

NMU Dance Team

2024-2025 Tryout Info



About the NMU Dance Team

The NMU Dance Team was founded in 2000 and is recognized by Northern Michigan University as a Recreational Sport Club. The team is made up of dedicated and talented dancers who represent the University in a positive and spirited manner. Members have diverse dance backgrounds and draw on each other's strengths to succeed as a team. The NMU Dance Team proudly supports Northern Michigan University Athletics and the University as a whole. Dancers serve as NMU ambassadors on campus and in the community. The NMU Dance Team performs at home football, volleyball, and basketball games, other University events, and competitions.

In-person tryouts:

During tryouts, dancers will be scored by a panel of judges. The natural “break in points” determines which dancers are placed onto the Performance Team. Performance Team members are guaranteed* to perform in all athletic events. Based on the second break in points, the next highest-scoring dancers may be selected as Alternates. During tryouts dancers are asked to wear all black, fitting clothing. Dancers will be judged based on technique, ability to learn new choreography, and the execution of a pom and jazz/contemporary combo.

Virtual tryouts:

- Submit video by Saturday, April 20th, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time
- Include all required items in the submitted video
- Electronically submit paperwork via email to @nmuwildcatdanceteam@gmail.com (preferably in the same email you send your video link in)
- Proof of admission to Northern Michigan University (copy of acceptance letter)
- You must email @nmuwildcatdanceteam@gmail.com if you wish to receive the info for virtual tryouts.

Alternates

Alternates are considered full members of the team and will perform in the case of injury or absence of a Performance Team member. Performance Team members are required to keep working and improving to maintain their spot on the Performance Team. If an Alternate is up to standards, they may replace a lacking Performance Team member at any time or be offered a spot as a Performance Team Member. Alternates may perform at game-day performances if they are working hard in practices. Alternates will receive a spot in the formation for all

competition dances that will be practiced throughout the season. However, Alternates will not perform at competitions unless there is an injury or unseen circumstance for a Performance Team Member. This will be at the discretion of the President, Vice-President, and Captains.

Attendance

Each member must be willing to commit a decent amount of time to the team. All team members must fully commit to all practices, performances, events and fundraisers. Membership should never be considered “part-time”. Dancers are responsible for scheduling work and other appointments outside of practice and performance times. Excused absences include family emergencies and required class events. Any other absences are handled on a case-by-case basis and are rarely excused. All non-emergency absences must be reported to leadership at least two weeks prior.

Our performance season for NMU Athletics runs from late August to late February/early March. Our competition season may extend past NMU’s basketball season, depending on which competitions are chosen.

Practices are **tentatively** held **6-9 pm on Sundays, 7-9 pm on Tuesdays, and 8-10 pm Thursdays**. Work and other appointments **must** be scheduled around practice times. Class schedules should try to work around practice, but the Team emphasizes the importance of school over dance, and understands that some class conflicts cannot be avoided. These instances will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. The NMU Dance Team proudly performs at home football, volleyball, and basketball games. We rarely perform Monday-Wednesday. A detailed game schedule will be available at the beginning of the season. Events added to the original schedule are not mandatory, like the Halftime Show, as these dates aren’t brought to us with much time in advance. If unable to attend an added event, ample notification must be given.

Academics

All team members are required to hold a **2.50 or higher** GPA. All members must also be a part-time Northern Michigan University student for Fall 2024 and Winter 2025, carrying at least **6** credits each semester as an undergraduate student.

Fees

Each team member is required to pay dues of \$250/year or \$125/semester. Team members are also required to have a PEIF Pass through Recreational Sports – an automatic \$85 fee will appear on your student account – **do not choose to opt out.**

Additional required team apparel may cost up to \$300 and is for the dancer to keep and can often be reused year to year. This includes, but is not limited to, team earrings, backpacks, warm-ups, tennis shoes, dance shoes, tights, make-up, practice clothing, and other spirit wear. Proper undergarments must also be purchased individually.

Health and Fitness

Members are encouraged to utilize the PEIF facility at their convenience. Workouts may include, but are not limited to, running, cardio, weightlifting and other strength exercises. If a physical condition exists that prevents participation, it will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Leadership

This team succeeds because of the hard work put in by every member. Carefully evaluate these responsibilities before committing to the NMU Dance Team. Lifelong friendships and memorable experiences are made through the NMU Dance Team; we hope you consider trying out for the upcoming season!

NMU Dance Team - Tryout Dancer Information

Name: _____

_____ Age: _____ Birthday: _____/_____/_____

Fall 2024 Class Standing: _____

Cell Phone Number: (_____) _____

Email Address: _____

Current Address: _____

Years on the NMU Dance Team (if applicable) : _____

High School Graduated From: City and Year: _____

Previous Universities or Colleges: _____

Dance Background: (Include styles, years, and teams you've been on):

As a member of the NMU Dance Team, what goals would you have?

What is your declared or intended major at NMU? Do you have a minor? _____

Do you have a job? Where? _____

Do you intend to work during the school year? How many hours a week?

What other extracurricular activities do you intend to participate in for 2024-2025?

If offered a spot as an alternate, would you accept this position? (Circle one):
YES / NO

I understand all of the terms and conditions of being a member of the NMU Dance Team outlined in this information packet. If I earn and accept a position on the NMU Dance Team, I understand there are other rules and guidelines I am required to adhere to. These rules will be thoroughly explained to me at the first team meeting.

Signature

Date

All dancers will be emailed by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Sunday, April 21st, 2024 with their results.

A confirmation accepting your position on the NMU Dance Team is needed by April 24th, 2024 at 5 p.m EST. Please accept or deny as soon as possible.