

2025-26 Dance Coach Information Session



**AUSTRALIAN
CHEER UNION**

Team Australia Dance - V1- 09/2025



AUSTRALIAN
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Agenda

- 2025-26 Projected Dance Teams
- Journey Overview - Timeline
- Coaching Position Selection Criteria
- Coach Selection Process
- How to Apply
- Volunteer Role - What does this mean?
- Athlete Tryout Process

2025-26 Projected Dance Teams

TAHO	TAPO	TAZZ	JUHO	JUPO	YUHO	YUPO
Senior Hip Hop	Senior Pom	Senior Jazz	Junior Hip Hop	Junior Pom	Youth Hip Hop	Youth Pom
Athletes aged 16+ Years <i>Birth Years 2010 or earlier</i>	Athletes aged 16+ Years <i>Birth Years 2010 or earlier</i>	Athletes aged 16+ Years <i>Birth Years 2010 or earlier</i>	Athletes aged 15-18 Years <i>Birth Years 2007-2011</i>	Athletes aged 15-18 Years <i>Birth Years 2007-2011</i>	Athletes aged 12-14 Years <i>Birth Years 2011-2014</i>	Athletes aged 12-14 Years <i>Birth Years 2011-2014</i>
Camps based on east coast 16-24 Athletes On Floor	Camps based on east coast 16-24 Athletes On Floor	Camps based on east coast 18-24 Athletes On Floor	Camps based on east coast 16-24 Athletes On Floor	Camps based on east coast 16-24 Athletes On Floor	Camps based on east coast 16-24 Athletes On Floor	Camps based on east coast 16-24 Athletes On Floor

We will also be offering two senior dance double teams- pom & hip hop



*2025-26 Teams Clarification

Our intention is to field all these teams for the 2025–26 season. However, we acknowledge that there may be a limited number of athletes who meet the division-specific skill requirements *and* can commit fully to the demands of the Team Australia program.

As such, we are proceeding with the understanding that if any team cannot be formed to a level that is competitive within its respective division, that team will not attend the ICU World Championships this season.

Should this occur, we will reassess the coaching positions for the team not moving forward will be reviewed, with the possibility that those roles may be discontinued for the 2025–26 season.

This policy reflects one of our key program objectives: to send highly competitive teams to the ICU World Championships, and to uphold the standards and reputation of Team Australia on the world stage.



Journey Overview - Timeline

For the 2025-26 season we will be following along the following timeline. This timeline is currently set as a guide, and as dates/locations are locked in we will confirm to the staff, coaches, and athletes within the program.

Please see information in the following pages of our timeline for the 2025-26 journey, and further details and justifications for the actions to be taken for the remainder of 2025.

Timeline 2025-26

DATE	WHAT	FURTHER INFO
15th September 2025	Coach & Staff Information Session	Online - Zoom
18th September 2025	Coach Application Window closes	This is the timeframe to apply for coaching positions for the Team Australia Cheer program
21st September 2025	Athlete & Community Information Session	Online - Zoom
22nd September 2025	Announcement of head coaches via email	Head coaches required to submit sample choreography for try-outs
26th September 2025	Public Announcement of Head Dance Coaching Team	This is providing all head coaches have accepted positions and signed ACU agreements
12th October	Athlete Application Window closes- audition video link sent via email	This is the timeframe athletes have to submit their applications for the Team Australia Dance program
13th-16th October 2025	Coaching team meeting to discuss athlete selection short list	This meeting is to give the coaches the required tools and guidelines to begin their athlete review and begin preliminary team selections.



Timeline 2025-26

DATE	WHAT	FURTHER INFO
8th-9th November 2025	Possible in-person try-outs	• Location TBA
10th-12th November 2025	Team Placement Window	This is the timeframe coaches have allocated to review athlete applications and create their team lists.
14th November 2025	Dance Lead: Team List Review Window due	This is the timeframe the dance lead has to review the team selections that have been made by the coaching staff
16th November 2025	Athlete Placement sent	This gives the athletes 5 days to make sure they can commit to the team, and afford to make the financial commitment to the journey
23rd November 2025	Athletes: Placement Acceptance Window closes	



Timeline 2025-26

DATE	WHAT	FURTHER INFO
25th November 2025	Public Announcement of Dance Team Lists	Social media release of our dance teams and the athletes that have been selected for the preliminary teams
30th November 2025	Team Aus Dance Teams Welcome Meeting	Virtual - Zoom This meeting is to introduce the coaching team to the preliminary team athletes and give them general information regarding the Team Australia Program, and Dance Specific Windows.
20th & 21st December 2025	Possible Choreography Workshops & start of weekly homework for athletes	An in-person choreography workshop to begin setting the choreography. During the period after placement and throughout the journey the coaches will have weekly homework for the athletes to complete. These will be due weekly on every Sunday. There will be some weeks off for special events, and TA Cheer Camps/training sessions

Timeline 2025-26

DATE	WHAT	FURTHER INFO
17th-18th January 2026	Cheer Camp 1 - Adelaide, SA (TBC) All Dance Teams Possibly looking at extending this camp to 5 days to facilitate choreography & team building- still being discussed	This will be our first camp for 2026. All dance teams will be in attendance
28th February to 1st March 2026	Cheer Camp 2 - Sydney, NSW (TBC) All Dance Teams	This is our second camp for 2026. All dance teams will be in attendance
28th-29th March 2026	Cheer Camp 3 - Melbourne, VIC (definite) All Dance Teams	Final Australian camp for 2026. This camp will have a split schedule like the other camps, so we can effectively use our training space to maximise team progression This camp will host our annual showcase for the ACU Team Australia program.

U.S.A. PORTION OF JOURNEY FROM NOW ON - ALL ACTIVITIES ARE IN ORLANDO, FL, U.S.A.

Timeline 2025-26

DATE	WHAT	FURTHER INFO
17th April 2026 Friday	All athletes to arrive in Orlando by this day All Dance Teams	We want all athletes to arrive on this day, so we can begin training with each team on the Saturday.
18th April 2026 Saturday - Session 1: TBA - Session 2: TBA - Session 3: TBA	Team Training - All Teams Session 1: - TAHO - JUPO - YUHO Session 2: - TAZZ - JUHO - YUPO Session 3: - TAPO - Dance Double HH - Dance Double Pom	2 Hour training session at our training center in Orlando for all teams.
19th April 2026 Sunday - Session 1: TBA - Session 2: TBA - Session 3: TBA	Team Training - All Teams Session 1: - TAHO - JUPO - YUHO Session 2: - TAZZ - JUHO - YUPO Session 3: - TAPO - Dance Double HH - Dance Double Pom	2 Hour training session at our training center in Orlando for all teams.

Timeline 2025-26

DATE	WHAT	FURTHER INFO
20th April 2026 Monday • Session 1: TBA • Session 2: TBA • Session 3: TBA	Team Training - Senior Teams Session 1: • TAHO • JUPO • YUHO Session 2: • TAZZ • JUHO • YUPO Session 3: • TAPO • Dance Double HH • Dance Double Pom	2 Hour training session at our training center in Orlando for all teams.
21st April 2026 Tuesday • Senior Session: TBA • Youth/Junior Session: TBA	Team Training - Senior Teams • TAPO • TAHO • TAZZ • Dance Doubles	2 Hour training at ESPN, athletes will do 20 minutes on the competition floor, and 1.5 hours outside cleaning sections and preparing for day 1 *Timing is estimated, based off the times from 2025 *This may also be split session with training at All Star Resort
	Team Training - Youth/Junior Teams • JUHO • JUPO • YUHO • YUPO	2 Hour training at ESPN, athletes will do 20 minutes on the competition floor, and 1.5 hours outside cleaning sections and preparing for day 1 *Timing is estimated, based off the times from 2025 *This may also be split session with training at All Star Resort

Timeline 2025-26

DATE	WHAT	FURTHER INFO
22nd April 2026 Wednesday • JWC Welcome: • Youth/Junior Semi's: TBA • Senior Session: • Opening Ceremony:	Junior World Championships Welcome Ceremony • JUHO • JUPO • YUHO • YUPO	This is the opening Ceremony for all Junior and Youth teams
	Semi-Finals - Youth & Junior Teams • JUHO • JUPO • YUHO • YUPO	Day one of competition for these teams, this will be at ESPN WWOS
	Team Training - Senior Teams • TAHO • TAPO • TAZZ	2 Hour training at ESPN, athletes will do 20 minutes on the competition floor, and 1.5 hours outside cleaning sections and preparing for day 1 <i>*This may also be split session with training at All Star Resort</i>
	ICU Opening Ceremony - Senior Teams • TAHO • TAPO • TAZZ	Official opening ceremony for senior teams, at ESPN WWOS, Expect a 9pm finish time

Timeline 2025-26

DATE	WHAT	FURTHER INFO
23rd April 2026 Thursday • Senior Teams Semi's: TBA • Youth/Junior Finals: TBA • Youth Junior Awards: TBA	ICU Worlds Semi-Finals - Senior Teams • TAHO • TAPO • TAZZ	Semi-Finals for senior teams, expect a morning to early afternoon time slot
	ICU Worlds Finals - Youth & Junior Teams	If teams qualify for finals they will be competing on this day, expect an afternoon to early evening time slot
	ICU Worlds Awards - Youth & Junior Teams	Awards ceremony for junior and youth teams

Timeline 2025-26

DATE	WHAT	FURTHER INFO
24th April 2026 Friday • Senior Teams Semi's: TBA • Youth/Junior Finals: TBA • Youth Junior Awards: TBA	ICU Worlds Finals - Senior Teams • TAPO • TAHO • TAZZ	Finals day for our senior teams if they qualify
	ICU Awards Ceremony - Senior Teams	
	ICU Closing Ceremony - All Teams	Official closing ceremony for all teams, at ESPN WWOS, Expect a 7-9pm finish time <i>*If athletes compete at IASF worlds on the next day, then they DO NOT have to attend this event</i>



Coaching Position Selection Criteria

This following pages are intended to give prospective coaches a guide on what attributes we are looking for in our coaching staff.

Please note that this is not a complete list, or a checklist to guarantee selection, it is intended to give potential candidates a clearer understanding of what we are looking for in our coaching staff for 2025-26.

Not having all criteria listed below is also not an automatic rejection, we are looking for the best people for the positions we are filling, this does not always mean the most experienced.

Coaching Position Selection Criteria

Position General Criteria		
Head Coach	Assistant Coach	Associate Coach
• Proven leadership skills • Ability to collaborate with others • Willing to follow directions & requests from leadership • Ability to show empathy • Strong communication skills • Ability to work in a team, and alone • Acts respectfully & without prejudice • Experience with international competitions • Organised & process driven • Delegation skills • Able to self-reflect and admit mistakes • Ability to ask for help • Accepting of feedback	• Strong leadership skills • Ability to collaborate with others • Willing to follow directions & requests from leadership • Ability to show empathy • Strong communication skills • Ability to work in a team environment • Acts respectfully & without prejudice • Able to self-reflect and admit mistakes • Ability to ask for help • Accepting of feedback	• Developing leadership skills • Ability to collaborate with others • Willing to follow directions & requests from leadership • Ability to show empathy • Strong communication skills • Ability to work in a team environment • Acts respectfully & without prejudice • Able to self-reflect and admit mistakes • Ability to ask for help • Willing to learn from others • Accepting of feedback

Coaching Position Selection Criteria

Division Specific Criteria - Skills Based

Hip Hop	Pom	Jazz	Dance Doubles
• Understanding of ICU division and level requirements the hip hop division • Understanding of ICU division and level requirements for choreographic movement and skills/transitions	• Understanding of ICU division and level requirements in the pom division • Understanding of ICU division and level requirements for choreographic movement and skills/transitions	• Understanding of ICU division and level requirements in the jazz division • Understanding of ICU division and level requirements for choreographic movement and skills/transitions	• Understanding of ICU division and level requirements in pom or hip hop doubles • Understanding of ICU division and level requirements for choreographic movement and skills/transitions

Coaching Position Selection Criteria

Division Specific Criteria - Safety

Hip Hop	Pom	Jazz	Dance Doubles
• Understanding of the safety rules, and how they apply for your team • Being able to create and maintain a safe environment for your athletes, and fellow coaches at all times • Ability to reflect, review, and implement changes to maintain a safe environment	• Understanding of the safety rules, and how they apply for your team • Being able to create and maintain a safe environment for your athletes, and fellow coaches at all times • Ability to reflect, review, and implement changes to maintain a safe environment	• Understanding of the safety rules, and how they apply for your team • Being able to create and maintain a safe environment for your athletes, and fellow coaches at all times • Ability to reflect, review, and implement changes to maintain a safe environment	• Understanding of the safety rules, and how they apply for your team • Being able to create and maintain a safe environment for your athletes, and fellow coaches at all times • Ability to reflect, review, and implement changes to maintain a safe environment

Coaching Position Selection Criteria

Division Specific Criteria - Choreography Trends & Requirements

Hip Hop	Pom	Jazz	Dance Doubles
• Understanding the continual stylistic trends for your division and what needs to be included in your routine to be competitive • Understanding developing trends and updates in regards to your division, and having the ability to implement them • Understanding of the stylistic differences for your division) and how to choreograph & coach these skills to a high level of execution	• Understanding the continual stylistic trends for your division and what needs to be included in your routine to be competitive • Understanding developing trends and updates in regards to your division, and having the ability to implement them • Understanding of the stylistic differences for your division and how to choreograph & coach these skills to a high level of execution	• Understanding the continual stylistic trends for your division and what needs to be included in your routine to be competitive • Understanding developing trends and updates in regards to your division, and having the ability to implement them • Understanding of the stylistic differences for your division and how to choreograph & coach these skills to a high level of execution	• Understanding the continual stylistic trends for your division and what needs to be included in your routine to be competitive • Understanding developing trends and updates in regards to your division, and having the ability to implement them • Understanding of the stylistic differences for your division and how to choreograph & coach these skills to a high level of execution



Coach Selection Process

Coach Selections will happen in the following order:

- Head coach position selected first
- Assistant coach position then selected, this is so that we can assign coaching teams that will work well together
- After these coach positions have been accepted we will then select junior assistant coaches for teams. However if there is a coach position not accepted, we will make sure all Head and Assistant coach positions are filled before we assign junior assistant coaches

Coaching applications will be considered in the following order:

- Applications will all be reviewed
- Shortlists for each position will be created
- Applicants from the shortlist will be interviewed
- Coach selections will be made
- Coach selections will be reviewed and then approved
- Coaching position offers will go out via a phone call
- Selected coaches will be provided with an agreement and more information



How To Apply:

To apply for your position please do/consider the following:

- Applications are done via google form, link will be emailed out
- Ensure you answer all questions truthfully and completely
- Consider creating a short introduction video. NOTE: This is not mandatory
- Please submit one example of your choreography in the genre you are applying for
- You will have options to upload or write out your cover letter in a field box
- You will need to upload your dance resume
- You will need to upload a photo copy of your valid WWCC or Blue Card
- We encourage you to supply 1-2 industry references, please make sure these are not your employees
- You are able to select multiple positions

Please also note the following:

- Regardless of the teams you select as your preference, we reserve the right to consider you for all teams and all positions (Head Coach or Assistant Coach) as we want to put the best people in the right places.
- We will only interview applicants that make our short list
- We will only notify unsuccessful applicants after all coaching positions have been selected and accepted
- We will not give application feedback or selection justification at this stage



Volunteer Role - What does this mean?

Coaching positions for Team Australia Dance are on a volunteer basis. This includes all time spent preparing for your team and front facing delivery (coaching). But there are certain things you may be compensated for depending on the position you are selected for.

These may include:

- Stipend to be used towards Interstate & International travel expenses for
- Reimbursement of items you purchased for your team that are required for essential function of the team with prior permission from the ACU Team Australia Director
- Other Additional costs may be reimbursed, but will require approval prior to purchasing

Athlete Tryout Process

The following steps are the tryout process for 2025-26. There may be some adjustments for west coast teams, with prior approval from the Dance Lead and Team Australia Director.

Athlete Applications	Application Review	Team Approval	Remote Training	Ongoing Review
• Applications will be lodged online within the application window. • Late submissions will not be accepted with the exception of extreme situations • Applications will consist of written, and video elements that meet the requirements • Desired skill lists will be developed for each team and communicated to athletes • Preference of applicants will be given in the following order: • Groups with strong execution of desired skill set • Individuals with strong execution of desired skill set	• Coaches will review applications within the application review window • Documentation is required of placement justifications, to allow for external review of team placement • Team lists will be reviewed by Dance Lead, and approval given prior to placement offers being sent out • Coaching team will not give out any placement information to applicants or non-team coaches at any time without permission from Dance Lead	• Team approval will consist of review of team lists, and justifications of placements if requested • You may be asked for justification if there is a potential conflict of interest (Current athlete, past interactions, previous athlete, athletes not meeting requested attributes, athletes of questionable character) • Once Dance Lead has done due diligence, teams lists will be approved and placement offers sent out	• Coaches will set weekly remote training requirements and ensure athlete/team accountability • Weekly requirements are to be recorded and uploaded to team pages for traceability • Training will be mainly skill based, to help develop required skills for their team/routine • Coaches will note athlete performance with remote training requirements, and skill deficiency may be a reason to reconsider placement	• Coaches will review placements on an ongoing basis, and if required adjustments to the team lineup may occur • Coaches will require justification if this happens, and approval from Dance Lead before making this decision



Questions?