

International Fireknife Competition - SIVA AFI TAHITI 2025

Internal Regulations Category "International Intermediate Solo"

Open to Polynesian and International Competitors

Friday, November 28 and Saturday, November 29, 2025

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PACIFIC EVENT WORLD, under the direction of Tumata VAIRAAROA, is proud to present SIVA AFI TAHITI, the first international fire dance competition organized in French Polynesia. This unique event is dedicated to promoting and developing this spectacular art form, a true cultural heritage of the Pacific.

The year 2025 marks a historic milestone with the launch of the **2nd edition of the International Fire Knife Competition – SIVA AFI TAHITI**, a world-class event that now places Polynesia at the heart of the international fire arts circuit.

This fire knife dance competition, open to all from age 5, will be held on Friday, **November 28 and Saturday, November 29, 2025 at LE TAHITI by Pearl Resorts.**

The International Fire Knife Competition – Siva Afi Tahiti 2025 is open to all, regardless of nationality, provided they meet the selection criteria.

1. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES :

Eligibility : Competition categories are divided according to age. Each category has its own specific rules and requirements:

Category "International Intermediate Solo" (12 to 17 years)

1. Participation conditions

- Must be between 12 and 17 years old at the date of the competition.
- Must accept the entire official competition regulations.

2. Supervision and safety

- Each participant must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or designated representative throughout the entire duration of the event.
- The knives used must comply with standards established by the organization (dimensions, weight, protection, fire device safety).
- A mandatory safety briefing will be conducted by the organization before the start of the trials.

3. Performance procedure

- The performance must last between 3 and 5 minutes, including both execution with one knife and execution with two knives.
- The choreography must be performed solo (without direct interaction with other competitors).
- Candidates must respect the performance order communicated by the organization.
- Any performance must be executed in compliance with safety instructions and within the designated scenic space.

4. Behavior and respect

- Participants and their companions must maintain respectful behavior towards other candidates, judges, musicians, and organizers.
- Any breach of regulations or dangerous behavior will result in immediate disqualification.

5. Commitment

- Registration implies acceptance of the regulations and jury decisions, which are final.
- Parents or legal guardians commit to assuming responsibility for the participant throughout the entire competition.

This year, boys and girls of all nationalities compete together, without distinction of sex or gender.

6. Exceptional derogation: Age category change :

An exceptional derogation may be granted, upon request to the organizer, to allow a category change. However, younger competitors who choose to participate in a higher age category cannot return to their initial category the following year, even if they still meet the corresponding age criteria. In case of podium placement, they will exclusively benefit from prizes, financial awards, or other rewards attributed in the category in which they registered.

Registration fees : International Intermediate Solo Category: 5,000 CFP

Registration Deadline : Online Registration: All participants must register via the official SIVA AFI TAHITI website before **Friday, October 31, 2025 at 00:00.**

Registration and competition access : On the day of the competition, competitors must present themselves at the registration office, located at LE TAHITI by Pearl Resorts hotel, to collect their participation number and receive their event pass, before joining their assigned dressing rooms. Individual summons schedules will be communicated by email.

Backstage access : Access to backstage is strictly reserved for competitors and their companion. Any other person must obtain prior authorization from the organizer, at least 48 hours before the start of the event. In case of agreement, an official access PASS will be issued.

2. CANDIDATE PERFORMANCE :

Category "International Intermediate Solo" (12 to 17 years) : This category is open to Polynesian and international participants. To be validated, it must gather a minimum of three (3) registered competitors.

- **Authorized:** Fire knife only. Each competitor has the possibility to perform with one fire knife, then continue, or not, with a two-knife performance.
- **Bonus:** the use of real fire knives during the performance is encouraged and constitutes an advantage in case of tie in total points. However, if the competitor does not execute a sequence with two knives, the corresponding points will not be awarded.

Performance duration : Each performance must last between 3 and 5 minutes.

Time is measured from the first signal (whistle, throw, or windmill). The performance begins with the first throw and includes the entire performance. The total duration, including both sequences (single knife and double knife), as well as pauses and transitions, must under no circumstances exceed 5 minutes.

The performance ends when the dancer extinguishes his knife, or his final pause, this gesture officially marking the closure of the first part of his performance.

Attention: The competitor will be warned once one minute before the end of regulation time, then a second time thirty seconds before its expiration. The organization reserves the right to interrupt the performance if the allotted time is exceeded.

All competitors must dance to the event's percussion orchestra provided.

3. FIRE KNIVES: :

1. Number and types of knives required :

Each competitor must possess one to three dance knives to participate in the competition. This includes a single knife, and two "double" knives, as well as additional knives in case of breakage. It is essential to have this replacement equipment to ensure performance continuity in case of incident.

2. Knife materials :

All knives must be made of hard metal with a wooden handle. Alternatively, the handle can be metal or wood, but the use of hard metal is mandatory to prevent potential accidents and ensure the safety of all participants.

3. Knife, blade, and isorel dimensions:

No length criteria are imposed for sticks and knives.

- **Hook design:** Knives must be equipped with hooks large enough to hook onto each other. Hooks must also be able to release in all directions when connected.
- **Knife weight:** The choice of knife weight is left to the discretion of each warrior.
- **Prohibition of sharing knives:** Competitors are not authorized to borrow another warrior's knife during the competition. Any violation of this rule may result in disqualification of both competitors concerned.
- **Knife conformity:** Any knife not meeting specified standards may result in point penalty or participant disqualification by judges.
- **Preparation in case of fire incident:** Each warrior must have a damp towel (but not soaked with water) to extinguish fire in case of emergency.

Special Effects Regulations :

Warriors are not authorized to use special effects without having previously consulted and obtained approval from the event organizer.

4. COSTUMES :

- **Polynesian printed lava-lava:** All competitors must obligatorily wear a lava-lava printed with Polynesian motifs. This garment must be appropriately adjusted and modestly cut, reflecting respect for traditions and cultural values. Costumes that are suggestive, too short, or too small will not be authorized. Final costume approval will be made by the jury president, or by the event organizer.
- **Polynesian necklace:** Warriors must wear a necklace made from authentically Polynesian materials, such as shells, leaves, pearls, or any other traditional element. The use of foreign materials is strictly forbidden.
- **Facial war paint:** The application of facial war paint is mandatory for all competitors.
- **Pale (head crown):** A "pale," or head crown, must be worn obligatorily by each competitor. This crown, made of leaves, flowers, shells, or other Polynesian natural materials, is a mandatory element of the costume.

5. REQUIRED BASIC MOVEMENT CRITERIA :

Competitors are required to perform all the basic movements below obligatorily in their Performanc:

- Must perform a "viii tasi" (turn with one hand).
- Must perform a "vili lua" (turn with two hands).
- Must turn with right and left hand
- Must throw in the air with 2.5 rotations and catch behind the back (height).
- Must perform movements under the legs.
- Must perform movements around the neck.
- Must include kicks, body movements, head and upper body movements (to express strength and energy, representing a warrior in combat).
- Polished entrances and exits
- Stage mastery.

6. JUDGES' SCORING CRITERIA :

1. Above mandatory planned movements. Any failure or omission will result in point penalty
2. The height of throws (double the competitor's height or more);
3. The difficulty of movements (without knives falling);
4. The speed of rotations and movements;
5. The energy of movements (representing a fighting competitor);
6. The fluidity in movement sequences;
7. 3 points will be deducted per drop (All categories).

7. REGULATION ADHERENCE:

Competitor behavior and sportsmanship:

- Consumption of alcohol or drugs is totally forbidden for all competitors and companions, from beginning until the end of prize ceremony. Smoking/vaping is limited to designated areas.
- Competitors are required to maintain behavior consistent with sportsmanship throughout the competition as well as at the announcement of results.

Judging Criteria and Sportsmanship :

- In case of tie between two or more warriors within a division, the Head Judge's scores will be used to break the tie.

8. REGULATION VALIDATION :

By validating my registration for the fire knife dance event, I confirm having read and understood the rules and regulations. I commit to respecting organizers' directives and am aware of associated risks. I understand that corrective measures may be applied in case of rule non-compliance, and I release organizers from any liability in case of damages.

Liability in Case of Loss or Damages : I waive any organizer liability regarding loss or damage to my personal property or that of my child, as well as any injury or incident affecting my child during the event.

Liability in Case of Caused Damages : I commit to assuming full responsibility for any bodily or material damage caused by myself or my child to event personnel or host facilities.

Authorization for Media Use : I authorize the organizer as well as its sponsors to use and broadcast, free of charge, all photos or videos of myself or my child taken during the event, for promotional purposes.

Insurance and Certification : I certify that I have adequate insurance covering risks related to fire dance practice and that this insurance is valid for the duration of the event.

Compliance with Safety Standards : I commit to respecting all safety standards in force for fire knife dance, including required equipment, protection measures, and emergency procedures.

Commitment to Ethical Compliance : I commit to following ethical conduct rules and maintaining respectful behavior towards other participants, organizers, and the public during the event.

Commitment to Schedule Observance : I commit to respecting schedules defined for rehearsals, performances, and all other activities related to the event, as well as informing organizers in case of change or delay.

Consent to Verification : I consent to verification of my identity and qualifications by organizers, as well as compliance of my equipment with safety standards established for the event.

I declare having taken note of the competition regulations developed by the organizer and accept the terms without reservation at the time of my registration.

Furthermore, I certify that my child (if applicable) is medically fit to participate in fire dance and presents no contraindication to this practice.

