

## TAP DANCE EXAM GUIDELINES

Dear Applicant:

The following is a study guide for the DTCB/AS tap dance exam. If additional help is required please contact the Membership Examiner who will assist you in locating the information requested. Please note the bibliography at the bottom of this sheet. Best of luck!

1. Clear definition of “Tap Dance”.
2. Benefits, important points which should be taught.
3. History: know tap dance artists from the past and present; understand their contribution to the art.
4. Know room and stage directions.
5. Understand “warm-ups) and ballet barre exercises (as pertaining to tap dance), tap barre.
6. Time steps (includes breaks, standard and buck, important criteria, most commonly taught types, differences between basics).
7. Demonstration and counting of most commonly taught steps (includes waltz clogs, soft shoe, Cincinnati, cramp rolls, riffs, pick-ups or pullbacks, wings and most basic steps).
8. Turns
9. Styles and corresponding time signatures.
10. Understand how to choreograph at various levels and in various time signatures.
11. Evaluation of performance in competition (point’s performer would be judged on).
12. Know important bones in the foot.

### Bibliography:

Tap works-A tap Dictionary, A tap Manual: Beverly Fletcher, 1997

Tap! Rusty E. Frank – DaCapo Press

The Souls of Your Feet: Acia Gray-Grand Weaver’s publishing

Musicals – A Guide to More Than 180 Musicals: Michael Patrick Kennedy and John Muir – Harper Collins

101 Theatre Games: Mila Johansen – Players Press

Song and Dance – The Musicals of Broadway: Ted Sennett-Friedman-Fairfax Publishing

Red, Hot and blue – A Smithsonian Salute to the American Musical: Henderson and Bowers-Smithsonian Institution Press, 1996

Brotherhood in rhythm-The Jazz Tap Dancing of the Nicholas Brothers: Constance Valis Hill – Oxford Press

Eleanor Powell-First Lady of the dance: Alice B. Levine – Empire Publishing

Cagney: John McCabe – Alfred A. Knopf

Footnotes – a Memoir by Tommy Tune

The Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers Book: Arlene Croce-Outerbridge and Lazard, Inc. 1972 – out of print but available through libraries, etc.

\*Source for finding the above: The Guide of performing Arts at STAGESTEP (Catalogue) 800-877-3342, email: [stagestep@stagestep.com](mailto:stagestep@stagestep.com)