

International Fireknife Competition SIVA AFI TAHITI - 2024
"SOLO" Internal Regulations

Open to Polynesian and international competitors.

Saturday, November 30, 2024

At the InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa

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PACIFIC EVENT WORLD, under the direction of Tumata Vairaroa, is proud to present **SIVA AFI TAHITI**, an organization dedicated to promoting and developing fire dance in Polynesia. We also support fire dancers who wish to represent French Polynesia on the international stage. This year marks a major milestone with the launch of the inaugural **International Fire Knife Competition SIVA AFI TAHITI 2024**.

This fire knife dance competition, open to everyone from the age of 5, will be held on Saturday, **November 30, 2024**, in the beautiful gardens of the **InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa**. Participants wishing to compete in **SIVA AFI TAHITI 2024** must strictly adhere to the event's rules and regulations.

The International Fire Knife Championship - Siva Afi Tahiti 2024 is open to all, regardless of nationality, provided that participants meet the selection criteria.

1. REGISTRATION DETAILS :

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

Category open to Polynesian and international participants :

- Junior Category (5 to 11 years)
- Hope Category (12 to 17 years)
- Senior International Category (18 years and older)
 - Prize: International Champion SIVA AFI TAHITI 2024

Category open to Polynesian participants ONLY :

- Senior Category (18 years and older)
- Prize: French Polynesian Champion.

A Polynesian contestant may register in both the "French Polynesian Champion" category and the "International Champion SIVA AFI TAHITI" category, provided they have previously won a title on the podium at competitions in Tahiti or internationally, with no restrictions on the year or nationality.

Competition Categories : This year, men and women will compete together within the defined categories, without distinction of sex and gender.

Age Category Change : Contestants who opt for an older age category cannot return to their original age category the following year, even if they still meet the age criteria for it. However, an exceptional waiver may be granted upon request to the organizer, allowing a category change or possible participation in the International category.

Registration Fees :

- Junior Category: 2,000 XPF
- Hope Category: 3,500 XPF
- Senior Polynesian only: 5,000 XPF
- International Category: 5,000 XPF

Registration Deadline :

- Online Registration: All participants must register via the official SIVA AFI TAHITI website by October 31, 2024, at 00:00.

Regulation Forms: Forms must be signed by adult competitors or, for minors, by a legal guardian on the day of the draw for their performance number.

Mandatory Information Meeting :

- All competitors must attend the orientation meeting, where they will be informed via email. This meeting will include a reminder of the internal regulations, safety rules, and the event schedule.

Competition Registration and Access :

- On the day of the event, competitors must present themselves at the registration desk located at the entrance of Motu Nui of the Intercontinental to collect their numbers and event passes before going to their assigned dressing rooms. All appointment times for each competitor will be sent by email.

Backstage Access :

- Only competitors are allowed backstage. No other persons, including family or companions, are permitted backstage unless with prior authorization from the organizer, in which case an official access PASS will be issued.

2. CANDIDATE PERFORMANCE :

Junior Category (5 to 11 years) :

Category open to Polynesian and international participants.

- **Use of Fire Sticks and Fire Knives:** Only fire sticks and fire knives are allowed in this category.
- **Bonus for Using Fire Knives:** Using real fire knives during the performance is encouraged and will earn candidates additional points.
- **Performance Duration:** Each performance must last between 3 and 4 minutes.
- **Performance Requirements with Sticks:** All participants must perform two distinct types of performances: first with a fire stick or fire knife, and then with two fire sticks or two fire knives.
- **Minimum Number of Participants Required:** The category will be activated if there are at least 3 registered participants.

Hope Category (12 to 17 years) :

Category open to Polynesian and international participants.

- **Mandatory Use of Fire Knives:** Participants in this category must include fire knives in their performance. Fire sticks are prohibited.
- **Performance Duration:** Each performance must last between 4 and 6 minutes.
- **Specific Performance Requirements:** All participants must present two types of performances: one using a fire knife and the other using two fire knives.
- **Minimum Number of Participants Required:** The category will be opened for competition if there are at least 3 participants.

Senior Category (18 years and older) - Polynesian Champion :

Category open to Polynesian participants ONLY.

- **Mandatory Use of Fire Knives:** Performances in this category must include the use of fire knives.
- **Performance Duration:** Each performance must last between 4 and 6 minutes.
- **Performance Requirements with Sticks:** All participants must perform two types of performances: one using a fire knife and the other using two fire knives.
- **Minimum Number of Participants Required:** The category will be open for competition if at least 3 participants register.

Senior Category (18 years and older) - International Champion SIVA AFI TAHITI 2024:

Category open to Polynesian and international participants.

- **Eligibility:** This category is open to amateur or professional foreign competitors and Polynesian competitors who have already won a title on the podium at competitions in Tahiti or internationally, regardless of the year or their country of origin.
- **Mandatory Use of Fire Knives:** Performances in this category must include the use of fire knives, ensuring a high level of skill and an impressive show.
- **Performance Duration:** Each performance must last between 4 and 6 minutes, allowing participants sufficient time to showcase their skills while maintaining the attention of the audience and judges.
- **Performance Requirements with Sticks:** Participants must perform two types of performances: one with a fire knife and the other with two fire knives, highlighting their ability and skill in managing different setups.
- **Minimum Number of Participants Required:** The competition will be open only if at least 3 participants register, ensuring an adequate and competitive level.
- **Risk Taking:** Participants who successfully handle three or more knives without any drops may be awarded additional points.

3. FIRE KNIVES :

- **Number and types of knives required:** Each competitor must have three dance knives to participate in the competition. This includes one single knife and two "double" knives, as well as additional knives in case of breakage. It is essential to have these spare equipment to ensure continuity of performance in case of an incident.
- **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.
- **Knife dimensions:** The length of the single knife must be at least 37 inches (93.98 cm). This measurement is taken from the tip of the hook to the end of the handle.
- **Hook design:** Knives must have hooks large enough to interlock with each other, according to competition criteria. The 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 allowed to borrow another warrior's knife during the competition. Any violation of this rule may result in the disqualification of both competitors involved.
- **Knife compliance:** Any knife not meeting the specified standards may result in a penalty of points or disqualification of the participant by the judges.
- **Preparation for fire incidents:** Each warrior must have a damp towel (but not soaked) to extinguish the fire in case of an emergency.

Special Effects Regulations :

Warriors are not allowed to use special effects without prior consultation and approval from the event organizer. Unauthorized special effects as well as assistance from another person will not be considered in the performance. Points will only be awarded from the moment the artist begins their performance, without considering external elements or additional aids.

4. COSTUMES :

- **Polynesian-printed lava-lava:** All competitors must wear a Polynesian-printed lava-lava. This garment must be properly fitted and cut modestly, reflecting respect for traditions and cultural values. Costumes that are suggestive, too short, or too small will not be allowed. Final costume approval will be made by the head judge or the event organizer.
- **Polynesian necklace:** Warriors must wear a necklace made from authentically Polynesian materials such as shells, leaves, pearls, or other traditional elements. The use of foreign materials is strictly prohibited.
- **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 by each competitor. This crown, made of leaves, flowers, shells, or other natural Polynesian materials, is a mandatory part of the costume.

5. REQUIRED BASIC MOVEMENT CRITERIA :

Competitors are required to perform all the following basic movements in their routine:

- Must perform a "viii tasi" (spin with one hand).
- Must perform a "vili lua" (spin with both hands).
- Must spin with both the right and left hands.
- 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 movements, and upper body movements (to express strength and energy, representing a warrior in battle).
- Neat entries and exits.
- Mastery of the stage.

6. JUDGES' SCORING CRITERIA :

- Required movements listed above. Any failure or omission will result in a penalty of points.
- Height of throws (double the competitor's height or more);
- Difficulty of movements (without the knives falling);
- Speed of rotations and movements;
- Energy of movements (representing a fighting competitor);
- Fluidity in the sequence of movements;
- 3 points will be deducted for each drop (all categories).

7. ADHERENCE TO REGULATIONS:

Competitor Behavior and Sportsmanship: Consumption of alcohol or drugs is strictly prohibited for all competitors and their supporters from the start to the end of the awards ceremony. Smoking/vaping is limited to designated areas. Competitors are required to maintain sportsmanship behavior throughout the competition and during the announcement of results.

Judging Criteria and Sportsmanship: In case of a tie between two or more competitors in a division, the scores from the Head Judge will be used to break the tie.

8. REGULATION VALIDATION :

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

Liability for Loss or Damage : I waive any responsibility of the organizer regarding loss or damage to my personal belongings or those of my child, as well as any injury or incident affecting my child during the event.

Liability for Damage Caused : I agree to take full responsibility for any bodily or material damage caused by myself or my child to event staff or host facilities.

Media Release : I authorize the organizer and its sponsors to use and broadcast, free of charge, any 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 and that this insurance is valid for the duration of the event.

Compliance with Safety Standards : I commit to adhering to all current safety standards for fire knife dancing, including required equipment, protective measures, and emergency procedures.

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

Commitment to Adherence to Schedules : I commit to respecting the schedules set for rehearsals, performances, and all other event-related activities, and to inform the organizers in case of any changes or delays.

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

I declare that I have read and accept the competition regulations developed by the organizer at the time of my registration.

Furthermore, I certify that my child (if applicable) is medically fit to participate in fire dancing and has no contraindications to this practice.

