

AERIAL ELITE



COMPETITORS HANDBOOK

2023

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Welcome

Welcome to the 2023 Aerial Elite Virtual Circus Arts Competition! We look forward to your participation in our first-ever competition, and the next step in your aerial journey! This handbook may be updated at any time, and will provide all the information necessary to register and compete in this competition. All updates will be noted at the bottom of this document. Please direct any further questions to info@aerialelitecomp.com.

Mission

Our mission is to bring the worldwide aerial community together for a constructive, supportive, and engaging event.

Values

Our values include,

- Providing constructive feedback to help performers progress with their skills and performance abilities.
- Creating an inclusive environment by providing a variety of divisions for all ages groups and skill levels.
- Providing top notch judges from around the world with a variety of different backgrounds and specialities.
- Promoting accessibility to aerialists worldwide with a virtual platform without the addition of travel expenses and additional fees.
- Providing a positive environment for all persons involved.

Rules, Guidelines, and Important Information

General

We reserve the right to update this handbook at any time for any reason. All revisions will be posted and listed in the table of contents with detailed changes listed and the date the changes were made.

Code of Conduct

1. Bullying, harassment, and other threatening behavior will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to, behavior to competition officials, judges, competitors, coaches, and any others in association with this event.
2. All language and interactions must be appropriate for a family-friendly environment and representative of our values. This includes, but is not limited to, music, costuming, props, and all dialogue with competition officials and any others in association with this event.
3. Competitors in violation of this Code of Conduct are subject to deductions or disqualification. This may also result in the banning from future events. Aerial Elite reserves the right to deny entry to any competitor in violation of the Rules and Code of Conduct listed in this handbook.

Privacy Policy

Information necessary and relating to this event is subject to publication on our social media including, but not limited to, photos, videos, names, studios, placings, etc. Use of a stage name can be substituted to help reserve the privacy of any competitors, if desired. Please make sure to declare stage name on registration and video submission.

Waivers

All competitors will be required to read and sign a waiver, release of liability, and media release. Waivers will be sent out to competitors once registered. All minors will be required to have all forms completed by a parent or guardian with legal rights to sign for their minor. All documentation must be submitted prior to video submission. Any competitor who fails to submit proper documentation will be disqualified and will not receive a refund.

Restrictions and Requirements

- No rigging from trees. No exceptions.
- No music with extreme offensive language will be permitted. If you have any questions about your music, please send us an email ahead of time for music approval. If music approval is not received, it will be the judges' discretion whether to add a deduction or to disqualify.
- Wardrobe must be "family-friendly". If you have any questions about your costume, please send us an email ahead of time for costume approval. If costume approval is not received, it will be the judges' discretion whether to add a deduction or to disqualify.
- All competitors require the use of safety mats.
 - All minor competitors and adult novice & intermediate competitors must use a crash mat with a 4in minimum.
 - Advanced adult competitors may use a 2in panel mat.
- Wardrobe malfunctions will not be accepted. Malfunctions may result in either a deduction or disqualification at the judges' discretion.
- Spotters are allowed, but not required for all categories. Spotters must remain silent and are not allowed to give the competitor any form of instruction. This will result in disqualification.

Important Dates

- Early registration – February 1, 2023 – June 1, 2023
- Registration deadline – August 19, 2023
- Video submission – August 20 – September 3, 2023
- Live Results – September 17, 2023
- Results Posted – October 1, 2023
- Awards Mailed – October 2, 2023
- Judges Feedback – October 8, 2023

Registration

How to register

1. Read competitor packet
2. Review event details
3. Purchase registration
4. Complete registration form that will be emailed once payment is received

Refund Policy

Refunds will not be given to any competitor for any reason & you may not transfer your registration fee to another competitor.

Pricing

- Early Bird Registration
 - Individual Acts - \$75
 - Duo Acts - \$100
 - Group Acts (3+) - \$125
- Regular Registration
 - Individual Acts - \$100
 - Duo Acts - \$125
 - Group Acts (3+) - \$150
- Late Registration
 - Individual Acts - \$125
 - Duo Acts - \$150
 - Group Acts (3+) - \$175
- Late Video Submission
 - Within 24 hours of deadline - \$10
 - Within 48 hours of deadline - \$20
 - Anything after 48 hours of submission deadline will not be accepted.

Changes

You may change your registered category free of charge until the end of registration. To request a change, send an email to info@aerialelitecomp.com. Changes made after the close of registration will incur a \$20 non-refundable change fee. Changes do not include transferring your registration to another competitor.

Divisions

Age Groups

- Minis (9 & under)
- Youth (10-14)
- Teens (15-17)
- Adults (18-39)
- Masters (40+)

Levels

- Novice
 - o No drops
 - o 2:00-3:30 minute routine allowance
- Intermediate
 - o One drop minimum
 - o One inversion minimum
 - o 2:30-4:00 minute routine allowance
- Advanced
 - o Two drops minimum (not required for duo and group acts)
 - o One straight arm, straight leg inversion required
 - o 3:00-4:30 minute routine allowance
- Showcase
 - o Not for competition.
 - o Must use a minimum of a 2in mat for adults, 4in for anyone 17 & under

*Drops on trapeze and lyra include any single body rotation, or change from one level to another lower level through the use of momentum.

*Floorwork is not required and must not exceed 20% of routine length.

*Instructors are not allowed to compete in the novice category for any apparatus.

Solos, Duos, Groups

- All solo acts include competitors performing alone throughout the entire routine.
- Duo acts include performances with only 2 performers in the routine.
- Group acts include performances with 3 or more performers.

Showcase

Our showcase category is a great opportunity for aerialists that are not interested in competing, but would still like to receive feedback from our judges. Use this to help build new routines, determine what category fits your routine best, or just receive feedback from someone other than your regular coaches!

Apparatuses

The following categories will be represented within our competition:

1. Silks
2. Lyra
 - a. Single and Double Point routines will be scored together
3. Hammock
 - a. Single and Double Point routines will be scored together
4. Trapeze
 - a. Fixed or on a swivel. Swinging and dance trapeze must enter in the specialty category.
5. Pole
6. Specialty

- a. Specialty acts include any apparatus without its own designated category. This category includes, but is not limited to, aerial straps, cube, chains, rope, etc.
7. Ground Acts
 - a. Acro
 - b. Flow Arts (Juggling, Poi, Diabolo, etc.)

Filming

- Videos must not be edited other than overlaying audio.
- Videos may be filmed in either landscape or portrait mode, but landscape mode is preferred.
- Make sure the performer is fully within the frame throughout the entire performance.
- Try to avoid moving the camera while filming unless absolutely necessary to keep performer in frame.

Attire

Wardrobe

Tight fitting costumes are encouraged, but not required. Please ensure that your costuming does not interfere with your performance or you may be subject to a deduction under “Inappropriate Clothing/Major Wardrobe Malfunction” in deduction category. Wardrobe malfunctions may result in either a deduction or disqualification. Only in extreme situations, such as when safety is compromised or when private body parts are exposed, will competitors be subject to disqualification. This deduction/disqualification is up to the judges’ discretion.

Hair

Hairstyles must not hinder performance, skills, or safety. It is recommended, but not required, to have hair pulled back. If any affects performance negatively in any way, competitor may receive a deduction under “Inappropriate Clothing/Major Wardrobe Malfunction” in deduction category. This deduction is up to the judges’ discretion with safety in mind.

Judging

Judging is final and is not up for public discussion, including all social media and online forums. Any person in violation of this rule will be banned from future competitions, no exceptions. All judging will be fair and impartial, and will be reviewed by competition officials before being finalized.

Requirements

Judges will be required to have proficient knowledge of the categories they are judging, as well as a sufficient background in performing and/or competition. Our judges can be viewed on our website at info@aerialelitecomp.com.

Judges are able to compete, but may not judge any division that they are competing in or that includes competitors that they currently teach, both in-person and virtual.

Process

Judging will be completed by a panel with a minimum of three judges. Judges will review and score performances remotely to allow international judge participation, providing competitors with a fair competition and a variety of feedback. Judges will only watch each routine once when judging and completing scoresheets.

Feedback

Judge feedback will consist of point values as well as narrative from each judge. Feedback will be sent out within 1-3 weeks of the announcement of placings. Feedback will be sent to the email used to register.

Criteria

Judges will abide by the following criteria:

- Difficulty – 35/160
- Technical – 40/160
- Artistry – 35/160
- Execution – 20/160
- Requirements – 30/160
- Deductions – Up to 30 points

Deductions & Disqualifications

- No rigging from trees. This will result in disqualification.
- Incorrect mats will result in a 15 point deduction.
- No touching the rigging at any point during the routine. This will result in disqualification.
- Any unsafe moves will result in disqualification. This includes, but is not limited to, incorrect drop setup, drops well beyond the performer's skill level, moves that result in falls, etc.
- Inappropriate clothing will result in either a 15 point deduction or disqualification at the judges' discretion.
- Music that is not within the time allotment will receive a 10 point penalty.
- Violation of our Code of Conduct will result in disqualification.
- Disrespectful language towards competition officials, coaches, other competitors, or any other persons involved in the event will result in disqualification.
- Posting videos of performances prior to the announcement of results will result in disqualification. Small clips may be posted, but nothing more than 30 seconds.

Interested in becoming a judge? Send us an email (info@aerialelitecomp.com) with a resume!

Scoresheet (Aerials, Pole, & Specialty)

<u>Difficulty</u>	Score	Judges Comments:
Individual Moves	/10	
Combinations	/10	
Transitions	/10	
Mounts/Dismounts	/5	
<u>Technical</u>		
Control of Apparatus	/10	
Control of Body	/10	
Lines and Toes (Pointed or Flexed)	/10	
Use of Strength, Balance, and Flexibility	/10	
<u>Artistry</u>		
Stage Presence	/10	
Musicality	/10	
Viewer Engagement	/5	
Costuming	/5	
<u>Execution</u>		
Completion of Skills (were there any visible errors?)	/5	
Timing/Flow (were parts rushed?)	/10	
Safety of Skills (Completed Fully & Properly)	/10	
<u>Requirements</u>		
Drop(s)	/10	
Inversion(s)	/10	
Routine Length	/10	
<u>Deductions</u>		
Incorrect Mat	-15	
Inappropriate Clothing/Major Wardrobe Malfunction	-15	
Inappropriate/Offensive Music	-15	
Total Score	/160	

Scoresheet (Ground Acts)

<u>Difficulty</u>	Score	Judges Comments:
Individual Moves	/10	
Combinations	/10	
Transitions	/10	
<u>Technical</u>		
Control of Prop/Body	/20	
<u>Artistry</u>		
Stage Presence	/10	
Musicality	/10	
Viewer Engagement	/5	
Costuming	/5	
<u>Execution</u>		
Completion of Skills (were there any visible errors?)	/5	
Timing/Flow (were parts rushed?)	/10	
<u>Requirements</u>		
Routine Length	/10	
<u>Deductions</u>		
Inappropriate Clothing/Major Wardrobe Malfunction	-15	
Inappropriate/Offensive Music	-15	
Total Score	/105	

Video Submission

All videos must be submitted via Google Drive to info@aerialelitecomp.com.

Awards

Awards will be given to the top 3 competitors for each category.