TROUPE HANDBOOK

- LJR CURRICULUM STUDENTS ONLY -

This handbook outlines the expectations for students participating in LJR Dance Academy troupe classes and should be read together with the LJR Rules & Regulations, Conditions of Enrolment and Attire Handbook.

THE COMMITMENT

Troupe is a significant team commitment. Students enrolled in the LJR Curriculum are also enrolled in Troupe class and are expected to meet the weekly attendance, rehearsal, competition and performance commitments associated with their troupe. Families should review the dates and requirements below before committing to the LJR Curriculum.

ENROLLING IN TROUPE CLASS

By participating in Troupe class, students and families agree to:

- Be available for the compulsory troupe dates listed in this handbook.
- Prioritise weekly troupe classes and any additional rehearsals scheduled throughout the year.
- Pay all applicable non-refundable Competition Registration Fees once charged.
- Pay in full for costumes, alterations, accessories, tights, shoes, headpieces and other routine-specific items allocated or ordered for the student.
- Follow all hair, makeup, footwear, costume and presentation requirements communicated by LJR.
- Arrive at competitions and rehearsals by the arrival time specified by LJR Dance Academy.
- Demonstrate teamwork, sportsmanship, respect and appropriate behaviour while representing LJR Dance Academy.
- Where regular Saturday classes are cancelled because LJR is attending a scheduled troupe competition, no separate reimbursement will be provided for that class. LJR may provide troupe workshops and/or stage rehearsals throughout the year as part of the troupe program.

2027 COMPETITIONS

For 2027, LJR troupes are scheduled to compete at two competitions: Get the Beat and Evolution Dance Competition. Competition dates, venues or participation may change if required by the event organiser or LJR Dance Academy. Families will be notified of any changes as soon as reasonably practicable.

2027 COMPULSORY DATES & LOCATIONS

Students must be available for the following scheduled troupe commitments:

STAGE REHEARSAL - Sunday 1 August 2027 - Golden Grove Recreation Centre

GET THE BEAT - Saturday 7 & Sunday 8 August 2027 - Golden Grove Recreation Centre

EVOLUTION - Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 August 2027 - Golden Grove Recreation Centre

CONCERT REHEARSAL - Monday 13 December 2027 - Golden Grove Recreation Centre

CONCERT - Tuesday 14 December 2027 - Golden Grove Recreation Centre

Exact competition performance and arrival times will be communicated closer to each event. Competition organisers may alter schedules, so families must follow the arrival time provided by LJR rather than relying only on the published performance time.

WORKING UP OR DOWN

Some students may be invited to work up or down into an additional troupe age group. These decisions are made by LJR Dance Academy management based on the needs of the routines, age, ability, training hours, readiness and team requirements. Participation in an additional age group is not guaranteed and may be reviewed during the year.

ATTENDANCE, ILLNESS & INJURY

Consistent attendance is essential because each dancer affects spacing, formations and the preparation of the whole team. Families must notify LJR as early as possible if a student will miss a troupe class, rehearsal or competition. Repeated or unexplained absences, or missed choreography and rehearsals, may affect a student's position, routine participation or readiness to compete. LJR management and the relevant teacher have the final say on whether a student or troupe is ready to perform.

STAGING & PERFORMANCE READINESS

There is no separate audition process for students enrolled in the applicable LJR Curriculum troupe class. However, competition participation, routines, casting, positioning and staging are determined by LJR Dance Academy management and may be changed were reasonably necessary for readiness, attendance, safety, team requirements, event rules or other operational reasons. Payment of competition or costume-related fees does not guarantee participation in every competition, routine or performance. Students may be asked to step out of choreography they have missed or may be withdrawn from a competition routine if the teacher considers this necessary for safety, readiness or the overall team.

Troupe positioning is based on factors including age, ability, experience, training hours, choreography and the needs of the routine. Positions are not permanent and may change throughout the year.

COSTUMING

LJR troupe costumes may be custom-made, reused from previous seasons or sourced in another manner approved by LJR Dance Academy. Families should budget approximately $150-$300 per new custom-made troupe costume unless advised otherwise.

Where a routine uses a costume from a previous season, LJR may assist in allocating an appropriate second-hand costume from a previous dancer. The buyer and seller are responsible for agreeing on the final sale price. As a general guide, a reduction from the original purchase price may be appropriate depending on the costume's age, condition and alterations required. LJR may assist where there is a disagreement about whether a proposed price is reasonable, but LJR is not the seller unless expressly stated.

Once a costume or performance item has been ordered, purchased, commissioned, altered or completed specifically for a student, the parent/guardian remains responsible for the full cost, including if the student later withdraws or their enrolment is terminated, in accordance with the Conditions of Enrolment.

Troupe costumes must not be sold, hired out, substantially altered or used to represent another studio without prior approval from LJR Dance Academy where the costume is associated with current LJR choreography or team presentation.

MERCHANDISE

Troupe members must wear appropriate LJR merchandise at competitions and award ceremonies where requested by LJR. Merchandise or uniform from other dance studios must not be worn while representing LJR unless management has approved otherwise.

HAIR, MAKEUP & PRESENTATION

LJR Dance Academy will determine the required hair, makeup, footwear, stockings and presentation for each routine. Requirements may differ between routines and will be communicated closer to competitions. Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring their dancer arrives with the required items and is competition-ready, or for arranging professional assistance where desired.

TANNING

Tanning is optional unless LJR advises otherwise for a particular routine or performance. If a family chooses to use tanning products, please select an age-appropriate product and follow the manufacturer's instructions, including patch-testing where recommended. A tan should never be used where it causes irritation or discomfort.

ARRIVAL TIMES

Exact arrival times will be provided closer to each competition. Students must arrive by the LJR arrival time even if their published performance time is later. Competition schedules can run early or change at short notice. The arrival time allows for check-in, costume, hair and makeup checks, an appropriate warm-up and rehearsal. Late arrival may affect a student's ability to perform.

COMPETITION ETIQUETTE

Dancers must wear appropriate LJR merchandise at competitions and award ceremonies where requested.

- Students and parents/guardians are expected to be supportive and congratulatory towards LJR dancers and dancers from other studios.
- Students and parents/guardians must behave respectfully in the auditorium and should leave the auditorium if they need to have a conversation.
- Students and parents/guardians must not publicly criticise placings, adjudicators, other dancers, other studios or event staff.
- Concerns relating to another dance school or a competition should be raised with LJR management rather than directly confronting another school, teacher, competition director or staff member.
- Photography and filming must comply with the competition organiser's rules. LJR routines must not be filmed or posted where LJR or the event organiser has prohibited recording.
- Families are expected to protect the reputation of LJR Dance Academy and demonstrate appropriate sportsmanship and etiquette at all events.

WITHDRAWAL OR TERMINATION OF ENROLMENT

If a student withdraws from LJR Dance Academy, or LJR Dance Academy terminates the student's enrolment, the student must cease representing LJR and must not perform LJR choreography at competitions, performances or other public events from the effective date of termination unless LJR provides written permission. Any outstanding costs already incurred or committed on the student's behalf remain payable in accordance with the Conditions of Enrolment.