

Demo Team Policy of STUdance



Introduction

This document has been drawn up to ensure the continuity of D.A.M.N. (Dance And Move Now). Throughout the years, the composition of the group and the board changes, in which the expectations and goals may also change. To provide a guideline and to avoid unclarities, this document sets out the general expectations that supplement the Internal Regulations. To achieve this, some guidelines have been drawn up.

The Team

STUdance originated as a show group: a group of dancers from the Utrecht region who joined the dance group by audition. Due to a lot of interest and a lack of dance classes for students in Utrecht, the show group expanded to include technique classes you could join without an audition. In this way, STUdance grew from a show group to a wide range of diverse classes. Later, the show group was renamed D.A.M.N. (Dance And Move Now). D.A.M.N. specialises in the styles Modern and Jazz.

The team represents goals both within and outside of STUdance:

- Within STUdance, the demo team aims to provide members with the opportunity to develop in areas such as dance, stage experience, choreography and organisation.
- Towards external parties, the demo team aims to generate name recognition for STUdance. Accessibility, sociability and professionalism are key here.

The D.A.M.N. class is an addition to the STUdance membership and is considered an extra class. The conditions surrounding regular membership apply to it and are described in the Internal Regulations. A regular class for D.A.M.N. members is important for maintaining or further developing technique.

Membership

Membership in the demo team is for a fixed term and must be renewed at the beginning of the financial year. The number of demo team members who quit can be supplemented by auditioning. Each demo team consists of a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 18 members. Members who continue do not have to audition again. If a member decides to leave a demo team, they can only return by auditioning again.

Auditions are held at the beginning of the dance season around the open class week. During the audition, technical ability, stage presence and the ability to learn choreography are assessed. After the audition, a jury will decide which auditors are allowed to take part in the demo team.

As the composition varies every year, there will be three meetings per dance season with the demo team, the board and the teacher. At the beginning of the dance season, the board will agree with the demo team when these evaluations will take place. The purpose of the first meeting is to express expectations and set goals for the coming season. This is followed by six-monthly and final evaluations.

Lesson Contents

Prior to class, each demo team member is present fifteen minutes before class. These fifteen minutes can be used, among other things, to repeat choreography or by the Demo Team Committee to discuss certain matters.

There is one teacher for the demo team who leads the class as choreographer. They are (largely) responsible for the creative input for the performances and final show. At the beginning of the year, in consultation with the teacher, work will be done over a set period to build up a new repertoire. This repertoire can be used for performances. The lesson schedule will be designed by the relevant teacher, but will in any case include the following components:

- A warm-up.
- Specific technique relevant to the choreography of the demo team.
- Creating, preparing or cleaning choreographies for performances.
- A cooling down.

Demo Team Committee

The demo team committee takes care of the course of events of the teams. The committee consists of a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 6 demo team members. The committee discusses general matters, such as finding and distributing performances. The subcommittees meet for practical matters applicable to the demo team, such as determining clothes and grime for performances and planning team events.

The commissioner of external affairs will have an independent role. This person will have close contact with the Demo Team Committee and will be the direct point of contact for the committee from the board. The committee takes the lead in arranging performances. They maintain contact with the clients, keeping an eye on costs and benefits (in consultation with the treasurer of STUdance). In consultation with the Demo Team Committee, commissioner of external affairs and demo team teacher, guidelines for the distribution of performances are drawn up at the beginning of the dance season. The commissioner of external affairs will see to it that performances are distributed in accordance with these guidelines.

Demo Team Cashbook

Performances generate income for the demo teams and the association. The profit made goes to different budget allocations. STUdance gets 30% of the income and the demo team gets 70%. Maximally 30% of the allocated profit may be spend on team building activities. The allocated profit may also be entirely spend on investments (clothing, grime, etc.).

Costs incurred by the demo team must always be approved in advance by the board through a budget. Budgets must be approved two weeks in advance. Exceptions can be made for this, for example in case a performance has been announced late.

Privileges and Obligations

Some privileges and obligations apply to the demo team. These are described below.

Privileges

1. Demo team members are allowed to develop technique, stage skills and build experience in the field of dancing.
2. Performances of D.A.M.N. throughout the dance season are performed by D.A.M.N. members.
3. Demo team members perform more frequently at STUdance's final performance. *The premise is that the demo team will dance 2 choreographies in STUdance's final*

performance. As a D.A.M.N. member, you will additionally dance with your regular class during the final performance.

4. The team receives support from the board of STUdance in achieving goals and promotion. At the beginning of the year, it will be determined how the board can support the demo teams in achieving their goal of the dance season and the form of appreciation they will receive for it.
5. D.A.M.N. members have priority placement for STUdance's regular class. *At the beginning of the season, a D.A.M.N. member is given priority in the draw because D.A.M.N. members are required to take a regular class at STUdance in addition to their D.A.M.N. membership.*
6. If a D.A.M.N. member does not wish to take a second class at STUdance, the member must request an exception from the board before enrolling at STUdance. The request can be made by emailing the secretary maximally two weeks prior to the registration deadline. The second class outside of STUdance must be in the styles of jazz and modern at the "3"/advanced level. If a member wants to do a style outside of jazz or modern and cannot yet practice it at the "3"/advanced level, a member should indicate this. The board will then deliberate with the teacher as to whether the dancer has proficiency in jazz and modern and can progress to another style. To apply to the board, the D.A.M.N. member must be able to show proof of enrollment from a dance school outside of STUdance. The board will make a judgment on the member's proof of enrollment, and communicate this to the member.

Obligations

1. Each demo team member attends dance classes as much as possible. *At an absence of more than 6 times from a demo team class will be consulted with the STUdance Board, the teacher, and RvA for appropriate action.* If a demo team member is absent for a period longer than 3 consecutive classes, a member should do the following:
 - a. Maximally four weeks prior to the draw weekend for the concerning dance season, the member will inform the contact person of the board that they will be absent for a specific period of time.
 - b. After this, the board's contact person will consult with the member which of the two will contact the teacher.
 - c. The teacher will then make a decision on whether the member can take part in the demo team for the concerning dance season. The teacher takes into account how many demo team members will be present during that period, what the year planning is like concerning performances and competitions, and whether the dancer won't miss too much development and technique in contrast to the rest of the team.
 - d. After this, both the member and the contact person should be informed of the teacher's decision. Then the team can be informed.

In case a dancer wants to audition for the demo team and knows that they will be absent for a period during that year, they must make it known in the registration for the audition. The jury can take this into consideration while considering the auditor for the team, based on aforementioned aspects.

2. Each demo team member attends performances as often as possible and takes an active attitude in them by participating attentively, offering support where necessary, and contributing to good cooperation within the team.

3. Each demo team member is expected to attend STUdance's General Members' Meetings (GMM). Should they be unable to attend a GMM for certain reasons, they must inform the board no later than three days in advance. *It is important for demo team members to actively think about the association and be able to contribute to this at a General Members' Meeting.*
4. Since a demo team member is extra involved with STUdance and is thereby the showpiece of the association, it is expected that the association's key points and this policy be pursued at all times.
5. Every D.A.M.N. member takes a regular class at STUdance¹. *Each D.A.M.N. member takes a regular class at STUdance, which includes any class for which the dancer may be enrolled at the beginning of the dance season and which is taken throughout the dance season.*
6. A demo team member must be a student. If a demo team member is no longer a student, they will need to request an exception from the board before signing the demo team contract.

Contract and Policy

At the beginning of the dance season, each demo team member signs a contract indicating that they are aware of the Internal Regulations and the Demo Team Policy. In doing so, they agree to the privileges, obligations, and other parts related to demo team membership.

The policy will be adhered to and monitored by the STUdance board. If a demo team member does not adhere to the Demo Team Policy, it is up to the board of STUdance, in consultation with the Advisory Board (RvA) and the teacher, to take appropriate action.

When a demo team develops in the future and thus involves changes, the commissioner of external affairs, in consultation with the board, Advisory Board (RvA), the teacher, and demo team members, will ensure that the Demo Team Policy is adjusted accordingly. These adjustments must be approved by a General Members' Meeting.

Final Provisions

- Sections in the Internal Regulations relating to D.A.M.N. always take precedence over the Demo Team Policy.
- In matters not covered by the Demo Team Policy or the Internal Regulations or in the case of disagreement on the interpretation of the Demo Team Policy, the decision lies with the Board.

¹ In special cases, the board will decide on any exceptions to dance classes taken outside of STUdance. Exceptions may include: Dispensation membership STUdance, impediment due to school/work, level difference, medical advice. This should be communicated in a timely manner to the commissioner of external affairs and current D.A.M.N. members.