

Competition 101

For some of you this is your first competition experience and we thought you might like to know what to expect.

- Check your bags the night before. You don't want to get to the venue and realize you forgot your costume, accessories, tights, shoes, hairspray, gel or make up.

- Your daughter must be supervised by a parent. The directors ***are not*** responsible for your girls at competitions. If you are not able to stay with your daughter for the entire day, please ask another parent to be responsible for her.

- Admission to comps for spectators is between \$8-\$10 per person. The Torrettes admission in to the competition is paid for in advance by your fundraising.

- Most comps are held in school gyms; bleacher seating and poor heating/air conditioning. Wear layers. You may also have to move between buildings for different performances.

- We generally meet in the school locker rooms to get ready. Please look for signs or ask the organizers to direct you.

- The locker rooms are unattended. We suggest to the girls that they leave all valuable items at home or with a parent. A cell phone was stolen a few years ago in a locker room and we would hate to see that happen again this year.

- The team usually sits across the gym in a different area than the parents. They will most likely walk over as a team with the directors and/or officers.

- Remind your girls to never walk alone, always have a buddy!

- Feel free to bring snacks. There is normally food available for purchase by the hosting venue. If time permits, the Torrettes may go out to a restaurant as a group, for lunch or dinner, with each family being responsible for their meals.

- These are long days. If your daughter dances on more than one team, she may dance once in the morning and once in the afternoon or she could dance all within a hour! There is no standard, each competition is different. She may also perform hours before awards are presented. Although it is a long day, we encourage you to stay for awards - It is a fun time for the girls.

- Sometimes there are drill downs or leaps competitions at awards ceremonies. These usually cost \$1 per girl, per event (drill down, leaps, spins, etc.) bring money for your daughter. She may want to try.

- Trophies earned at competitions by teams are collected by the directors and will be passed out at the comp team awards in June. There is only 1 trophy per group per comp - each girl is guaranteed 1 competition trophy at the awards banquet. Soloists who earn a trophy take their own trophies home with them the same day. Some competitions sell extra trophies, **you are not required** to buy an extra trophy.

- Competitions host 100's of participants - It can get very LOUD!!!

Most importantly, remind your daughter to encourage all the participants; our own Torrettes as well as other teams. **Competitions are a great opportunity to teach our daughters to lift each other up, not tear each other down.**

Have fun and bring your best attitude (it's a long day), cameras (lifetime memories) and tissues (Maybe it is just me, but it can be very emotional the first time you see your baby out there performing!!!)

PS: Competition information (call times and performance times) will be emailed this week as soon as the line-up is made available to us.