

BLUES FEVER 2024 COMPETITIONS GUIDELINES - COMPETITORS -

Competitors will receive BIB numbers at registration desk. It's competitors' responsibility to always have their number with them when participating in competitions.

Forgetting your number will result in immediate exclusion from the competition. The organization is not going to provide new ones.

Competitors meeting is mandatory.

Skipping competitors meeting will result in immediate exclusion from the competition

Competitors meeting is going to be one, dedicated to all the competitions of the day. If you are competing only in the second prelim of the day, we suggest using the waiting time to warm up.

COMPETITION SCHEDULE:

FRIDAY:

Mandatory Competitor's meeting schedule – for solo cuttin' and open Mix n Match: Meeting 19.30

- *(Friday 19.45 Class on Cuttin' lead by Vicci – this is not mandatory but strongly suggested)*
- Friday 20:00 Solo Cuttin' prelims (**meeting point:** Ankersaal)
- Friday 20:45 Open Mix n match prelims (**meeting point:** Ankersaal)
- Friday 23:30 Solo Cuttin' **finals** (**meeting point:** On the left side of the Stage)
- Friday 23:50 Open Mix n match **finals** (**meeting point:** On the left side of the Stage)

Solo Cuttin':

Both prelims and finals of Solo Cuttin' competition will be in Cuttin' format. Cuttin' is about one-upmanship with respect for both art and authenticity. Good sportsmanship is expected at all times.

Maintain awareness of musical phrasing so that you have your full amount of time to dance without infringing upon your fellow contestants' time.

Refrain from making physical contact with your fellow contestants and give them ample space to dance.

Aggressive posturing is not appropriate etiquette, nor is it within the blues aesthetic.

Introductory 15 mins class on Cuttin' lead by Vicci – Friday, 19.45

Prelims (Friday 20:00)

Prelims will run in the form of a one heat. Competitors will be divided in groups, lined to battle one to one. Battles will be:

- 2x8 Contestant A
- 2x8 Contestant B
- 1x8 Contestant A
- 1x8 Contestant B

There will be no breaks before the next couple starts their battle.

There will be a short warm up song after the Cuttin' class by Vicci and the beginning of the competition prelims.

Finals (Friday 23:30) – 8 dancers qualify for the final.

Finals are single elimination Battle format.

Two dancers will battle each other in cuttin' format, and the judges decide immediately.

The winner of each battle goes to the next round, until the final battle.

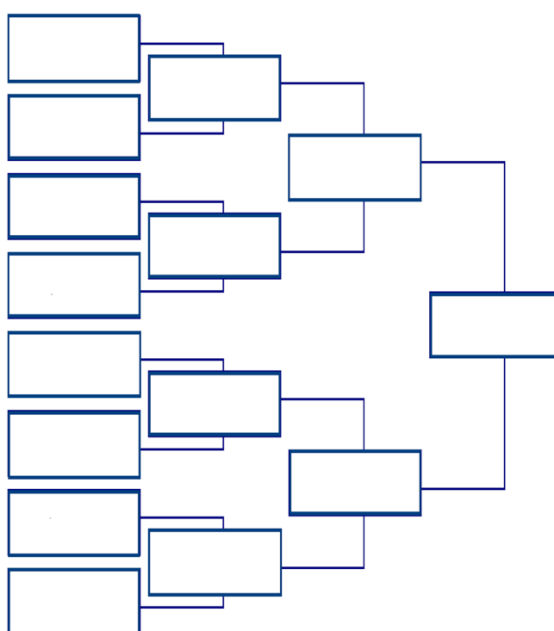
There will be a warmup song at the beginning of the final, before the battle starts.

No cuttin' structure for the final, you can cut fluidly: your ability to claim and give up the space is part of the scoring.

Please note that Blues Aesthetic and Cuttin' ability are gatekeeper criteria, meaning it needs to be met to qualify for winning.

Judging will be 1-2-3 point directly after each battle.

Battle format example:



Open MixnMatch:

Prelims (Friday 20:45) - Individuals will rotate partners and be judged individually. Songs will be of varying tempos and styles.

Finals (Friday 23:50) – 5 Leads and 5 Follows qualify for the finals. Contestants will be judged individually. Contestants will be mixing also in the final. The final will be:

- First All Skate song
- Spotlight song (one per each couple)
- Second All Skate song

All dances (all skates and spotlight) will be equally weighted and part of the scoring.

SATURDAY:

Mandatory Competitor's meeting schedule – for Newcomers Mix n Match and Strictly: Meeting 20.30

- Saturday 20:45 Newcomer Mixnmatch prelims (**meeting point:** Ankersaal)
- Saturday 21:15 Open Strictly prelims (**meeting point:** Ankersaal)
- Saturday 22:45 Newcomer Mixnmatch **finals** (**meeting point:** On the left side of the Stage)
- Saturday 00.20 Open Strictly **finals** (**meeting point:** On the left side of the Stage)

Newcomers MixnMatch:

You can be in Newcomer only if **you have not placed in the final in any Blues dance competition in the same role.**

Prelims (Saturday at 20:45)

Individuals will rotate partners and be judged individually. Songs will be of varying tempos and styles.

Finals (Saturday 22:45) - 4 Leads and 4 Follows qualify for the finals.

Competitors will get to the final and be randomly paired with a Pro-dancer and will not rotate. The final contest will be in Pro-Am format. The competitors will dance in a **dual spotlight** format with their Partners and be judged individually.

The format of the finals will be:

- First All-skate: everybody dances at the same time
- Dual Spotlights: the stage will be shared by a Lead and a Follow finalist, dancing at the same time with a Pro dancer. This is not a battle against each other, you are just sharing the stage space.
- Second All-skate: everybody dances at the same time

Open Strictly:

Prelims (Saturday 21.15)

Dancers register as a couple and will dance in all skates to songs of varying tempos and styles.

Final (Saturday 00.20) – 5 couples qualify for the final.

Couples will dance All-skate first and then each couple dances on Spotlight.

- First all skate
- Spotlight
- Second all skate

All dances (all skates and spotlight) will be equally weighted and part of the scoring.

All previous competition winners will be announced on **Saturday at 02.00**.

SUNDAY:

Mandatory Competitor's meeting schedule: no meeting, straight into showcase

REHEARSAL OPEN FLOOR

There will be an hour for Open Floor from 20 to 21.

Each team or solo act will be able to go and try their showcase. This is a non-organized session, please be mindful of your fellow competitors and make sure there's enough time for everyone to rehearse. Music is not provided, bring your own speaker/headphones.

- 22.00 Fever Showcase

Every team/Solo dancer has 60 to 80 seconds for the showcase.

*** The winner will perform the showcase again on **Sunday at 01:45**

WHAT ARE THE JUDGING CRITERIA?

Blues Aesthetic and Technique

- You could be the most talented dancer in the world, but if you're not dancing blues, you would be missing the key ingredient to this dance and the scoring criteria we hold in highest regard.

We'll be looking for things like:

- an athletic posture,
- grounded movement,
- asymmetry and angularity
- rhythmic representation throughout the whole body,
- the sense of dancing through molasses or mud and in the space between the beats,

- and relaxed, natural movement, along with ephebism, coolness/hotness.

!!! Whether you're doing the specified idiom dance or not, **all** of your movement must fit within the blues aesthetic.

- Note: This is a foundational, **gateway criteria**. Your dancing must fit within the blues aesthetic in order to advance. In other words, a dance with fantastic musicality, partnership, and creativity that lacks blues aesthetic would automatically be disqualified.

Musicality

- All of your dancing should come from the music. Whether this means picking a baseline pulse, texture, variation, or dancing in an idiom, our judges will be looking for your dynamic responses to the music. We want to see evidence that you aren't just performing memorized motions over a soundtrack. Our DJs have been asked to challenge you with their song choices, listen to what they are giving you, find your groove and move! We want to see not only what moves you but how you decide to do those moves. Let the music drive and inform your movement.

Partnership (whether applicable)

- How well do you and your partner connect? We want to see solid connections and partnerships that feel comfortable and natural. We want to see you listening to and working with your partner. We're looking for clear and comfortable connection, responsive leading, expressive following, and the creation of a dance with your partner.

Creativity

- Creativity is like the sprinkles on top of the icing on the cake. We want to see your innovative, creative, and personal stylings driven by the music and using solid technique. We're excited to see what flavor and personality you're going to bring to the dancing, but keep in mind that we are, above all, looking for clear, accurate, and consistent blues aesthetic. If you (and your partner) can do that, and you want to add some flavor and style without breaking out of the judging criteria, go for it!

Idiom Specificity

- Blues Fever 2024 competitions don't focus on idiom dances, therefore everything goes (idioms or freestyle), **as long as it's blues!**

GOOD LUCK and HAVE FUN!