1. About the category
The Soloist category is for performers aged 18-40. The organizers can provide dispensation concerning age.
The dancer teach and/or perform regularly as a solo artist at a professional level.
The dancer will perform a routine to live music.
Music will be chosen by the organizers together with the performing orchestra. The dancers will get to choose their music from a list beforehand and in good time so they can prepare.
The sooner you sign up the more time you will have for your preparations and the more songs there is to chose from.

If you have not participated in the competition before we will ask you to upload or share a link to a video (YouTube/ Dropbox) in order to decide whether or not you are qualified to enter the competition.

The winners will be announced the same night the category is conducted.

It is not possible to participate in the soloist category in the same year as you participate in Tomorrow's Stars an vice versa.

2. General rules
All contestants must be aged 18 or over in order to participate in Danish Open Bellydance.

You are only allowed to use your own choreography.

Judges/organizers may disqualify a dancer if she violates any of the rules of the competition.

3. Dress regulations
The costume must look professional. It is required that all contestants wear a Raqs Sharqi style costume or the judges may choose to deduct points from your artistic expression.

As this is a family-friendly event, all performances and costumes must be suitably appropriate. Please be advised that the performances will take place on a raised stage and it is therefore required that any costume with high slits has built-in shorts (i.e. the costume must cover intimate parts at all times). The bra must be of an appropriate size and fit.

All contestants performing must wear appropriate stage make-up.

4. Props
It is optional for participants in the Soloist category to use a prop at some point during the routine.

Approved props are:
- Isis wings
- Veil(s)
- Zills/saggat/finger cymbals
- Saidi stick(s)
- Req
- Meleya
- Fan veils
- Sword (all required approvals from local police etc. is your own responsibility)
- Shamadan (NO candles)

Not approved props are:
- Other kinds of pro
- Dance knives and daggers

If you would like to use a prop not listed here, please email us at mail@danisopenbellydance.dk and we will decide whether to add it to the list or not.

It is allowed to bring other items on stage if approved by the organizers beforehand.

It is not allowed to leave the stage at any point during the routine so please make sure that your props are placed on the stage if you do not bring it on entry. If you leave the stage, 2 points will be deducted from your final score. There will be staff backstage to assist you in placing your prop(s) on stage before you enter if required.

5. Music
You will perform to live music. Time limit for each song will be between 3-4 minutes. The name of the song you will perform to will be given shortly after you registration. Please look on the schedule on our website for the specifics.

5. Scores
Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Not demonstrated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Superior</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Last revised January 2019
It is possible for the judges to give the score 8.9, 9.5 etc..

If two dancers have the same score, the one with the highest score in artistic expression will win.

The points issued by each judge are totalled to compute the judge's score. The lowest and the highest scores are discarded and the rest are added together to produce a final score for each dancer.

**Scoring routine**

In the categories Artistic expression and Technical skills, a maximum of 20 points can be awarded by an individual judge (i.e. a perfect score) for a routine (10 points in Artistic expression and 10 points in Technical skills).

1. **Artistic expression**
   
each judge will give a score of 1-10 points based on an evaluation of the following:

   a. **Showmanship/performance**
      - Audience contact: visual contact and communication with the audience.
      - Entertainment value: ability to entertain and keep the audience's attention.
      - Personality: ability to appeal to the audience by conveying their individual character.
      - Musicality: adapting the dance to the music being played with the purpose of relating the dance to the music's rhythm, melody, style and mood. Is the performer anticipating the music or lagging behind it? Is the performer keeping to the rhythm?

   b. **Costume and make-up**
      - Points may be deducted if the costume is deemed inappropriate. The costume should be suitably fitted to the dancer's body shape, be clean and in good taste. The costume should draw and keep the attention of the audience without overpowering the performer or stealing the show.
      - Overall appearance: is the make-up and hair suitable for stage presentation? Does it complete and flatter the look of the performer?

2. **Technical skills**
   
each judge will give a score of 1-10 points based on an evaluation of the following:

   a. **Technique (i.e. proper form, execution of movements, transitions)**
      - Body fluidity: flowing and graceful moves.
      - Transitions: moving from one step to another smoothly and fluidly.
      - Depth of movement/extension: following through a movement, finishing a movement and not cutting it short.
      - Isolation: ability to move individual parts of the body separately.
      - Variety of steps: ability to use a variety of different dance movements and attitudes.
      - Conveying personal expression using face and body; communicating emotions.
      - Posture/pose: awareness of body symmetry and balance, including arms, shoulders, back, etc.
      - Composure: demeanour, movement of head and body; self-control; ability to recover gracefully from unexpected problems.
      - Was the prop used effectively within the dance? Was the performer skilled in the use of the prop?

   b. **Difficulty of the routine**

   c. **Choreography**
      - Use of space: utilizing the space around the body as well as the stage.

**Danish Open Bellydance Association**

*When you register for the competition you will automatically get a year membership.*

*The membership is normally DKK 50 / €6.50 per year.*

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**Any questions about the rules?**

*Please e-mail us at mail@danishopenbellydance.dk*