**2020 Just for Kix Together We Dance Competition Memo**

Competition season is upon us! The Marshall JFK program will be attending **4** Together We Dance competitions this year.

* Sauk Rapids 2 – February 29th – All Teams
* Brandon, SD – March 22nd – All Teams & Elite Kick
* Eden Prairie – March 28th & 29th - All Teams & Elite Kick
* Rochester Nationals – April 24th – 26th – Mini Jazz, Middle Kick, Middle Jazz, Middle Lyrical, Middle Hip Hop, Elite Kick, Jr/Sr Jazz and Jr/Sr Hip Hop

Please mark them on your calendars! If you are not able to attend one of the competitions, please notify me as soon as possible. I have to submit a form for those who are not attending in order to ensure you do not get charged for the competition fee.

All information for the Together We Dance competitions are on the [https://www.justforkix.com/danceclasses/performance/together-we-dance/](https://www.justforkix.com/danceclasses/performance/together-we-dance/%20) They post the Location and Schedule (as it becomes available) to the website. The addresses of the competition locations are located below, so please be sure to plug them into your GPS to ensure you arrive at the right location.

* Sauk Rapids Rice High School - 1835 Osauka Rd NE, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379
* Brandon, SD High School – 301 S. Splitrock Blvd, Brandon, SD 57005
* Eden Prairie High School – 17185 Valley View Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55346
* Mayo Civic Center - 30 Civic Center Dr SE, Rochester, MN 55904

I will be sending out an email with the tentative schedule as soon as it becomes available for each competition. When the schedule is sent out, I will also be attaching the arrival times for each team. Please be sure that you arrive at the competition and are in our warm up area by the time stated. You must have your uniform on, hair done, and make-up on by the arrival time. We have a short amount of time to stretch and run through the routines before having to line-up. If your dancer is in multiple dances, be sure they are in the area in that uniform by the stated time.

**Competition Fees & Account**

The competition fees will become available for you to add to your cart to pay about a month before the competition. Please be sure to login to your dancers account and pay for the TWD fee that shows up under your My Classes section. All accounts and TWD fees must be paid by the Wednesday **1 ½ Weeks Prior** to the competition in order for your dancer to compete. At the competition all dancers who have an account in good standing and have paid their TWD fees will be given a wristband. The dancers need to have this wristband on in order to compete.

The reason that the Brandon, SD and the Rochester, MN competition fees are more per routine is due to there not being an admission fee at the competition. All of the other MN competitions have a fee to get into the competition. The competition fees to get into the event are $7 for Adults and $3 for Students.

**Wristbands**

Each dancer will receive a wristband from Me or one of my Assistants on the day of the competition in our practice area. All fees and accounts must be in good standing in order for them to receive a wristband and be allowed on the performance floor. If they are in multiple dances, they will need to wear the wristband for the whole day as they will only receive one wristband for the day. They will be checking each dancers wrist before they allow them to go out of the chute and on to the performance floor. For Marshall we will be placing them on the Right wrist of every dancer to speed up this check while in the chute, after that the dancers are allowed to tuck it under their uniform if they have long sleeves.

**Hair**

All Marshall JFK Dancers have your hair in a Low Bun! The hair piece for the uniform will go on the **Left** side for all teams except for Wee Hip Hop, Mini Hip Hop, and Middle Hip Hop it will be on the top of the bun. Be sure to **NOT** put any glitter in the hair. Have lots of hair spray and bobby pins in the bun and hair piece to ensure it does not fall out.

**Earrings & Make-up**

All competition teams will need to wear the competition earrings. I will have some available at the competitions to buy if you have lost or forgotten them, but I will not have a lot. They are $6 per pair and you can still get them from me during practices. No other jewelry is allowed, other than the competition earrings. If you have more than one ear piercing you can wear smaller studs in those holes if you choose (nothing dangling or large in size). All dancers must have make-up (foundation, blush, Silver Eye shadow, eye liner, and mascara) on with Red lipstick. I encourage you all to wear fake eyelashes, as I think it adds a lot to their presentation. Please be sure that the make-up does not have glitter in it. Remember More is Better, we want the judges to see the make up from the top of the stands!

**No Glitter** for any competitions in hair or on their face. This is a JFK Rule due to clean up issues and injury risk. Teams with glitter in their hair or on their face will be disqualified.

**Changing Areas**

Please understand that there are not a lot of changing areas at the competition and dancers are not allowed to use the bathrooms to change their uniforms. I will be bringing a smaller changing area to keep in our area at the competitions for the dancers to use, but please also feel free to bring blankets to hold up for your dancer to change behind. There will be boys and girls in the team areas, so please be sure to use the changing spaces available.

**Label Everything**

Please make sure that you label your dancers uniform, shoes, tights, caboodles, and cover-ups. This helps to make sure that everyone has their components and not someone else’s. Be sure that your dancer double checks their items when packing to go to the competition and then double checks to ensure they have everything before they leave the competition area. I have found that Avery Fabric Labels work great for labeling all of your items. Here is the link to where I bought them online. <https://www.amazon.com/Avery-No-Iron-Fabric-Handwrite-40720/dp/B072T9QTKW/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=avery+fabric+labels&qid=1580529400&sr=8-1>

**Sportsmanship**

Please display good sportsmanship at the event. This is something that goes for both the dancers and the parents. I tell all of the dancers that we do not say anything about other teams other than, “Good Job”, “They were really good”, “Good Luck”, or things that can clearly be understood as positive. This year there are three categories for each the teams to be grouped into; Elite, Select, and the Class Name. This grouping is determined by averaging the number of hours that each dancer on the team takes in classes per week. We are then grouped into categories based upon the average grade, and then size of program. I encourage everyone to cheer for other teams, as well as our team. Everyone else has worked just as hard as us. We should be proud of what we have learned this year and how much each of us has grown as a dancer. Just remember that people are watching and listening everywhere at the competition, to include the bathrooms, JFK store, concessions, in the stands, and on the dance floor. We want Marshall to be remembered in a good way!

**Team Photo**

This year I would like to ensure we take a team photo after awards. They usually try to clear the competition floor as soon as possible, so we will try to find a place close by to take a photo of the team (regardless of if we place or not). After the photo, your dancer is free to leave if they are done performing for the day.

**Clean Up**

Please make sure your dancer cleans up after themselves throughout the day. There are garbage cans all over, so be sure to pick up the area around you. We do not want to be known as the team who is sloppy and does not pick up after themselves. ☺ It is a long day for everyone and we have to make sure our area is clean before we leave, so we appreciate any help in making this happen!

**Extras**

There is a Just for Kix store at each competition that has apparel for sale, as well as Medals that can be purchased. There is a concession stand to get food throughout the day. Please know that this is a large event and there are usually thousands of dancers who attend. We will have a set meeting area, but I encourage all of you to not leave anything but your uniform and make up kits in the meeting area. We do not always have someone in these areas, so items will be left unattended at times. If you want to leave the competition and return, just be sure to get your hand stamped at the entrance so you do not have to pay to enter later. Dancers do not pay to get into the competition, but they must be in uniform.

The dancers look forward to competition and we have been working very hard to get our dances looking great! I have posted all of the practice videos to my Private You Tube channel and sent out the links so they can be practicing at home.

We hope Marshall can shine at all of the competitions! I appreciate all of you supporting the Marshall dancers and the hard work they have put in. Thank you for making all of the efforts to get your dancer ready to compete! The dancers take away so much from the competition experience!

Go Marshall!!!

Let me know if you have any additional questions!

Melissa Rutledge & the Marshall Just for Kix Staff

507-829-3748 (Melissa’s Cell phone if you need to call or text)