

HOUSTONFEST

Folk Dance Critique Sheet

School: _____

Judges' names: _____

Number of dancers: _____ Beginning time: _____ Ending time: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES: Please make sure you have read the "Instructions to Judges" sheet in your packet.

RULES

Entry limit: One entry per school; total group size: minimum 6 dancers, no maximum

Active dancers on the floor at any time: minimum 4 dancers performing, maximum 16 dancers performing

Dance limits: 4 dances minimum, 5 dances maximum

Time limits: 10 minutes minimum, 15 minutes maximum, including entrance, exit, and transitions, with a 30-second grace period. There is a 10-point penalty for going under the minimum time limit or over the maximum time limit.

There is no required dance. Dancers must provide their own music, music-player, and extension cord, if needed. The group must provide at least 3 copies of the following: a list of the dancers' names and documentation of each dance, including the categorization (Level I, II, III) of the dance and the region of origin of the dance. Points will be deducted from "Authenticity" if documentation is not provided. Dances not already categorized on the contest website must be submitted to the regional director by November 1 so that they can be categorized by an expert panel.

	Points	Comments
1. Precision (40): Are the dancers on beat? Are they doing the correct steps to the correct music? Are the figures clean? Are the dancers doing what the notes say they should be doing? Is everyone in the correct position? Are steps executed correctly within the dance?		
2. Presence and poise (20): Is the group performing as if they know the dances? Do they maintain order when each dance is over? Do they perform the dances with verve? Are they enjoying what they are doing? Do they acknowledge that they are part of a group rather than an individual performer?		
3. Costumes (10): Are the costumes authentic? Do the costumes blend well together? Do the costumes add to the performance? Is there attention to extra detail such as hats, scarves, ties, headbands, jewelry, socks, and shoes? For example, the boys' shoes should be something other than tennis shoes, and all matching.		
4. Authenticity (10): Are the dances truly German folk dances? If variations have been made, do the variations retain the spirit of the genre, the region the dance comes from, and the steps associated with German <i>Volkstanz</i> ?		
5. Artistic variety (maximum 10): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the program have a <u>variety of dance genres</u>, e.g. <i>Walzer, Polka, Ländler, Schottisch, Plattler</i>, etc.? Award 1 point for each different genre up to 4 points. • Does the program represent a <u>variety of German-speaking regions</u>? Award 1 point per different region up to 4 points. • Do any <u>props</u> enhance the dances? Award 1 point per different dance with a prop up to 4 points. 		
6. Technical difficulty (10): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award 0 points for each Level I dance performed. • Award 1 point for each Level II dance performed. • Award 2 points for each Level III dance performed. 		
Total		

Break any ties based on which group has the highest point total from all judges for **Precision**. If that does not break the tie, consider total points from all judges for **Artistic variety**. If that does not break the tie, consider total points from all judges for **Technical difficulty**.