

# Order of the Arrow

## American Indian Activities Guidelines

### WOMEN'S FANCY SHAWL DANCE

#### MAXIMUM SCORE 80 POINTS

Scale: 0 = Missing or inappropriate; 1-3 = Acceptable; 4-6 = Good; 7-9 = Excellent; 10 = Superior

Item 1: **SHAWL** (10) \_\_\_\_\_

The Fancy Dance Shawl is the major component of this dance style. Typically the shawl is made from a brightly colored, lightweight moveable fabric and decorated in fabric applique of appropriate design. Superior: Appropriate length, not only over the shoulders from fingertip to fingertip, but also the length from neck to bottom hem (mid-thigh). Decorated with fabric applique. Trimmed on three sides with 3/8" to 1/2" satin ribbon fringe of appropriate length (usually ankle length or an inch off the ground). Acceptable: No decoration, chainette fringe, flat fringe, or fringe too short. Unacceptable: Shawl too short, inappropriate design, no fringe, made from inappropriate fabric such as wool, velvet or other fabric which limits the movement of the shawl.

Item 2: **HEAD** Feather Plumes, Barrett, Hair Ties. (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Imitation eagle feather plume(s). Typically a beaded hair barrette secures the feather at the center back of the head. Beaded, quilled, parfleche, and/or shell hair ties, all coordinated in color and style. A head band (optional). Braided hair. Short hair. Acceptable: Items in place, mismatched or not necessarily coordinated. Fluffs instead of plumes. Undecorated hair ties. Braided hair. Short hair. Inappropriate: Missing items.

Item 3: **BODY** Dress or Skirt and Blouse (10) \_\_\_\_\_

*Appropriate shorts or tights **MUST** be worn underneath.*

Superior: Dress or skirt and blouse fit nicely, are the proper length, and made from colorful, fabric. Proper use of kick-pleats, ruffle or flair on dress or skirt. Fabric applique and/or ribbon decorations on dress or skirt. Acceptable: Undecorated dress or skirt. Inappropriate: Midriff skin showing. See-through bodice or skirt. Hem too short on either dress or skirt. Dress or skirt too narrow as to not allow leg movement. Improper fit or improper use of fabric. No shorts or tights.

Item 4: **BODY** - Cape, or Vest with Cape, Belt. (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Beaded or fabric applique cape (front and back), or front-fitted vest with beaded or fabric applique cape attached to the back of the vest at shoulder seams. Beaded or coordinated belt (leather, tack or concho belt acceptable). Acceptable: Undecorated cape, cloth neck scarf and slide worn like a neckerchief instead of cape. Medallion necklace instead of cape. Belt.

Inappropriate: Cape too short in front or back. No cape, neckerchief or medallion. Scout or inappropriate neckerchief used instead of cloth neck scarf. No belt.

Item 5: **LEGS AND FEET** Leggings and Moccasins, or Northern Style Boots. (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Fully or partially beaded leggings and moccasins. Northern style boots with beaded decoration (aka "high top" moccasins, or "Crow" boots). Full fabric applique leggings. Acceptable: Partial fabric applique leggings. Undecorated leggings, and moccasins. Undecorated Northern style boots. Commercial hide boots.

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Inappropriate: No leggings, moccasins, or boots. The use of tennis shoes or other inappropriate footwear in place of moccasins.

Item 6: **ACCESSORIES** Choker, Jewelry (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Beaded choker with a beaded medallion (or decorative drop), beaded barrettes, earrings, rings, and/or bracelets coordinated in style and color to compliment the dance clothes.

Appropriate: Accessories are present but not coordinated in color or design.

Inappropriate: No accessories.

Item 7: **OVERALL** (20) \_\_\_\_\_

Scale 16-20 Superior; 11-15 - Excellent;

6-10 - Solid basic dance clothes, lacking some items; 1-5 Good start, room for improvement

Does the set look complete? Are the clothes coordinated in color and design? Do they have the right "look"? Are they consistent with current styles.

**Final Score (Maximum 80)** \_\_\_\_\_

### Ribbon Scale

Gold 64-80

Blue 44-63

Red 22-43

White 1-22

### A note about DANCE CLOTHES:

The most important thing about a set of modern **Women's Fancy Shawl** dance clothes is the overall look. Dance clothes are meant to be danced in, not to be judged in a still position. The components of your dance clothes should move well when you dance and work to enhance your dancing style. For this reason, materials, size, shape, and placement of the individual dance clothes components listed above must be in order. When specific materials are called for - such as beadwork - an adequate substitution of cloth, fabric applique, sequins, painted material can be used. However, proper colors, designs, and proportions must be in place for the article to get maximum points and for your dance clothes to have maximum visual impact.

This outline is not just a "scoring sheet"; it is a resource for you to constantly improve your dance clothes to be the best they can be. When you look at the individual scores of the various headings as well as the overall score, think of what you can do to improve each item, even if just by just a couple of points. Our goal as the NOAC Women's Fancy Shawl staff is to help you to elevate your dance clothes to a higher level. By continually improving your dance clothes, your presentation on the dance floor will improve as well.

### A note to DANCERS:

This outline is designed to summarize what a Women's Fancy Shawl dancer would wear at a contemporary powwow. It represents the norm as defined by modern dancers in the Northern Plains and across the country.

Be aware that although a printed or recorded work may have been relevant at the time of its making, Women's Fancy Shawl is an ever-changing dance style and these works can sometimes become outdated within a short period of time. If possible, attend powwows and notice the subtle trends being added to Women's Fancy Shawl dance clothes of today. If you live in an area where it is difficult to attend powwows, you can use resources such as:

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[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), [www.gatheringofnations.com](http://www.gatheringofnations.com), [www.powwows.com](http://www.powwows.com), or [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com)

to view photos and video footage of powwow dancers. Please be respectful of other's dance clothes. Model your dance clothes after contemporary dancers, but do not copy a specific set of clothes verbatim.

While Women's Fancy Shawl dance clothes of the past have their place in history, some of the components may not appropriate for contemporary dance styles. Stay current and up-to-date on your dance clothes' style.

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## American Indian Activities Guidelines

### WOMEN'S JINGLE DRESS

#### MAXIMUM SCORE 60 POINTS

Scale: 0 = Missing or inappropriate; 1-3 = Acceptable; 4-6 = Good; 7-9 = Excellent; 10 = Superior

Item 1: **HEAD** – Feather Plumes, Center Tail Feather, Barrette, Hair Ties. (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Imitation eagle feather plume(s) or center tail feather. Typically a beaded hair barrette secures the plumes/feather at the center back of the head. Beaded, quilled, parfleche, and/or shell hair ties, all coordinated in color and style. A headband (optional). Braided hair. Short hair.

Acceptable: Items in place, mismatched or not necessarily coordinated. Fluffs instead of plumes.

Undecorated hair ties. Braided hair. Short hair.

Inappropriate: Missing items

Item 2: **BODY** Dress or Dress with over skirt, belt, Optional vest (10) \_\_\_\_\_

*Appropriate shorts or tights **MUST** be worn underneath a one piece dress.*

Superior: Dress or dress with over skirt fit nicely, are the proper length, and made from colorful, fabric. Proper use of ruffle or flair on dress or skirt. Fabric applique and/or ribbon decorations on dress and over skirt. Optional decorated bolero (short) vest worn over dress. Jingles placed appropriately. Belt coordinated with outfit (leather, tack or concho belt acceptable).

Acceptable: Undecorated dress or skirt. Jingles quantity less than desired but placed appropriately. Plain belt.

Inappropriate: Hem too short on either dress or over skirt. Improper fit or improper use of fabric. Lack of jingles. No belt. No shorts or tights under a one-piece dress.

Item 3: **LEGS AND FEET** Leggings, Moccasins or Northern Style Boots. (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Fully or partially beaded leggings and moccasins. Northern style boots with beaded decoration (aka "high top" moccasins, or "Crow" boots). Full fabric applique leggings.

Acceptable: Partial fabric applique leggings. Undecorated leggings and moccasins. Undecorated Northern style boots. Commercial hide boots.

Inappropriate: No leggings, moccasins, or boots. The use of tennis shoes or other inappropriate footwear in place of moccasins.

Item 4: **ACCESSORIES** Choker, Jewelry (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Beaded choker with a beaded medallion (decorative drop), beaded barrettes, earrings, rings, and/or bracelets coordinated in style and color to compliment the dance clothes. Beaded purse and/or bandolier bag. Big imitation eagle feather fan.

Appropriate: Accessories are present but not coordinated in color or design. Undecorated bag/purse or no purse. Fan of alternative legal feathers.

Inappropriate: Accessories missing

Item 5: **OVERALL** (20) \_\_\_\_\_

Scale 16-20 Superior; 11-15 - Excellent;

6-10 - Solid basic dance clothes, lacking some items; 1-5 Good start, room for improvement.

Does the set look complete? Are the clothes coordinated in color and design? Do they have the right "look"? Are they consistent with current styles?

**Final Score (Maximum 60) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Ribbon Scale**

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Gold 48-60

Blue 33-49

Red 17-32

White 1-16

### **A note about DANCE CLOTHES:**

The most important thing about a set of modern **Women's Jingle Dress** dance clothes is the overall look. Dance clothes are meant to be danced in, not to be judged in a still position. The components of your dance clothes should move well when you dance and work to enhance your dancing style. For this reason, materials, size, shape, and placement of the individual dance clothes components listed above must be in order. When specific materials are called for - such as beadwork - an adequate substitution of cloth, fabric applique, sequins, painted material can be used. However, proper colors, designs, and proportions must be in place for the article to get maximum points and for your dance clothes to have maximum visual impact.

This outline is not just a "scoring sheet"; it is a resource for you to constantly improve your dance clothes to be the best they can be. When you look at the individual scores of the various headings as well as the overall score, think of what you can do to improve each item, even if just by just a couple of points. Our goal as the NOAC Women's Jingle Dress staff is to help you to elevate your dance clothes to a higher level. By continually improving your dance clothes, your presentation on the dance floor will improve as well.

### **A note to DANCERS:**

This outline is designed to summarize what a Women's Jingle Dress dancer would wear at a contemporary powwow. It represents the norm as defined by modern dancers in the Northern Plains and across the country.

Be aware that although a printed or recorded work may have been relevant at the time of its making, Women's Jingle Dress is an ever-changing dance style and these works can sometimes become outdated within a short period of time. If possible, attend powwows and notice the subtle trends being added to Women's Jingle Dress clothes of today. If you live in an area where it is difficult to attend powwows, you can use resources such as

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to view photos and video footage of powwow dancers. Please be respectful of other's dance clothes. Model your dance clothes after contemporary dancers, but do not copy a specific set of clothes verbatim.

While Women's Jingle Dress dance clothes of the past have their place in history, some of the components may not appropriate for contemporary dance styles. Stay current and up-to-date on your dance clothes' style.

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### NORTHERN WOMEN'S TRADITIONAL

#### MAXIMUM SCORE: 60 POINTS

Scale: 0 = Missing or inappropriate; 1-3 = Acceptable; 4-6 = Good; 7-9 = Excellent;

10 = Superior

Item 1: **HEAD** – Plumes and Feathers, Barrett, Hair Ties. (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Imitation eagle feather plume or center tail feather. Typically a beaded hair barrette secures the plumes/feather at the center back of the head. Beaded, quilled, parfleche and/or shell hair ties, all coordinated in color and style. Quilled wheel, small beaded medallion/barrett or conch/abalone shell disc with imitation eagle plume attached (in addition to the center feather) worn at the top side of the head. French braided hair. Short hair.

Acceptable: Items in place but mismatched or not necessarily coordinated. Fluffs instead of plumes. No additional feather. Undecorated hair ties. Braided hair. Short hair.

Inappropriate: Missing items

Item 2: **BODY**- Dress, Dress with Cape, Buckskin (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Dress or dress with cape fit nicely, are the proper length, made in the correct style and made from correct type of fabric. Suggestions - wool, broadcloth, velveteen, subtle plaids or subtle prints. Cowrie shell, elk's teeth, dentalium shell, ribbon trim, or fabric applique decorations on dress bodice or cape. Optional gusset (tribe specific: usually Lakota, Plateau) inserted with gusset hem dropped 3-5 inches below the dress hem.

Buckskin fits nicely, is the proper length and style, and made with the correct color hide (off- white, cream, brain tanned, smoked). Decorated with appropriate beadwork (including pattern and placement), cowrie shell, dentalium shell, or elk's teeth. Additional coordinating decoration on lower portion of dress or buckskin.

Bead and hairpipe breastplate (Northern style - front only, past the waist in length). Tack belt, parfleche belt, beaded belt, concho belt (Belt dragger drop optional.)

Acceptable: Undecorated dress or cape. No cape. No gusset inserted (if needed to be tribe specific).

Ribbon trim on dress and/or cape. Plain leather belt. No Belt dragger.

Inappropriate: Hem too short on dress or buckskin. Improper fit or improper use of fabric (bright prints). Wrong color buckskin (non-natural colors ie: red, black, purple, green etc.) No belt. No breastplate.

Item 3: **LEGS AND FEET** Leggings and Moccasins or Northern Style Boots. (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Fully beaded leggings and moccasins. Partially beaded leggings or moccasins, or fabric applique leggings and moccasins. Northern style boots with beaded decoration (aka "high top" moccasins, or "Crow" boots). Full fabric applique leggings.

Acceptable: Partial fabric applique leggings. Undecorated leggings and moccasins. Undecorated Northern style boots. Commercial hide boots.

Inappropriate: No leggings, moccasins, or boots. The use of tennis shoes or other inappropriate footwear in place of moccasins.

Item 4: **ACCESSORIES** Choker, Jewelry (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Choker with a decorative drop, barretts, earrings, rings, and/or bracelets coordinated in style

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and color to compliment the dance clothes. Accessory materials may be made of silverwork, bone, shell, horse hair, painted rawhide. Beaded flat purse. Big imitation eagle feather fan. Decorated arm shawl. Appropriate: Accessories are present but not coordinated in color or design. Plain flat purse or no purse. Smaller fan of alternative legal feathers. Undecorated arm shawl. Inappropriate: Accessories missing. No shawl.

Item 5: **OVERALL**

(20) \_\_\_\_\_

Scale 16-20 Superior 11-15 - Excellent.

6-10 - Solid basic dance clothes, lacking some items 1-5 Good start, room for improvement

Does the set look complete? Are the clothes coordinated in color and design? Do they have the right "look"? Are they consistent with current styles.

**Final Score (Maximum 60) \_\_\_\_\_**

### **Ribbon Scale**

**Gold 48-60**

**Blue 33-49**

**Red 17-32**

**White 1-16**

### **A note about DANCE CLOTHES:**

The most important thing about a set of modern **Northern Women's Traditional** dance clothes is the overall look. Dance clothes are meant to be danced in, not to be judged in a still position. The components of your dance clothes should move well when you dance and work to enhance your dancing style. For this reason, materials, size, shape, and placement of the individual dance clothes components listed above must be in order. When specific materials are called for - such as beadwork - an adequate substitution of cloth, fabric applique, sequins, painted material can be used. However, proper colors, designs, and proportions must be in place for the article to get maximum points and for your dance clothes to have maximum visual impact.

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### **A note to DANCERS:**

This outline is designed to summarize what a Northern Women's Traditional dancer would wear at a contemporary powwow. It represents the norm as defined by modern dancers in the Northern Plains and across the country.

Be aware that although a printed or recorded work may have been relevant at the time of its making, Northern Women's Traditional is an ever-changing dance style and these works can sometimes become outdated within a short period of time. If possible, attend powwows and notice the subtle trends being added to Northern Women's Traditional dance clothes of today. If you live in an area where it is difficult to attend powwows, you can use resources such as:

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to view photos and video footage of powwow dancers. Please be respectful of other's dance clothes. Model your dance clothes after contemporary dancers, but do not copy a specific set of clothes verbatim.

While Northern Women's Traditional dance clothes of the past have their place in history, some of the components may not appropriate for contemporary dance styles. Stay current and up-to-date on your dance clothes' style.



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## American Indian Activities Guidelines

### SOUTHERN WOMEN'S TRADITIONAL - PLAINS OR LAKES

#### MAXIMUM SCORE 60 POINTS

Scale: 0 = Missing or inappropriate; 1-3 = Acceptable; 4-6 = Good; 7-9 = Excellent; 10 = Superior

Item 1: **HEAD** Feather Plumes, Barrett, Hair Ties, Crown (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Imitation eagle feather plume(s). Typically a beaded hair barrette or beaded crown secures the plumes at the center back of the head. Beaded, shell or decorative hair ties, all coordinated in color and style. French braided hair. Short hair.

Acceptable: Items in place but mismatched or not necessarily coordinated. Fluffs instead of plumes.

Undecorated hair ties. Braided hair. Short hair. No beaded crown.

Inappropriate: Missing items.

Item 2: **Body** Dress - Choose one of the following three (A,B,or C) (10) \_\_\_\_\_

A. Dress with Wrap Apron (Typically Kiowa or Comanche)

Superior: Dress with wrap apron fits nicely, are the proper length, made in the correct style, and made from the correct type of fabric such as dressy fabrics and/or bright, print on print, or brocade-like fabrics. Fringe on apron is the correct length and spaced correctly (no fringe may be indicative of a specific tribe and therefor OK). Gusset inserted with hem dropped 3-5 inches below the dress hem (if tribe specific). Bead and hairpipe breastplate (southern style front and back). Tack, beaded, or concho belt. Belt dragger.

Acceptable: Plain, simple fabric. No gusset inserted. Plain leather belt, no belt dragger. Medallion or scarf worn like a neckerchief instead of breastplate. No fringe on wrap apron unless tribe specific.

Inappropriate: Hem too short on dress or apron wrap. Improper fit or improper use of fabric. No medallion or breastplate. Scout neckerchief. No belt.

**-or-**

B. Ribbon Work Skirt and Blouse (Southern, Central Plains, or Lakes) (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Skirt and blouse fit nicely, are the proper length, made in the correct style and made from the correct type of fabric - Broadcloth, wool, wool gabardine, for the skirt (may be brightly colored); dressy fabrics and/or bright, print on print, lined lace, or brocade-like fabrics for the blouse. Skirt has ribbon work, machine embroidery, fabric applique, or ribbon decorations. Appropriate blouse may or may not be decorated like a "ribbon shirt" depending on the tribe. Cloth, ribbon, or beaded trailer. Bead and hairpipe necklaces. Finger woven sash worn correctly under the blouse and over the skirt.

Acceptable: Fabric skirt which displays the correct use. Ribbon decoration on skirt. Plain blouse.

Medallion or scarf worn like a neckerchief instead of necklaces. Ribbon trailer. No sash.

Inappropriate: Hem too short on skirt. Improper fit or improper use or see-through fabric on blouse. No medallion, necklaces, or breastplate. Scout neckerchief. No trailer.

**-or-**

C. Cloth Dress/Buckskin (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Dress fits nicely and is the proper length, made in the correct style, and made from the correct type of fabric; Suggestions - Broadcloth, wool, wool gabardine (all may be brightly colored). Dress bodice, sleeves, and lower portion have machine embroidery, appropriate beadwork (Including pattern and placement), fabric applique, cowrie shell, or elk's teeth decoration.

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Buckskin fits nicely, is the proper length and style, and made with the correct color hide (off- white, cream, brain tanned, smoked). Decorated with appropriate beadwork (including pattern and placement), cowrie shell, or elk's teeth. Cloth, ribbon or beaded trailer. Bead and hairpipe breastplate (southern style front and back). Tack, concho, or beaded belt with belt dragger.

Acceptable: Dress which displays the correct fabric use with simple decorations. Medallion or scarf worn like a neckerchief instead of breastplate. Ribbon trailer. Belt. No belt dragger.

Inappropriate: Hem too short. Improper fit or improper use of fabric. Wrong color buckskin (non natural colors ie: red, black, purple, green etc.) No medallion or breastplate. No belt. Scout neckerchief. No trailer.

Item 3: **LEGS AND FEET** Leggings and Moccasins or Boots. (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Southern style boots with beaded decoration. Fully beaded leggings and moccasins. Partially beaded moccasins if appropriate; hose/tights are optional.

Acceptable: Undecorated Southern style boots. Undecorated leggings and moccasins. Undecorated moccasins. Commercial hide boots.

Inappropriate: The use of tennis shoes or other inappropriate footwear in place of moccasins.

Item 4: **ACCESSORIES** Choker, Jewelry (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Superior: Beaded crown, choker with a beaded medallion (decorative drop), beaded barrettes, beaded earrings, rings, and/or bracelets coordinated in style and color to compliment the dance clothes. Beaded flat purse or drop bag (if tribe specific). Big imitation eagle feather fan. Decorated arm shawl.

Appropriate: Accessories are present but not coordinated in color or design. Plain flat purse, drop bag or no purse/bag. Smaller fan of alternative legal feathers. Undecorated arm shawl.

Inappropriate: Accessories missing. No shawl.

Item 5: **OVERALL** (20) \_\_\_\_\_

Scale 16-20 Superior 11-15 - Excellent.

6-10 - Solid basic dance clothes, lacking some items 1-5 Good start, room for improvement

Does the set look complete? Are the clothes coordinated in color and design? Do they have the right "look"? Are they consistent with current styles?

**Final Score (Maximum 60) \_\_\_\_\_**

### **Ribbon Scale**

Gold 48-60

Blue 33-49

Red 17-32

White 1-16

### **A note about DANCE CLOTHES:**

The most important thing about a set of modern Southern Women's Traditional - Plains or Lakes dance clothes is the overall look. Dance clothes are meant to be danced in, not to be judged in a still position.

The components of your dance clothes should move well when you dance and work to enhance your dancing style. For this reason, materials, size, shape, and placement of the individual dance clothes components listed above must be in order. When specific materials are called for - such as beadwork - an adequate substitution of cloth, fabric applique, sequins, painted material can be used. However,

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### **A note to DANCERS:**

This outline is designed to summarize what a Southern Women's Traditional -Plains or Lakes dancer would wear at a contemporary powwow. It represents the norm as defined by modern dancers in the Southern Plains or Lakes areas across the country.

Be aware that although a printed or recorded work may have been relevant at the time of its making, Southern Women's Traditional - Plains or Lakes are ever-changing dance styles and these works can sometimes become outdated within a short period of time. If possible, attend powwows and notice the subtle trends being added to Southern Women's Traditional -Plains or Lakes dance clothes of today. If you live in an area where it is difficult to attend powwows, you can use resources such as:

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