

Palmerston North Dance Association Inc. 

pndacompetitions@gmail.com

Competition Syllabus

Restricted & Open Tap

Open Tap Duos/Trios and Tap Troupes

Open Impromptus in all dance styles

NYPA Nomination in Tap Solos & Tap Troupe offered

13th – 15th February 2026

Venue:

Globe Theatre

Palmerston North

Online entries link to Solos & Duos/Trios will be posted on the PNDA Facebook page and the Website (pnda.nz) on
Sunday 11th January 2026

after alert notices to opening date and time. There is a separate jotform for Troupe entries.

Please be aware that entries close on 13th January 2026 or before if we have reached capacity.

Adjudicator: Gemma Boswell

**Restricted classes are for those who have never been awarded a first place
in a similar class in any competition festival.**

All impromptu and Tap duos, trios and troupe classes are open.

**Tap Solos & Tap Troupe nomination
to PACANZ National Young Performer Award offered.**

**Conveners – Maryanne Mechen 02102269355 or
Lauren Francis 0212573342 or pndacompetitions@gmail.com**

CUP CONVENOR

**All Trophies/Cups are to be returned (clean) to the following address before 24th January 2026
PNDA, 440A Albert Street, Palmerston North, phone 0212573342 or Email pndacompetitions@gmail.com**

COMPETITION ENTRY FEES

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|---|
| \$ 6.00 | Solo Entry. | \$25.00 NYPA Tap Troupe NYPA Nomination Class |
| \$ 8.00 | Duo/Trio Entry | \$25.00 NYPA Tap Solos NYPA Nomination Class |
| \$15.00 | Compulsory Administration Fee | \$10.00 Tap Troupe Entry |

**Teachers please note that if you enter more than five groups after 5 or more groups in the open section are entered the maximum amount to pay is \$50. E.g. – 1 group \$10, 2 groups \$20, 3 groups \$30, 4 groups \$40, 5 groups \$50 then \$50 for 6-10 etc. up to 10 groups. Then classes are the standard \$10 each. This does not apply to NYPA Troupe/Group entries – this must be entered separately. If you are entering a NYPA Group, this cannot be entered into the open groups as well. NYPA Group/Troupe is \$25 per group.*

Online entry forms for solos and duo/trios will be used, and the link will be available on 11th January 2026 on Facebook and our website – PNDA.NZ Separate Troupe entry JotForm will be live on the same day but a different time. Specific time for links to go live to be confirmed via Facebook and website.

Official Videographer available to record your dancer's performance. No unofficial videoing from side stage or Auditorium please!

A designated person will be allowed to video their own NYPA nomination Tap Troupe only, from a set area.

Rules and Instructions

1. The PNDA competitions are strictly for Amateurs. An Amateur means one whose income is not mainly derived from the exercise of his/her talents in which he/she is competing. Prize money won at these, or any similar competition festivals shall not affect the status of the Amateur.
2. Entries close 13th Jan 2026 or when we reach capacity whichever comes first.
3. No Telephone entries. Full payment must accompany entry forms.
4. Age as first day of competition.
5. Proof of age may be requested by the Secretary to verify ANY competitors age on receipt of entry or at any time during the competition (regardless of placing)
6. **No competitor may compete out of his or her age group except in duo, trio and group classes. The age of the OLDEST competitor in Troupes or duos or trios determines the age group class to enter.**
7. Entry to the auditorium is free for Children and PNDA Dance Teacher members. Adult tickets to watch from the auditorium are \$5 a session, \$9 a day or \$15 a weekend competition. A support person for the competitor is welcome side stage and backstage. Tickets are available on the day of the competition at the theatre.
8. Time limits –
12 years and under – Up to 3 minutes
13 years and over – Up to 4 minutes
Self-Choreography solo – Up to 2 minutes
9. Any competitor who leaves the stage is unable to receive a first, second or third placing. Only competitors under 12 years will be able to repeat their dance if time allows. Competitors will not be able to repeat their dance if they leave the stage during a championship class. The Stage Manager has discretion during any technical difficulties.
10. Cups/trophies – the engraving of trophies, cups or trays and the payment of the engraving are the responsibility of the cup/trophy winner. All costs due to the return of the cups /trophies to the PNDA Inc are the responsibility of the cup/trophy winner also. Cups/trophies returned after the cutoff date may incur a late penalty fee. Cups/trophies are to be engraved by a professional engraver. Parents/caregivers may be liable should any cups/trophies require repair, re-engraving or replacement.
11. Any complaints concerning the competition must be submitted in writing and received by the secretary of the Society within 12 hours of the subject of the complaint, accompanied by a \$20 fee (refundable if complaint is upheld by the committee).
12. Sound system –Digital Music Files used. The Association will provide a sound operator. You will be notified through Facebook as to the date to upload digital copies of your music in MP3 format. **(Please have a backup – e.g. USB or Cell phone.**
13. The Committee reserves the right to combine, divide or cancel classes according to entries received and will refund where applicable.
14. All competitors compete at their own risk.
15. No communication with the adjudicator is allowed during the competition.
16. Any competitor who has been taught by the adjudicator during the past two years is ineligible to enter.
17. Restricted classes are for competitors with no First Placing in the discipline they have entered, regardless of age group.
18. Payment for entry fees must accompany entry.
19. **THE ADJUDICATOR'S DECISION IS FINAL.**

RESTRICTED CLASSES

Restricted Tap under 8 years

- 001 Tap Solo
(*PNDA Trophy*)

Restricted Tap 8 and under 10 years

- 002 Tap Solo
(*Maxene Jeffares Challenge Cup*)

Restricted Tap under 10 years

- 010 Slow Tap
(*Minty Family Trophy*)
011 Waltz Tap

Restricted Tap 10 years and under 12 years

- 003 Tap Solo
(*PNDA Trophy*)
015 Slow Tap
016 Waltz Tap
(*Lee Family Cup*)
017 Tango/Latin
(*PNDA Trophy – Swan Family*)
018 Fast

Restricted Tap 12 Years and under 14 years

- 004 Tap Solo
(*PNDA Trophy*)
021 Slow Tap
022 Waltz Tap
023 Tango/Latin
024 Fast

Restricted Tap 14 years and over

- 005 Tap Solo
(*PNDA Trophy*)
061 Slow Tap
(*Hannah Trophy*)
062 Waltz Tap
063 Tango/Latin
(*Sherryn & Brian Jeffares CC*)
064 Fast

Restricted Song and Tap

- 070 Under 12 Years
071 12 years and Over

Restricted Song and Dance

- 072 Under 12 Years
073 12 Years and Over
(*PNDA Trophy*)

Restricted Musical Theatre Tap

- 080 Under 12 years
081 12 Years and Over

TAP OPEN CLASSES

Tap Under 8 years

- 101 Tap Solo.
(Mila Hatcher Trophy)

Tap 8 and under 10 years

- 102 Tap Solo
(PNDA Trophy)

Tap 10 years and under 12 years

- 103 Tap Solo
(PNDA Trophy)
115 Slow Tap
(James Swan Memorial Cup).
116 Waltz Tap
(Swan Family Cup)
117 Tango/Latin
(PNDA Trophy)
118 Fast
(PNDA Trophy)

Tap 12 Years and under 14 years

- 104 Tap Solo
(PNDA Trophy)
121 Slow Tap
(Killalea Family Trophy)
122 Waltz Tap
(Aria Killalea Trophy)
123 Tango/Latin
(Anthony Murdoch CC)
124 Fast
(PNDA Trophy)

Tap 14 years and under 16 years

- 105 Tap Solo
161 Slow Tap
(Gabrielle Cabauatan Trophy)
162 Waltz Tap
(Carol-Ann Trophy).
163 Tango/Latin
(Anthony Murdoch CC)
164 Fast
(Gabrielle Cabauatan Trophy)

Tap Under 10 years

- 110 Slow Tap
(Mila Hatcher Trophy)
111 Waltz Tap
(HRH Trophy)

Song and Tap

- 170 Under 12 Years
(Hatcher Family Trophy)
171 12 years and Over

Song and Dance

- 172 Under 12 Years
173 12 years and Over

Musical Theatre Tap

- 180 Under 12 Years
181 12 Years and Over

Tap 16 years and over

- 106 Tap Solo
166 Slow Tap
(PNDA Trophy)
167 Waltz Tap
168 Tango/Latin
169 Fast
(Abby-Rose Bailey Trophy)

OPEN CLASSES

Under 12 years

- 34 Impromptu Ballet
(Skinner Family Trophy)
- 35 Impromptu Barefoot
(Kimberley Young Trophy)
- 36 Impromptu Modern
(PND A 2000 Trophy)
- 55 Impromptu Hip Hop
- 58 Impromptu Lyrical
(Madison Trophy)
- 053 Impromptu Tap Solo
- 56 Self-Choreography (any dance style)
(Emma Weston Trophy)
(Time limit 2 minutes maximum)

Under 12 years

- 051 Tap Duo/Trio

Tap Troupe - 13 years & Under

- 46 Tap Troupe - (4 or more dancers)
(Maximum Dance Zone Trophy)

Open Age Tap Troupe

- 66 Troupe – Entertainment (3 or more dancers)
(Kristina Beddis Trophy)

PACANZ NYPA Nomination Classes

- 100. Tap Troupe

- 90A Multi/Variable Tempo Tap Dance
- 90B Own Selection Tap Solo

Please check the NYPA criteria

12 years & over

- 37 Impromptu Ballet (Pointe optional)
(PND A 2000 Trophy)
- 38 Impromptu Barefoot
(PND A 2000 Trophy)
- 39 Impromptu Modern
(PND A 2000 Trophy)
- 40 Impromptu Neo Classical
(Hannah Heng Trophy)
- 43 Impromptu Hip Hop
(Madison Horman Trophy)
- 44 Impromptu Contemporary
(Mekah Dunn Trophy)
- 50 Impromptu Lyrical
(Molly Hancock Trophy)
- 054 Impromptu Tap Solo
- 57 Self-Choreography (any dance style)
(Sophie Hunter Self Choreography Trophy)
(Time limit 2 minutes maximum)
- 052 Tap Duo/Trio
- 47 Tap Troupe – 13 years & over (4 or more)

12 years & over

Tap Troupe – 13 years & Over

* Please note – NYPA Group/Troupe dance cannot be entered into the tap troupe sections as well as class 100.

* A designated person will be able to video their own NYPA nomination class tap troupe from a set space so the Dance Studio can meet the entry criteria for a nominated troupe.

**NATIONAL YOUNG PERFORMER AWARDS
2026 CRITERIA FOR TROUPES**



- A. Competitors will be under 21 years as at 1st of October 2026. Competitors may compete in **ONE** nominated Troupe only. The **ONLY** exception is when they perform in their Studio Troupe AND for their Primary School/High School/Educational Institution. In order to represent a Studio or School, the Dancer **MUST** be a registered (fee paying) Student of the Organisation. This competition is for amateur troupes only and is not open to professionals*.
- B. Each Troupe will be nominated at a Member Society Competition by performing in any dance genre pertinent to the Competition they enter. There can be no crossover of dancers (dancing in more than one Troupe) in the Nomination class at the Society Competitions, as each Society has a minimum of two Troupe nominations to offer. The **ONLY** exception is when they perform in their Studio Troupe AND for their Primary School/High School/Educational Institution. This competition is for amateur troupes only and is not open to professionals*.
- C. There will be a maximum time limit of 4 1/2 minutes, taken from the beginning to the conclusion of the music.
- D. Troupes who gain nomination **must** be able to attend the National Young Performer Competition which will be held in Palmerston North. Compulsory Registration/Orientation will be on Wednesday 21st October and the Competition will be on Thursday 22nd October 2026.
- E. A Final will be held on the afternoon/evening of Thursday 22nd October, with up to **18 Troupes** recalled to perform. The number of Troupes in the Final may change, at the discretion of the Adjudicator(s)
- F. It **MAY** be possible for the top 3 Troupes to perform at the Soloist Final Award Concert on the evening of Sunday 25th October 2026.
- G. Costumes, choreography & music should be appropriate to the age of both the competitors and suitable for a family audience.
- H. Where applicable, Shotgun mics will be made available. Troupes may request these as part of the Entry process.

ADDITIONAL RULES

- I. Once a Troupe Item has received a Nomination, it is no longer eligible to enter another Nomination class. The Dancers in the Nominated Troupe cannot perform in an additional Troupe to assist in gaining a Nomination. The Studio name, the Item name and the genre of the nominated item will be published on the PACANZ website as soon as PACANZ is notified by the nominating Society.
- J. The Nominating Troupe will be required to complete the entire Entry process, via the APP, within **14 days** of receiving a Nomination. The Entry process will include uploading a Video file of the Nominated Troupe item. Video footage taken at the Competition where the Nomination was awarded would be most appropriate.
- K. The Item receiving a Nomination and submitted in the Video file following nomination, will be the same Item when it is performed at the National Young Performer Awards on 22nd October 2026. **Minor** alterations are allowed in choreography and costuming only. Dancer numbers and/or actual dancers, can only be altered on receipt of a Medical certificate OR with the PACANZ Office sign off on extenuating or special circumstances which are unforeseen/unplanned.

NATIONAL YOUNG PERFORMER AWARDS 2026 CRITERIA FOR TAP DANCING



- A. Performers will be 15 and under 21 years as at 1st of October 2026.
- B. Each performer will compete in three classes during the preliminary rounds to showcase their ability.
 - 1. A Multi/Variable Tempo dance. This dance needs to have 2 or more Tempos which will be shown in the Music.
 - 2. An Own selection dance.
 - 3. All performers will participate in a Master Class, taken in the manner of an Audition, conducted by or for the Adjudicators. No audience observation will be permitted. The Master Class will be taken into consideration in determining the semi-finalists.
- C. There shall be a maximum time limit of 3 1/2 minutes for each dance, taken from the beginning to the conclusion of the music.
- D. There will be a semi-final of up to twelve performers who will repeat either B1 or B2, at the discretion of the adjudicators. The number of semi-finalists is determined as per the NYPA rules 7.1-7.2. Competitors will be chosen based on their marks in the Preliminary round(s).
- E. For the Final Award Concert six performers will be recalled, and shall repeat the item not performed at the semi-final.

COMPETITORS PLEASE NOTE

Only enter the Nomination class if you are seeking a Nomination **AND** are committed to attending and competing at the National Young Performer Awards in Palmerston North 22-25 Oct 2026.

Please note: Registration will be on Thursday 22nd October following the Troupe Competition

SOCIETY NOMINATION

Each Society, which is a financial member of PACANZ, **may nominate up to two competitors**, who shall be selected by the adjudicator, based on a performance as outlined in A-D.

The adjudicator will determine that a competitor has displayed a sufficient standard of performance to competently represent that society at the National Finals.

The standard required will be at the absolute discretion of the adjudicator but will include:

- A demonstration of adequate preparation
- An authority of performance
- A performance with a level of maturity commensurate with a national final competition of this age group.

If the adjudicator considers that sufficient standard has **NOT** been reached by any competitor, then **NO** nomination will be made.

The Nominating Society is responsible for paying part of the entry fee to the National Young Performer Awards i.e. **\$80 inc gst per Nominee**

Each Nominee is responsible for paying the rest of the entry fee to the National Young Performer Awards i.e. **\$230.00 incl gst**

PNDA Committee

Patron: Dierdre Tarrant

President: Maryanne Mechen Vice President: Yvonne Hocken
Secretary: Lauren Francis Treasurer: Kathy Geange

Committee Members

**Christine Booker, Dayle Campbell, Pam Fowler, Ashley Hodges, Tracy Horman,
Lisa Procter, Michelle Robinson, Katrina Rose**

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| PNDA pndacompetitions@gmail.com |
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