

**MEMBERSHIP RULES & REGULATIONS
AMENDED 1 JANUARY 2006**

1. In order to gain membership with the YCA, all Troupes must have a democratically elected Committee consisting of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee Members.
2. The YCA Committee reserve the right to refuse/suspend membership should they feel any application falls short of the expected criteria.
THEIR DECISION WILL BE FINAL.
3. Good Conduct from all members is expected at all times. Verbal abuse, excessive alcohol, taking of illegal drugs or fighting will not be tolerated. Any Troupe found guilty of any of these offences, including any indirect person associated with a Troupe, will be disqualified from the competition on that day, followed by disciplinary notifications and finally total loss of membership. Dancers will not be under the influence of drugs/alcohol when on the arena.
4. Troupes competing in events which entail overnight accommodation are expected to maintain good behaviour whilst in such accommodation. Anyone found putting the YCA in disrepute will be suspended, together with the troupe they are representing, without question.
5. The YCA would like to promote good relationships between all Troupes. We ask that they support each other on and off the arena. Negative or derogatory remarks will not be tolerated and warnings will be issued.
6. The YCA accept no responsibility or liability for personal damage, neglect, loss or public liability. Troupes are therefore advised to look into their own insurance and performing rights permission.
7. Whilst these rules and regulations relate to the YCA members, Troupes who are non members, but also participate in Open Championships, must be prepared to accept and adhere to these rules in order to enter.
8. Any complaints to be sent in writing to the Secretary, 24 hours after the event/ incident, to which the Committee will respond accordingly.
9. Each Member must hold a YCA ID Card to be able to enter any YCA Competitions. Proof of date of birth documentation & a passport size photo to be produced.
10. Membership lasts for one year—1 January to 31 December.

N. Host Competitions

When hosting a competition, all members of the YCA must be invited. Non Members of the YCA invited at your discretion must have signed a rule agreement prior to entering the competition.

A Liaison Officer must be allocated for communication between the YCA and the Host Team. Travel Expenses are charged by the YCA at the rate applicable at the time of the competition.

Host troupes are requested to provide an arena of a decent size, trophies, medals for each section, adequate sanitation facilities and refreshments, lunch for the YCA Officials. Admission fees are charged at your discretion but it is advised the same charge is made by all troupes.

O. YCA Trophies

All Trophies presented at our competitions are returnable annually. All recipients of the trophies must sign for the trophies at the end of the presentation. It is the responsibility of the winning troupe to keep the trophy to the same standard as when it was received and to ensure it is returned prior to the next event the following year.

In the event of a tie break, the trophy will be shared for 6 months. A coin will be tossed to see which team has the trophy for the first 6 months. Once the trophy is transferred to the second recipient, they must change the signatory in the trophy book and ensure it is returned prior to the next annual event.

- P. Dance Offs** - In the event of a tie-break at the Universal Carnival Championships in any of the top four placings, a dance off will be carried out with an additional judge. The exact duplicate routine must be performed including Leader & Mascot individual twirling. Troupes will dance off in the order of the original draw.

- Q. All competitions**—Presentation is for all troupe members and is in full uniform, inclusive of footwear.

- R. THE JUDGES DECISION IS FINAL.**

2006 Launches the YCA TWIRL ACADEMY.

This in brief gives our Members the opportunity to take examinations following the Primary (up to 11 years) or Secondary Grade Schemes.

Short routines will be trained at seminars using one baton, two baton and for the more advanced, 3 baton advise, together with dance, deportment and choreography training.

This is for the individual. Grade badges, Certificate badges, Merit or Distinction badges can be achieved to be sewn onto troupe tracksuits.

For more information, please talk to a member of the Twirl Academy Team and refer to the YCA Twirl Academy Rule Book..

Twirl Academy is total separate from YCA Competitions and will not be held during normal troupe activities.

ALL YOU NEED IS A VALID YCA ID CARD AND BATONS.

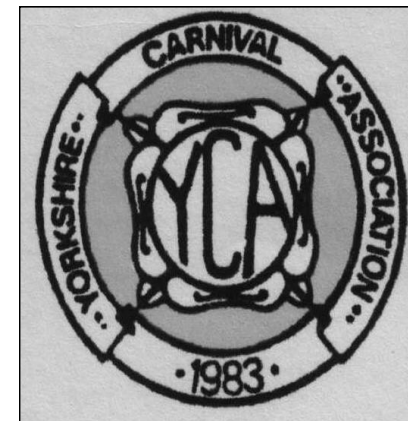
Contact Reference:

Sharon Ellis
43 Hanson Road
Meltham
HOLMFIRTH
WEST YORKSHIRE
HD9 5LR
07887 500530

**YORKSHIRE
CARNIVAL
ASSOCIATION**

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1075071

FOUNDED 1983



**MEMBERSHIP REGULATIONS
&
COMPETITION RULES
2006**

Head Count - Minimum Numbers

BABIES	-	5	Including Leader & Mascot
DINKIES	-	6	Including Leader & Mascot
TINIERS	-	8	Including Leader & Mascot
JUNIORS	-	10	Including Leader & Mascot
SENIORS	-	10	Including Leader & Mascot

Should Teams not meet the above criteria, 0.2 will be deducted per member under the minimum number, by the Scrutineer only.

Double dancing is permitted providing members stay within the above age limits with the exception where troupes enter an A & B team within the same competition, no double dancing between the teams is accepted.

Dress

Dress is inspected off the arena at randomly selected competitions. Marks out of 10 are allocated with 0.2 being deducted for faults. In the event of a tie, the adjudicator may add a + for overall effect.

If a Dress inspection is requested, ALL participating members must be checked. Points are not included in the overall score, but a separate award will be given for Best Dress.

Dresses or skirts to be of a suitable length to avoid embarrassment and members must be suitably covered in their attire. Hair should be well groomed.

If on the arena, any item of clothing, head wear, etc, is dropped, 0.2 will be deducted. Laces untied will incur 0.2 points per lace should the member be asked to tie them for safety reasons.

No item of jewellery to be worn on the arena other than ONE pair of Sleeper or Ear Studs. Other body piercing will be penalised. SOS Medallions and wedding /eternity/engagement rings are permitted.

Make up is only allowed for Senior Sections.

Leader and Mascot are to be **identical** (or co-ordinated if different Gender), but distinctive from the rest. **They must be marked, either on the uniform or by badges, Leader (L) or Mascot (M) to be judged for a personal medal.**

MISCELLANEOUS COMPETITION RULES

- A. Leader to lead the troupe on and off the arena. Mascot is permitted to perform a short solo whilst the troupe is exiting the arena, but must join the team in reasonable time to exit with them.
- B. No arena markers are allowed. Should Members wish to bring on two or more batons each for their performance, they must not be placed on the floor at any time. However, the Leader and Mascot may place additional batons on the floor for part of the display, but they must be placed together and they must bring and take ALL their batons on and off the arena with them. They should not be used as markers at any time.

If the Leader steps over the line (dance twirl) and throws a baton to a member who has not stepped over the line, and such member drops the baton, this will incur a deduction of 0.2, as the baton was over the line on release by the Leader.
- C. A member can only be a Leader or a Mascot in one section per Competition
- D. Commands/Signals may only be given by mace, baton or hand. No verbal or head movement commands are allowed.
- E. Dropped Equipment/Batons incur a deduction of 0.2 points per drop. Should a member retrieve the baton, 2 full points will be deducted.
- F. All dropped equipment will be picked up by an adjudicator or a chosen representative for the event and passed back to the troupe member. The member must accept the baton given to them.
- G. Taped/CD recorded music must be of good quality, and each section must produce only one tape per entry. Please ensure you bring with you two copies of all tapes to avoid any disappointment caused by faulty tapes.
- H. Order of Draw Schedules are posted to troupe Secretaries a few days prior to the competition. Dance times must be adhered to. Any troupe not ready to dance without a valid reason will be given a recall 2 minutes after the scheduled time. If the troupe is still not ready, 2 points will be deducted by the Scrutineer. If a troupe wishes to change their order of dance, they must swap with another consenting troupe and inform the adjudicators at the start of the section competition.

COMPETITION CRITERIA

- I. All injuries must be reported to the adjudicator prior to the Troupe entering the arena. Bandages, etc, need not be reported unless they interfere with general movement required in performing the display.

Should a member become distressed during their performance they may be taken off the arena and no marks will be lost. However, if they wish to remain on the arena, and their deportment is not maintained, they will be deducted accordingly.

Plaster Casts No member is allowed to dance with a plaster cast on any of their limbs.

Pregnancy We recommend that members do not dance whilst pregnant, however should they decide to do so, it is at their & their unborn child's risk. The YCA accept no responsibility for injury or associated problems.

If a member leaves the arena after dancing for part of the routine, the head count will not be adjusted. If a leader or Mascot leaves the arena prior to the end of the performance and doesn't return, they will not be judged for a personal medal. They must have danced for minimum of 2/3 of the whole time and the scores will be assessed

- J. Troupes are not permitted to practise on the arena at any time once the competition has been opened. Individual members may twirl etc, but no troupe routines allowed. Members are asked not to twirl around the edge of the arena whilst a team is performing.
- K. Troupes are asked not to duplicate movements from other troupe performances. Should choreography or music be deliberately copied, the YCA committee will ask the Troupe Leaders to change with immediate effect.
- L. Video coverage can only be taken of the troupe you are representing. Anyone found videoing other troupes without prior permission will result in disqualification from that competition. This includes all supporters associated with your troupe.

M. **Competition Entry Forms and Cancellations.**

Entry forms must be returned to the Secretary by the date stated on the booking form together with payment. Should you wish to cancel any entry once the form has been received by the YCA Secretary, no refund will be given. Late entries will only be accepted at the YCA Committee's discretion. Cancellation of entries on the day is not permitted.

The YCA incorporates the following Majorette Competition Sections:-

(Open Troupe of the Year)	(DanceTwirl Troupe of the Year)
Dinky Open Majorettes	Baby Majorettes
Tiny Open Division I	Tiny Dance Twirl
Tiny Open Division II	Junior Dance Twirl
Junior Open Themed	Senior Dance Twirl
Junior Open Freestyle	
Senior Open Themed	Twirl Academy
Senior Open Freestyle	(see separate rules)

Age Limits	Inclusive age at 1 January		
BABIES	Up to 6	Mascot	Up to 6
DINKIES	Up to 9	Mascot	Up to 7
TINIES	Up to 11	Mascot	Up to 9
JUNIORS	Up to 15	Mascot	Up to 11
SENIORS	Unlimited	Mascot	Up to 14

Time Limits

BABIES	6 - 8 Minutes
DINKIES	6 - 8 Minutes
TINIES	8 - 10 Minutes
JUNIORS	10 - 15 Minutes
SENIORS	12 - 15 Minutes

For not meeting the minimum or maximum times, half a point will be deducted per minute.

Timing for Dance Twirl/Bands —will start once the Leader steps over the timing line, and will finish when the last member steps over the timing line.

Timing for Open Majorettes—will commence on the Leaders Start Signal and finish on the Leaders Stop Signal. Routines may commence & finish on the arena

Timing will be randomly taken at selected competitions during the season.
Only one Adult or Trainer Status Member to attend the Timing Table.

DANCE TWIRL ENTRY/EXIT LINE TO BE CENTRAL TO THE FRONT OF THE ARENA OR IF THIS ISN'T POSSIBLE TROUPES WILL BE NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE.