



# 2026 Rules & Regulations

## **Event Details: April 17-19 at the Sarasota Opera House**

We reserve the right to update any rules & regulations without prior notice. If you have any questions, please contact us at [info@beyondgravitychampionships.com](mailto:info@beyondgravitychampionships.com) at any time.

### **Code of Conduct**

- We strictly prohibit bullying, harassment, and any form of threatening behavior. This applies to interactions, whether in-person or online, directed towards competitors, judges, coaches, production staff, or any other individuals involved in this event.
- Music, costuming, choreography, props, etc. must be family-friendly.
- Public intoxication, including visible signs of alcohol consumption or drug use, is strictly prohibited. Participants will not be permitted to compete if they display such behaviors, including those resulting from prescription medication that could compromise safety during competition. Attendees showing signs of intoxication will be asked to leave, and possibly trespassed from the property.
- Competitors who violate the Code of Conduct may receive deductions, be disqualified, or be dismissed from Beyond Gravity Aerial & Dance Championships.

### **Privacy Policy**

We reserve the right to publicly post and share information gathered during our events, such as photos, videos, names, studios, teams, and competition results. For privacy requests, please contact us at [info@beyondgravitychampionships.com](mailto:info@beyondgravitychampionships.com).

### **More Than Just a Competition!**

All competitors will receive:

- Individualized feedback from 3 highly qualified judges
- 2 Event Tickets
- 1 Convention Class
- Awards Gala
- Event T-Shirt
- All Media (professional photos & video)
- Top Winners have a chance to perform in the Awards Gala

### **Video Submission**

If you are unable to make the competition, you can enter a video submission for \$85 per routine. Video submission entries only include individualized feedback from 3 judges & the awards. They will have their own overall awards, not to be mixed with the in-person competition.

## **Convention Classes**

- ALL competitors receive ONE FREE class - but they are welcome to purchase any additional classes. We guarantee at least 6 classes (if not more, so they can purchase up to the Full Convention rate if interested).
- Anyone can purchase Convention Classes without competing. Each Convention student will also receive a t-shirt & 2 event tickets (not to be combined if also competing).
- Classes are available for both dancers and aerialists of all levels and ages. Teachers are also the competition judges and are highly qualified & experienced. Judges/Teachers will be announced soon!
- Those with event tickets will be allowed to watch either in the room where the classes are held or in the audience.
- Some classes may be held during the competition.
- Final class schedule will be announced no later than April 10, 2025.

## **Professional Photos, Videos, & Judge's Critiques**

All of the above items will be available within a few weeks of the event through the competition software or will be emailed to those registered.

## **Scheduling**

- All schedules are subject to change without notice.
- Routines must be performed in the order they are scheduled, unless the event staff decides to make a necessary change.
- All performers should be ready at least one hour before their scheduled time as the competition may run ahead.
- A detailed schedule will be sent out at least one week prior to the event. Competitors do not need to plan to be at the event the entire time.

## **Pricing**

- All pricing information is available at [beyondgravitychampionships.com/pricing](http://beyondgravitychampionships.com/pricing).
- Many studios/teams add a charge to cover admin fees, coach's travel costs, etc.
- A 3% service charge is added to anyone paying online or with a credit card.
- Checks can be mailed to 308 7<sup>th</sup> St. W. Palmetto, FL 34221. Checks must be received by January 1 for Early Bird registration and March 15 for Regular registration. Late checks will have a \$35 fee per routine. No checks will be accepted at the event. A fee will apply in the case of a bounced check, in the amount of \$50.

## **Refund Policy**

- Beyond Gravity will only provide refunds in the case of venue or event cancellation.
- Partial refunds can be given if a routine is cancelled within 30 days notice.
- Partial credit can be given if a routine is unable to compete within 30 days of the event.
- No refunds will be given on additional purchases.
- Refunds will not be given for drops resulting from violations of the Code of Conduct.

## **Competition Entry Information**

- Entries are not considered registered until full payment has been received.
- All entries must be family-friendly (Music, costuming, choreography, props, etc.) or points will be deducted/you could be dismissed from the event.
- If a routine needs to re-compete for any reason, they will lose 10 points. If it is a rigging or technical problem (involving our event staff) they can re-compete with no penalty.
- Any event staff can stop a routine at any time if they feel it is unsafe.

## **Backstage**

- A coach or guardian must remain with each routine backstage and be ready to help onstage if needed. A 5 point deduction may occur if needed, but it is much better to be safe!
- Only those competing and a coach/guardian will be allowed backstage. No other friends or family will be allowed.
- No assisting in routine choreography will be allowed while routines are performing.
- No food/drink will be allowed backstage.
- No costume changes allowed backstage.
- The backstage area must remain as silent as possible out of respect for every competitor.

## **Awards & Scoring**

More details on awards & scoring will be released soon.

## **Music & Routine Time Limits**

Music must be uploaded fully edited and as an MP3 or M4A file to the competition software by March 31. Any routine's music uploaded later will have a 5 point deduction.

Dance or Tumbling:

Solos, Duets, Trios, & Small Groups – 3 minutes

Large Groups – 3 minutes 30 seconds

Lines/Productions – 4 minutes

Aerial:

Solo, Duet, & Trio – 3 minutes

Small Groups – 3 minutes 30 seconds

Large Groups – 4 minutes

Extended Routine Time:

30 seconds - \$25 per routine

60 seconds - \$45 per routine

90 seconds - \$70 per routine

## **Props**

All props must be approved by August 30. Please email [info@beyondgravitychampionships.com](mailto:info@beyondgravitychampionships.com) with a description of the props used and for which routine to receive approval. Prop set up and removal should not exceed more than 1 minute, or you will have a penalty of 10 points.

Any form of grip aids will not be allowed at this time.

## **Aerial Performance Requirements**

All aerial routines must start and end on the ground. Ground-work should not exceed more than 20% of the routine.

## **Jewelry**

Most jewelry is not permitted within aerial routines. Only stud earrings are allowed.

## **Photography/Videography During Competition**

Professional photos & videos of every performance are INCLUDED. Recording or taking pictures during competition routines is strictly prohibited.

## **Crash Mats**

All aerial routines will be required to use crash mats (provided by the competition).

## **Restricted Tricks**

Our highest priority is safety, so we have implemented these restrictions to make sure everyone is safe.

- **Full Event Restrictions:**

Kamikaze drops

Intentional swinging (all tricks need to be of a vertical nature; event staff can stop routines for excessive swinging due to safety concerns with rigging)

- **Novice Only Restrictions:**

Any drops on silks or lyras

Neck or Ankle Hangs

- **Intermediate Only Restrictions:**

Any open wrap drops

## **Rigging Safety**

- All aerial performers will have time for stage & equipment testing before their routine (see below for more details).
- Performers should not touch any rigging at any time.
- Lyra performers may use the top of the lyra but should be very cautious not to touch any of the rigging hardware (carabiners, swivels, etc).
- Silks & Sling performers should not go beyond the top of the fabric.

## **Stage & Equipment Testing**

This is your chance to ensure the equipment works for you. Coaches are welcome to be on the stage at this time to help their students, but everyone will need to make sure and stay out of the way if any rigging changes are needed.

**Aerial with OUR Equipment:** Around every 90 minutes (~15 routines), we will have 15 minutes of stage & equipment testing. Each performer will need to confirm with event staff that the proper aerial equipment is set for their routine and height needed. If anything needs to be altered, please alert a stage manager asap. Competitors will need to share this time and space with others competing or will risk disqualification. This will be the only time to test the stage and equipment before competing.

**Aerial with YOUR Equipment:** There will be 3-4 minutes per routine for the riggers to rig your equipment and for competitors to quickly test it. If competitors go over the time allotted, they will be charged or penalized. If it is due to a rigger, the competitor will not be penalized.

## **Using Our Aerial Equipment**

All performers are expected to safely use our equipment and adhere to all rules or can risk a penalty/disqualification.

The stage mapping is provided on the last page.

Heights will be set for each category as needed.

All fabrics (silks and slings) will be between 54"-108" wide.

Slings 1 & 2: Low Stretch, hung from a single point, about 12 feet in height to climb

Silks 1 & 5: Medium Stretch

Silks 2, 3, & 4: Low Stretch

\*All silks will have about 23 feet in height to climb with about 5 feet in excess on the ground

Lyra 1: Tabless 36" (inside diameter)

Lyra 2: Flat Top 36" (inside diameter)

Lyra 3: Tabless 34" (inside diameter)

\*All lyras are steel and will be taped. Lyras will all be hung by 6 foot spansets.

Lyra 1 & 3 will have the same rigging point and therefore cannot be used at the same time.

If using a sling, the 3 side rigging points will be pulled up in order to not block it (unless needing to use them).

Lyra 1/3 & Silk 1 and Lyra 2 & Silk 5 cannot be used at the same time as they are too close together.

Silk 1/Lyra 1/3 & Silk 2, Silk 2 & Silk 3, Silk 3 & Silk 4, and Silk 4 & Silk 5/Lyra 2 each have 6.5' side to side between them (additional space back to front as they are staggered).

The outside of the stage to Silk 1/Lyra 1/3 and Silk 5/Lyra 2 is 5'.

## **Using Your Aerial Equipment**

We will have up to 5 rigging points at various heights available whether it is for your lyra(s), silk(s) or sling(s). Other apparatuses will need to be approved before registration can be finalized (email [info@beyondgravitychampionships.com](mailto:info@beyondgravitychampionships.com) with your apparatus information for approval). You will attach your rigging to a single point cable.

Your equipment will need to be inspected and hung by our certified riggers in order to compete. If they decide it is not acceptable, you can use our equipment instead.

## **Stage & Dance/Tumbling Information**

The stage is approximately 36' x 27' and will have marley flooring.

If requested, we also have tumbling mats available to use.

Aerial equipment can be pulled up if needed, or dancers can perform in front of it.

We will have a few breaks throughout the day for dancers & tumblers to practice on the floor. No time is guaranteed for practice.

## **Levels**

Novice: new to competing; 3 hours or less of dance per week OR 2 hours or less of aerial per week

Intermediate: minimal competition experience; 5 hours or less of dance per week OR 4 hours or less of aerial per week

Advanced: seasoned competitor; any amount of dance OR aerial each week

Shine: special needs; any amount of competition or dance/aerial experience

## **Age Groups**

Minis - ages 6 and under

Petites - ages 7-9

Juniors - ages 10-12

Teens - ages 13-15

Seniors - ages 16-18

Adults - ages 18+

## **Categories**

Dance Categories include Lyrical, Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary, Acro, Tap, Musical Theater, Clogging, Pom, & Open.

Aerial Categories include Silks, Lyra, Sling, & Alternative Apparatus (must be approved during registration & must bring your own). Aerial acts may use multiple apparatuses with approval.

## **Audience Respect**

This event is held in a historic theater, the Sarasota Opera House. Please be respectful in the audience and keep yelling, talking during performances, standing during performances, and technology usage to a minimum.

## **Young Children**

Anyone 8 years of age and under will not be allowed to be by themselves at any time. Coaches, parents, guardians, etc. will need to make sure children are not by themselves at any point during this event.

## **Dressing Rooms**

Dressing rooms will be assigned, please look for your studio or team name on each room. Parents are allowed in the dressing room, but no more than 1 person per performer will be allowed in the dressing room area. No one will be allowed to walk through the side stage door to the audience during the competition. Females will not be allowed in the male dressing room and males will not be allowed in the female dressing room.

## **Event Tickets**

Anyone attending or watching any part of the event will need an event ticket in the form of a wristband (or lanyard for coaches). All competitors and those taking convention classes will receive 2 event tickets (for themselves & 1 additional person). These must be worn at all times (except while onstage competing) during the event. Children ages 3 and under do not need to wear one but must never be anywhere by themselves. In the event that you lose the ticket, you will need to purchase a new one. We will be very strict on this for the safety of the performers.

## **Photogenic Competition**

- Anyone competing may enter
- Multiple entries are allowed
- Must register, pay, & upload photo by August 30 to competition software

## **Improv Competition**

- Anyone competing or taking classes can participate
- Will consist of dance only, no aerial
- Registration is available online and additional registrations can be made at the event. We will make announcements regarding this competition throughout the event.

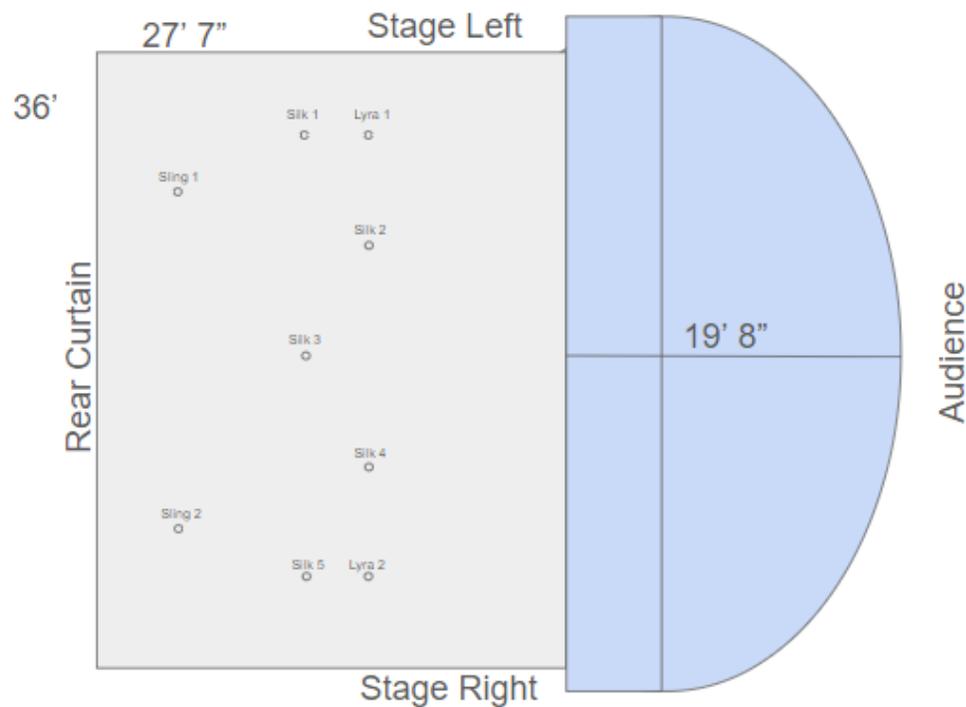
## Professional Photoshoot

- Each session includes a 15-minute timeslot with about 5-8 edited photos
- Anyone competing or taking classes can participate
- Dance pictures only, no aerial
- A parent or guardian will need to be present the entire time
- Photos will be emailed individually to you once complete

## Event Check-In

A team representative (teacher, coach, parent if needed) will need to check-in the entire team before they can compete or take classes. They will pick up t-shirts, event tickets, and anything else purchased or additional items needed at this time. They are responsible for distributing it correctly among their team members.

## Stage Map:



If you have any questions, please contact us at [info@beyondgravitychampionships.com](mailto:info@beyondgravitychampionships.com).

We look forward to a wonderful event with you!