

INTERNATIONAL POLEARTIST. EXPO 2027

Dates: June 18 (Fri) & June 19 (Sat), 2027 Venue: Nihonbashi Public Hall, Tokyo, Japan

COMPETITION ENTRY INFORMATION

1. COMPETITION CATEGORIES

(1) POLE ARTIST CATEGORIES

	Subcategory*1	Division	Age Group*4
1	Art Division*2	Elite / Amateur	Ages 18–39 / 40–49 / 50+
2	Heels Division*3	Elite / Amateur	Ages 18–39 / 40–49 / 50+
3	KIDS Division	No Level Division	Ages 6–12 / 13–17
4	Doubles	No Level Division	No Age Division
5	Debut Comp*5	No Level Division	Ages 18+

Note 1: There are no divisions based on nationality or gender in any category.

Note 2 – Art Division: Footwear

Wearing footwear in the Art Division is optional. If footwear is worn, any type is permitted (e.g., sneakers, salsa shoes, tabi shoes, etc.).

Platform heels, including strip heels and platform boots, are prohibited in the Art Division. Competitors wishing to wear these types of footwear must enter the Heels Division.

Note 3 – Heels Division

Only strip shoes are permitted in the Heels Division. Strip boots are also permitted.

Note 4 – Age Divisions

Age divisions are determined based on the competitor's age as of June 18, 2027.

Note 5 – Debut Competition Eligibility & Prohibited Moves

- Competitors must be participating in a competition for the first time.
- Instructors are not eligible to enter.
- Competitors must have started learning pole dance on or after October 1, 2024.
- The following moves are prohibited:
- Aerial Deadlift / Aerial Backflip / Fonji / Phoenix / Marchenko / Octopus / Candle Position For further details, please refer to the Rules & Regulations page on the IPA website.

(2) DREAM CUP CATEGORY

Express yourself in your own unique way for a chance to win the dream prize of JPY 1,000,000!

The Dream Cup is an open category with no restrictions on style, division, or age.

2. ENTRY

(1) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Competitors must meet the following requirements:

- Competitors residing in Japan must be registered as IPA General Members.
- Please use the QR code below to apply for IPA membership.
- Competitors must be available to participate in the Finals held on June 18 and 19, 2027.
- Competitors entering an Amateur Division must not be instructors affiliated with a studio.
- Competitors under the age of 18 must have the consent of a parent or legal guardian.
- Competitors must have no involvement with antisocial forces, including organized crime groups, and must have no criminal record.

(2) ENTRY FEES

Competitors residing in Japan

Preliminary Entry Fee: USD 30

Finals Participation Fee: USD 65

Competitors residing outside Japan

Preliminary Entry Fee: USD 60

Finals Participation Fee: USD 65

(3) ENTRY PERIOD

October 1 – November 30, 2026, until 11:59 PM (JST)



(4) HOW TO ENTER

Competitors residing in Japan:

Please apply through the competition entry form available on the IPA Members-Only Website.

Competitors residing outside Japan:

Please apply through the International Entry Form available on the IPA website.

(5) IMPORTANT NOTES REGARDING ENTRY

- An entry fee is incurred upon submission of an entry and is non-refundable under any circumstances.
- Any transaction fees, exchange-rate differences, or other related charges are the responsibility of the competitor.
- Competitors may enter multiple categories. However, IPA reserves the right to limit a competitor's qualification for the Finals to one category only, at the Association's discretion.
- If a competitor enters multiple categories, a different performance/routine must be used for each category.
- IPA reserves the right to add or remove specific categories if a category does not meet the minimum number of registered participants. In such cases, the application fee paid for the affected category will be refunded to each competitor.

3. PRELIMINARY ROUND

(1) PRELIMINARY JUDGING METHOD

- The preliminary round will be judged by video submission.
- Judging will take place promptly after the entry deadline, and competitors who pass the preliminary round will be notified by mid-December.

(2) PRELIMINARY VIDEO REQUIREMENTS

- There are no restrictions on the number or specifications of poles used.
- (Using only one pole is permitted, and either a static or spinning pole may be used.)
- Videos must be filmed from a fixed camera position and must not be edited in any way.
- Camera movement is permitted only when unavoidable due to the filming environment, such as when it is not possible to keep the competitor's entire body within the frame.
- No person other than the competitor may appear in the video.
- The video must be between 1 minute 00 seconds and 4 minutes 00 seconds in length.
- The video must be clear and sufficiently well-lit.
- (Insufficient image quality or lighting may negatively affect the judging.)

(3) PROHIBITED CONTENT IN PRELIMINARY VIDEOS

The following are prohibited:

- Toplessness, even when nipple covers/pasties are worn.
- Performances containing elements contrary to public order and morals, including violence, obscenity, discrimination, or similar content.
- Infringement of any third-party rights, including copyright, portrait rights, or other rights.

The performance must be original.

However, choreography or creative work created by a third party is

permitted if it was formally commissioned and the competitor has been granted permission to use it.



<https://poleartist.mykajabi.com/>

ENTRY HERE!!



4. FINALS

(1) FINALS PERFORMANCE TIME

Category / Division / Age Group	演技時間
• Art / Heels, Elite, Ages 18–39 / 40–49 • Doubles • Dream Cup	3:30-4:00
• Art / Heels, Amateur, Ages 18–39 / 40–49 • Art / Heels, Elite / Amateur, Ages 50+ • Kids	3:00-3:30
• Debut Competition, Ages 18+	2:30-3:00

(2) FINALS REQUIREMENTS

Competitors must use two poles: one static pole and one spinning pole.

PROHIBITED ITEMS / ACTIONS

1. Use of Fire, Gas, etc.

The use of fire, gas, or similar materials or effects as part of a performance is prohibited.

When using liquids, competitors must take appropriate measures themselves, such as placing a protective sheet, to prevent the floor or poles from becoming dirty.

Any performance requiring additional time before or after the routine for preparation, cleaning, or removal of props/equipment must be discussed with the competition organizers in advance.

Preparation before the performance and cleaning/removal after the performance must each be completed within 40 seconds.

Anything requiring more time is not permitted.

2. Unregistered Performers or Assistants

Bringing any performer or assistant onto the stage without prior approval is prohibited.

All additional performers or assistants must be declared to and approved by the competition organizers in advance.

3. Human Props

There is no limit to the number of human props; however, they must not touch the poles.

4. Grip Products

The use of excessively sticky grip products that leave heavy residue or stains on the poles and interfere with cleaning is prohibited.

If such a product is necessary due to a skin condition or other circumstances, please consult the competition organizers in advance.

5. Toplessness / Nipple Covers

Toplessness and the use of nipple covers/pasties are prohibited.

Thongs are permitted.

6. Exposure of Intimate Areas

Exposure of the genitals or other intimate areas is prohibited, including accidental exposure.

7. Disrespectful Content

Performances containing content that is disrespectful toward any religion or race are prohibited.

8. DREAM CUP – SPECIAL RULE

Dream Cup competitors must place emphasis on the originality of their performance and their own self-expression.

The choreography and staging must be an original work created by the competitor. Fully entrusting the choreography or staging to a third party is prohibited.

Partial advice or instruction from a third party is permitted. However, if the organizers determine that the work was primarily created by a third party, the competitor will be disqualified.

PROHIBITED ACTIONS / PROHIBITED MOVES

A competitor will be disqualified if any of the following occurs:

- Performing any move prohibited under the competition rules.
- Any action deemed dangerous or inappropriate by the organizers.

DEDUCTIONS

The following deductions will apply if they occur during the performance:

- Slip: –1 point
- Fall: –5 points

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(3) FINALS JUDGING CRITERIA & STAGE SPECIFICATIONS

Please refer to the Competition Judging Criteria page on the official IPA website for details regarding the judging criteria and stage specifications for the Finals.

