

HSGC Naach Sitare Dance Competition 2026

Rules & Regulations

1. **Limited Entry Slots:** Participation is capped at 48 entries, accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.
2. **Song/Dance Category Selection:** Teams must choose between *Classical* or *Bollywood* styles after reviewing the guidance provided on the registration website.
3. **Music Submission:** An MP3 file of the final music must be uploaded during registration. For medleys, submit only *one combined file*. Bring a backup MP3 (via email or USB) on the day of the event.
4. **Participation Limit:** A dancer may perform in *only one* solo or *one* group routine—no double entries.
5. **Age Categories:** Participants must register within their appropriate age group to ensure fair evaluation.
6. **Group Entry Minimum:** A group must include at least two performers.
7. **Time Limits:** Each performance must be under 5 minutes. Time overages will disqualify the entry from award eligibility. There's a strict 1-minute allowance each for pre-performance setup and post-performance cleanup.
8. **Entry Selection Rights:** The organizing committee reserves the right to accept or decline entries based on content, type, or overall balance of submissions. Award categories and age divisions may be revised as needed.
9. **Cultural Appropriateness:** All entries must reflect cultural and artistic sensibilities appropriate to the temple setting and Indian heritage. Costumes, music, and choreography should be respectful and suitable.
10. **No Song Repetition:** The same song cannot be used by multiple teams. Please refer to the published song list on the registration website before submitting your entry.
11. **Adult Supervision:** Each team must appoint an adult manager who will serve as the sole point of contact from registration through performance. Only adults may complete the registration process.
12. **Cancellations:** Withdrawals must be made no later than *14 days* before the competition. No-shows or late cancellations may affect eligibility in future events.
13. **Multiple Entries:** Managers or choreographers overseeing multiple teams must submit each entry in a *separate email*.
14. **Props and Effects:** Ceiling-hung props are prohibited. Large props must be pre-approved at the time of registration. Only performers may handle props on stage. Fireworks, confetti, and fog machines are strictly prohibited.
15. **Interaction with Judges:** Teams must not approach the judges before, during, or after the event. All judging decisions are final and not open to appeal.
16. **Judging Criteria** (20 points each):
 - Choreography
 - Technique & Facial Expression
 - Originality
 - Stage Presence
 - Costume
17. **Dance Categories:**

Classical: Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi, Odissi, Kathak, Mohiniyattam, Manipuri, Kathakali, Sattriya/Shastriya

Bollywood & Folk: Bollywood fast songs, Folk (e.g., Kuravanji, Kurathi, Kavadi Chindu), Bhangra/Bhangda, Garba, Semi-Classical/Fusion

Western Styles: Hip-hop, Ballet, Contemporary, Pop, Jazz, Lyrical

Important Note: Dance *style*, not music selection, defines the category. For instance, a classical routine set to fusion music will be judged as classical—*provided* the choreography remains strictly classical. Avoid choosing music that doesn't align with the dance style being presented.