.
- 5% discount on Teacher Professional Development non-syllabus workshops conducted by BAL/NDAA [exceptions apply].

Provisional Teacher Member [PT]

Fees: A\$130 [1 section] or A\$185 [2+ sections]

Defined as a teacher of BAL syllabus who can conduct classes unsupervised and is currently completing BAL approved qualifications, namely BAL Teaching Certificate III or CUA40313 Certificate IV in Dance Teaching and Management. A teacher may enter students for exams while undergoing either of these qualifications.

This membership category entitles you to:

- Teach the BAL/NDAA syllabus in any style for which membership has been approved.
- Attend BAL's annual AGM in November each year and vote on member issues.

Member benefits include:

- Newsletter twice (2) times per year.
- Membership Card
- Prompt assistance on syllabus queries from the Technical Committee representatives.
- 5% discount on Teacher Professional Development non-syllabus workshops conducted by BAL/NDAA [exceptions apply].

Junior Member [JM] [Must be nominated by your BAL/NDAA teacher]

Fees: A\$40 per annum

Defined as a student or teacher who can assist in teaching BAL syllabus classes, under the direct supervision of a qualified BAL member ie. A Full Teacher member or a Provisional Teacher Member. A junior member does not have teaching qualifications and is under 18 years of age.

Associate Member [AM] [No nomination required]

Fees: A\$95 per annum

Available to individuals who are non-teaching BAL or NDAA members who have an on-going interest in BAL and wish to maintain links with the organisation.

MEMBERSHIP CLARIFICATION: As from Jan 2015

- Teachers conducting BAL syllabus classes in a studio, whether their own studio or for a studio owner, must be Full Teacher Members (already qualified) or Provisional Teacher members (ie they are undergoing their qualification training).
- All Applicants applying for Full Teacher Membership and Provisional Teacher Membership must apply for BAL Teaching Certificate III or CUA40313 Certificate IV in Dance Teaching and Management.
- For BAL, an assistant is defined as a person who assists the qualified teacher in class, and does not teach unsupervised at any time. They will now be registered as JUNIOR Members and must be under 18 years of age. There is no longer BAL Assistant Teacher Membership.

EXAM GRADINGS, MARKING SCALE, & HONOUR POINTS

To assist teachers in understanding the exam marking, gradings, and honour point system, BAL has listed the following information for your interest. It may assist you in determining the allocation of your class time for each section (eg. The Steps section carries 20 marks, and these are generally the more difficult exercises, so ensure you always leave enough time in class to teach them properly). It also reminds teachers that the exam dance/s carries a lot of marks, as well as presentation & style, so should be confidently and well shown in the exam. The gradings also show that there is a large variation in the standard of, say, a Distinction student with 90% and one with 97%, which previously teachers were unaware of (as both students simply received Distinction passes).

EXAM MARK ALLOCATIONS

BALLET

BEGINNERS BALLET - No written report. Short notes written on certificate only.

Barre	20
Arm exercise and general use	10
Balance exercise	10
Steps and rhythm	20
Characterisations	20
Dance and Mime	20

All Ballet Grades Pre Primary to Grade 5

Barre	20
Port de Bras/Department	10
Adage	20
Steps	20
Presentation / Theory	10
Dance	20

BAL TAP

BEGINNERS to ELEMENTARY TAP

Barre	20
Components	20
Steps	20
Dance	20
Style	10
Department	10

INTERMEDIATE TAP

Components	20
Combinations	20
Steps	20
Dance	20
Style	10
Department	10

ADVANCED TAP

Turning Amalgamations	10
Wing Amalgamation	10
Waltz	10
Tango	10
Soft Shoe	10
Rhythm Step	10
Dance	20
Style	10
Department	10

TAP'N'BEATS

ALL GRADES

Barre Exercises	20
Centre Exercises	20
Corner Exercises	20
Dance	20
Style & Presentation	20

JAZZ

Beginners - No written report. Short notes written on certificate only.

Barre	20
Arms	20
Floor	20
Steps	20
Dance (to be taken 2 at a time)	20

Pre Primary and Primary Jazz

Warm Up - Ex 1 & 2	20
Floor Ex - 1-4	20
Centre Steps	20
Combination	20
Combination	20

Grade 1 to Grade 5 Jazz

Exercises 1 to 4	20
Exercises 5 to 8.	20
Exercises 9 to 12	20
Combinations (whether 2 or 4 shown), includes Presentation	40

Elementary and Advanced Jazz

1 - 4 Centre Exercises	20
5 - 8 Centre Exercises	20
9 - 12 Centre Exercises	20
4 Combinations - 10 marks each combination, this includes Presentation	40

Intermediate Jazz

1 - 4 Centre Exercises	20
5 - 8 Centre Exercises	20
9 - 13 Centre Exercises	20
4 Combinations - 10 marks each combination, this includes style	40

HIP HOP Combination and Dances to be taken one at a time in all grades

PRIMARY

2 Warm Up	20
4 Progressions	20
1 Combination	20
Dance	20
Style	20

GRADE 1

3 Warm Up	20
4 Progressions	20
1 Combination	20
1 Dance	20
Style	20

GRADE 2

2 Warm Up	20
4 Progressions	20
1 Combination	20
1 Dance	20
Style	20

GRADE 3

2 Warm Up	20
Isolations/Glides	20
1 Groove Combination	20
1 Lyrical Dance	20
1 Fast Dance (Style to be marked in Dances)	20

GRADE 4

2 Warm Up	20
2 Progressions	20
1 Combination	20
1 Slow Dance	20
1 Glove Dance (Style to be marked in Dances)	20

GRADE 5

3 Warm Up	20
Dance 1 Tribal	20
Dance 2 Hip Hop	20
Dance 3 Lyrical Hip Hop	20
Style	20

ELEMENTARY

1 Warm Up	10
Introduction to House	10
Introduction to Poppin'	10
Introduction to Waving	10
1 Lyrical Dance	20
1 Fast Dance	20
Style	20

**CHARACTER
PRE GRADE – WELSH, PRIMARY – FINNISH**

Barre	20
Department and use of arms	10
Components	20
Steps	20
Dance	20
Style	10

GRADE 1 – POLISH, GRADE 2 - RUSSIAN

Barre	20
Arms	10
Components	20
Steps	20
Dance	20
Style (5) Theory (5)	10

GRADE 3 – ONLY GREEK

Barre	20
Arms	10
Components	20
Steps	20
Dance	20
Style (5) Theory (5)	10

GRADE 4 - MEXICAN

Barre	20
Arms	10
Components	20
Steps	20
Dance	20
Style (5) Theory (5)	10

GRADE 5 - HUNGARIAN

Barre	20
Department and use of arms	10
Components	20
Steps	20
Dance	20
Style (5) Theory (5)	10

ELEMENTARY - UKRAINIAN

Barre	20
Arms	10
Components	20
Steps	20
Dance	20
Style / theory	10

**INTERMEDIATE (Spanish & Oriental) & ADVANCED (Russian & Gypsy)
2 Syllabi each exam**

Barre	1	10
Centre	1	10
Steps	1	10
Dance	1	10
Arms		5
Presentation		5

Please note there is no theory for Intermediate and Advanced Character

MARKING SCALES

All BAL Exams

65-69	Pass
70-74	Pass Plus
75-79	Commended
80-84	Highly Commended
85-89	Honours
90+	Honours with Distinction

Senior Ballet Exams

Pass – Fairly Good
Pass – Good
Pass – Very Good
Commended
Highly Commended
Honours

