

Nepalese Dance Competition 2017

General Guidelines

January 28, 2017

Introduction

Nepalese Association of Queensland Inc. (NAQ) has been organizing an Australia/New Zealand-wide Nepalese Dance Competition in Brisbane every second year since 2009. There has been a great participation from Nepalese artists from different cities across Australia and New Zealand, and an enthusiastic support from community organizations, individuals and businesses in the events concluded so far. In order to promote this event as a National level mega cultural event involving more Nepalese communities in organizing the event and to increase the participation and patronage, it has been decided to assign the duty of organizing the event to other interstate Nepalese community organizations by rotation. Every alternate event will however be held in Brisbane, while other one will be held in other Australian cities.

An interstate co-ordination committee under the leadership of NAQ representative will be formed to develop high-level policy guidelines and make a decision in relation to hosting of the event in coming years. The coordination committee will consist of partner organizations in each state/territory. The partner organizations, which will be selected by NAQ based on their willingness to support the event, will support the event by helping in participant selection and providing them the needed logistic support.

Terms and conditions

The event organizing community organization will be expected to form an event organizing committee, which will have a proper representation of NAQ and member(s) from previous organizing committee. The event will remain as a community event and will be organized by a nominated non-profit community organization in association with NAQ Inc. and other organizations as the need arises. NAQ Inc. team will share the experience gained during the previous events and provide any technical support that might be needed for successful hosting of the event.

The event organizing community organization should adhere to the following terms and conditions and will be responsible for ensuring these.

1. The name of the event will be "Nepalese Dance Competition 2017" and organizers should be mentioned as "Organized by <nominated community organization> in Association with Nepalese Association of Queensland and <others as per the need>".
2. The objectives of the event should be as follows:
 - To promote and preserve Nepalese culture and tradition
 - To create an atmosphere of co-operation among the Nepalese communities in Australia
 - To bring forth and recognize local Nepalese talents

- To provide a forum for cultural exchange among different generation of Nepalese Diaspora
- To create an atmosphere of co-operation among the Nepalese communities in Australia/New Zealand

3. The event should adhere to the following key points:

- Event to include cultural performances from only the selected participants representing Nepalese communities in various states/territories of Australia and from New Zealand
- Dance performances shall be in three categories: Single, Duet and Group
- Event to be organized at a prime venue.
- A highly publicized event in electronic and print media, and on social networks.
- Biggest Nepalese cultural activity in the region with a very unique concept.
- Performances to be judged by a team of judges recognized in Nepalese dance field. The chair of the judging committee will be a renowned Nepalese artist, especially invited for the event.
- Event to ensure active involvement of various Nepalese community organizations based on different cities of Australia and New Zealand

4. Following general rules should be applied to the event.

- Only participants selected through audition will be allowed to participate. Formal registration for the competition will be required.
- Each participant can participate in a maximum of 3 dances, one in each of the 3 categories. Minimum of 3 and maximum of 6 participants will be allowed in each group dance.
- Participants can perform any form of dance that exhibits Nepalese culture - folk, filmy or contemporary, but the performance should be made in traditional Nepalese costumes.
- Repetition of a song will not be allowed. Participants will be asked to provide song details at the time of registration. In a case where the song is already reserved by another individual or group, the participants will have to choose another song.
- Dance on a fusion song (mixing of two or more songs) or on music only will not be allowed.
- It is the responsibility of the participants to organize songs and costumes and make travel arrangements. Selected participants will receive limited travel support from the organizing committee.

5. The competition should be held in two rounds.

- In the first round, the contestant will perform on the song of their choice.
- The second round will be a specific one:
 - Single - performance limited to a particular theme such as jhyaure, semi-classical or filmy
 - Duet - performance limited to pre-specified traditional and cultural dances (for example, maruni, kauda, tappa, jhyure etc.)
 - Group - performance limited to pre-specified traditional and cultural dances (for example, sorethi, ghatu, maruni, salaijo etc.)
- For each dance category, 5 best performers of the first round will be selected for the performance in the second round.
- The first round competition can be held in the previous day if needed based on the time consideration.

- The contestants will be given exact details of the second round before the registration of short-listed candidates is open. The contestant will be asked to provide the details of their songs for both the rounds during the registration.
 - The contestants will be asked to provide a brief description of their performance in the second round. The introduction of the dance by the contestants will form a part of the evaluation.
 - The winners will be declared based on the total score they receive in the first and the second rounds.
6. A mechanism to involve the interested Nepalese community organizations in various states in this event will have to be developed and this will have to be communicated with all the concerned organizations. Community organizations are expected to facilitate the participation of the members of their community by providing them the needed support and also help the organizing committee by working as a link between the potential participants and the organizing committee. Any help provided by the community organizations will have to be duly recognized by the event organizing committee.
7. Following support will have to be provided to the participants by the event organizer :
- Airport pickup and drop off (if requested)
 - Home staying arrangements to participants (if requested)
 - One way airfare to all the interstate contestants
8. The winners will have to be awarded with trophies, certificates and cash prizes as follows. The cash prize should be within $\pm 10\%$ of the previous year's amount. All the contestants will have to be awarded with trophies as a token of appreciation to their time and efforts.
- Single dance: Winner, first and second runner-up
 - Duet dance: Winner, first and second runner-up
 - Group dance: Winner, first and second runner-up
9. The dance performances will have to be evaluated as follows:
- A panel of three judges led by an invited judge from Nepal will judge the performances. A person who is well known in the traditional Nepalese dance field, and has got relevant knowledge and experience will have to be invited as the judge from Nepal.
 - Judgment will be made on the basis of dancing skills and choreographic talents.
 - Details of the Judging Committee and judging criteria will be made available prior to the event.
 - The decision of the judging committee will be final.
10. A pre-event function will have to be organized by the organizer to welcome the participants and judges and brief the rules and arrangements.
11. The venue and date of the event should be finalized in advance and these should be made public at least 6 months before the event date.
12. Based on the previous event, it is suggested to have a separate single dance category for children under 12. In such a case, the trophies, certificates and cash prizes will have to be awarded in accordance with Item 8 above. However, the organizing committee will decide the cash prizes for this category as this will be the first time that the competition will be held in this category.

13. All participants under 12 years of age should be accompanied by at least one parent or authorized adult.
14. The event must be held by the end of Year 2017.
15. NAQ will have no financial liability in the organization of the event and the event organizing committee will have total responsibility of collecting the required funds.
16. Any surplus fund collected from the event stays with the organizing association and shall be used for the activities related to Nepalese cultural promotion. Twenty-five percent of the surplus fund shall be made available for the following NDC event.