

Join us for the 2027 Pom Invationals

*Presented by Dance Force Xpress, LLC, and hosted by
the Novi and Bay City Western Pom Programs*



Visit the **POM INVITATIONAL** page of our website for complete details!

www.DanceForceXpress.com

Our goal is to provide a welcoming non-competitive atmosphere where the talent of Michigan's pom teams will be on full display.

Our panel of experienced judges will provide verbal video critiques, allowing your team the opportunity to continue to thrive! Dance Force Xpress has been hosting events in Michigan since 2012 - we look forward to welcoming you to our family!

DATE & LOCATION:

Join us on Saturday, January 9, 2027 at Novi High School in Novi, Michigan, or Sunday, January 10, 2027 at Bay City Western High School in Auburn, Michigan. The schedule will be available approximately 2 weeks prior to the event. A map to each venue can be found on our website. The competition will take place in the gymnasium.

EVENT FORMAT:

The Invitational will be scheduled in sessions by age. Each session will run through the performance order twice. After each 'round 1' performance, teams will receive feedback and have the opportunity to work together with the common goal of improvement before 'round 2'.

REGISTRATION RATES:

\$25 per participant (Early registration discount through October 10th, 2026)

\$30 per participant (Regular registration rate, October 11th – December 10th, 2026)

Registration fees are **non-refundable, non transferable** unless a refund is requested in writing more than one month prior to the event.

Professional performance videos and action photos are included in your registration fees!

SPECTATOR FEES:

Spectator tickets are \$5.00. Children 5 and under are free.

AGE DIVISIONS: *Note: Teams must be an official school or studio pom or dance team, or a district team that performs at specific school events. Teams can be considered sports, clubs, or programs. Participants do not need to attend the same school, per the unique rules of the participating district. Teams may include members that are younger than the stated average age.*

Collegiate; must consist of performers who perform or compete as a Collegiate level team.

Varsity; must consist of performers with an average age of 9th-12th grade. Varsity teams should be those who perform, compete, and are recognized as a Varsity team by their home school.

Junior Varsity; must consist of performers with an average age of 9th-12th grade. Junior Varsity teams should be those who perform, compete, and are recognized as a Junior Varsity team by their home school.

Middle School/Junior High; must consist of students with an average age of 6th-9th grade.

Elementary Level 2; must consist of students with an average age of 4th-6th grade.

Elementary Level 1; must consist of students with an average age of K-3rd grade.

DIVISIONS BY SIZE:

If more than 8 routines are registered in a Division/Category, the category may be split according to the number of participants. These divisions are not pre-determined, and will be based on the actual registration numbers for the event. Example: Small Varsity, Large Varsity, etc.

CATEGORIES

Each team is allowed to register one routine per category

Dance Tech Pom: Fast-paced precision movements. Technical elements such as leaps and turns must be included in the choreography. A kickline is not required, but is allowed.

Traditional Pom: Precision movements with focus on the use of visual effects involving poms, color, formations, and transitions. Routine **must** include a kickline with all team members performing a minimum of 12 simultaneous kicks at any level.

JUDGING CATEGORIES (*Judging categories may be updated prior to the competition*)

Appearance, Choreography, Skill Level/Difficulty, Rhythm/Timing/Precision, Formations/Transitions, Showmanship, and Overall Impression are each worth 10 points and are on ALL judging sheets.

In Dance Tech Pom there is a 10 point category for Technique. In Traditional Pom, there is a 10 point category for kickline, including height and form.

Total possible points per judge is 80. There are 3 judges for each routine for a total of 240 points possible. All judges will provide verbal feedback, with each performance receiving three performance videos through their Dance Comp Genie account. Specific details on what the judges are looking for in each category will be emailed prior to the competition in the 'Guide to Judging – Pom Invitational'. ***Please note in advance:*** Choreography must be original competition choreography that is unique to your team. Routines, or portions of routines, that are recognized from clinics, camps, previous performances by your team or another team, and/or workshops may have points deducted in the choreography category.

REQUIREMENTS/RULES

All team routines must be at least 1 minute and 30 seconds, and no longer than 3 minutes and 30 seconds. Music must be submitted **at least one week in advance**, and will be loaded directly to your Dance Comp Genie account. Routines that do not submit music in advance will not be allowed to perform. Music will be available for all routines in the warm up gym, as well as the main performance gym. Music may not be changed or updated on competition day.

Teams may start anywhere on the performance floor. Timing will begin with the music, or with the first movement of an organized entrance. Timing will end with the completion of music. Exits will not be included in the timing of the routine if performed after the completion of music, but should not exceed 15 seconds in length. Upon submission of music, please note anything that we should be aware of such as music cutting out and coming back in, music for exit after applause, etc.

Poms must be used by all performers, and must be incorporated/held for at least 80% of the routine.

Handheld props are not permitted at the Invitational. The following items are NOT ALLOWED: liquids, gels, paint, aerosols, glitter, powders, etc. Performance floor must be returned to its original pre-performance condition within 60 seconds.

Shoes must be non-marking. Any shoes that may potentially damage the performance floor will be required to be removed. Performers may wear any form of dance shoe or may go barefoot, although shoes are highly recommended for safety/sanitary reasons.

Unsafe moves: Any fall, drop, or landing where the complete body weight is unsupported (i.e. knee drops, body falls), stunts or partner moves where a performer is incapable of catching themselves or protecting their body from injury, or any tosses or throws of a performer without adequate safety measures/spotters are prohibited. Safety should be the first concern in regards to choreography. While we do not intend to limit choreography, and we cannot possibly list all prohibited movements and lifts, we stress that lifts and choreography should in no way be potentially dangerous to performers. If moves are in question, please send a short video clip by text to (248) 432-6239 for clarification. Although these are not requirements, please consider the following in regards to safety; *Are there spotters for a lift? Is there any motion where a head injury could occur? Have those who are lifting or supporting someone been properly trained to avoid strain or injury?* A 5-point penalty will be assessed for any routines not meeting, or exceeding, the time limit, or performing moves that are determined to be unsafe.

"Dance Force Xpress stresses the importance of safety and requires participants to execute only those skills, techniques and practices that will not cause harm or injury to performers, spectators, or the facility."

AWARDS

Qualified and experienced judges will provide verbal critiques and score sheets. Coaches will have access to these through Dance Comp Genie within 24 hours following the competition.

Please note that the Pom Invitationals are not competitions, and teams will not be ranked against each other. Placements will be announced as 'GOLD', 'SILVER', or 'BRONZE', and are based on a pre-determined scale. Each performer will receive a commemorative award. Special judges choice awards will be handed out at the judge's discretion.

REGISTRATION IS SIMPLE – ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 1st, 2026:

- Visit www.DanceForceXpress.com and click on the REGISTRATION tab to register online. *If you are new to using Dance Comp Genie, please watch our quick and helpful video tutorials on our website!*
- Set up a Dance Comp Genie account for your team through the link on our website. Each team should have their own account (EXAMPLE - Varsity and JV from the same school should each create an account to ensure coaches each receive appropriate emails).
- Enter your full roster of performers. You will be required to enter a first name, last name, and birthdate for each performer. Your roster must be added prior to registering routines.
- Go to the red '**ADD A NEW REGISTRATION**' button. Select the appropriate 'Pom Invitational'. Enter an estimated number of routines for your team.
- Enter a 'Routine Title' – Please use this format: "Team Name - Level, Category" (**South Detroit - Varsity Pom**). Please avoid using music titles. Click on the green link to "**Add a new routine...**"
- Click on the participants that will be performing in that specific routine. Select the category and level of the routine. Save the routine.
- Complete the checkout screen. If paying by credit card, you will pay online. If a check will be sent through the mail, please be sure to 'complete' the checkout process by selecting this method of payment. Your registration will not be complete until you fully check out.
- Registration is due **December 10th, 2026**, and can be paid by credit card (online through Dance Comp Genie), school or studio check or money order. Online registration must be complete, and full payment must be received by the deadline.

Registration may close early if event reaches capacity.

IMPORTANT DATES – 2026/2027:

August 1 st	Online registration opens through Dance Comp Genie
October 10 th	Final day for early bird discount registration
December 1 st	Suggested latest date to submit invoices to your school administration
December 7 th	Connect with your administration to ensure payment has been sent
December 10 th	Final day to complete registration
December 26 th	Schedules posted on the Dance Force Xpress website
January 6 th	Music due; upload to Dance Comp Genie account
January 9 th & 10 th	Invitationals

*Please contact us with any additional questions. Find us on Facebook and Instagram.
We look forward to meeting you and your team soon!*

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