



RULES AND GUIDELINES OF THE 'ORI TAHITI NUI 'ŌTE'A COMPETITION – 2026 AT TAHITI PEARL BEACH RESORT – ARUE – SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22nd 2026

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The 'ORI TAHITI NUI 'ŌTE'A COMPETITION – 2026 is open to groups of 5 male, female or mixed dancers, **16 years old or more**, to compete on Sunday November 22nd, 2026 starting from 8.30 AM.

O1 Two categories are open in the 'ŌTE'A competition to groups of 5 artists:

- **Session 5 - AMATEUR category** (for formations mainly composed of artists who have never been placed in a competition on a 'Ori Tahiti podium or who are not considered as being professionals).
- **Session 6 - PROFESSIONAL category.**

The organizer 'Ori Tahiti Nui reserves the right to put a group in a category or another based on its fame, or previous prizes won. The group will be informed by the organizers about any change in category as soon as possible.

O2 Registration procedures

O2.1 Registration for the competition must be made on November 1st, 2026 at the latest, either online ('[Ori Tahiti Nui Competitions](#)) or during the open days which will be held at the TAHITI PEARL BEACH RESORT hotel, the dates of which will be communicated on the [Facebook page](#) and the '[Ori Tahiti Nui Competitions website](#).

O2.2 The commitment form

The participation waiver form will be made available on the day of the competition and pre-filled with the participant's information (first name, last name, and date of birth). It must be reviewed and signed by each participant during registration to be able to enter the competition.

For minor participants, the form must also be signed by a parent or legal guardian.

O2.3 The registration fee is XPF 10,000 per group of 5 male, female or mixed dancers.

Payment shall be made during the registration days at the TAHITI PEARL BEACH RESORT hotel, the dates of which will be communicated on the [Facebook page](#) and the '[Ori Tahiti Nui Competitions website](#)

O3 Registration and access to the 'ŌTE'A competition: Sunday November 22nd at 7AM.

Schedules are subject to change depending on the number of registrations. Artists will be informed.

- **Session 5 – AMATEUR category :**
 - Registration from 7AM to 8AM.
 - **Competition starts at 8.30AM.**
- **Session 6 – PROFESSIONAL category :**
 - Registration from 10.30AM TO 11.30AM.
 - **Competition starts at NOON.**

O4 Competition protocol

The competition takes place if there is a minimum of 3 groups. If this number is not reached, there is no competition in the corresponding category. However, the groups registered (1 or 2) may participate and perform a demonstration show if timing allows it.

Only one passage is needed to decide the classification and ranking between the groups in each category.

The results of the 'ŌTE'A competition, and prize-winning awards will take place in the Endeavor ballroom.

Important: The winning group in the **'ŌTE'A professional category will present their performance** during the 'ORI TAHITI NUI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2026 Gala evening, which will be held at "Tahiti Pearl Beach Resort - Arue" **on Sunday November 22nd, 2026, starting at 6:30 PM.**

O5 The music of the competition

The groups choose a *pehe* and submit it to the organizing committee for approval **by November 1st 2026, at the latest** for editing needs concerning the soundtrack. A *pehe* that has already been selected by a group may not be used by another one.

The performance lasts between 3' minimum to 3'30 maximum.

O6 Competition outfits

The basis of the costume is a typical *more* (skirt made out of dry or fresh plant fibers), long or short or cut in the shape of a *maro*.

O6.1 Competition adornments

The adornments of the 'Ote'a competition are made from FRESH or DRY plants (foliage, drupes and flowers), FEATHERS, SHELLS, MOTHER-OF-PEARL... at the discretion of the groups.

Head ornaments (crown, tiara, head-piece, various bunches of flowers on points, ear to ear or partial band, round bun or ponytail) **and belts are mandatory.**

Neck adornment or scarf (*tahei*) matching the head ornament is encouraged. **The necklaces stop at the navel.**

Neck, ankles, wrists and arms ornaments matching the head adornment are allowed.

O6.2 The fall of any part of the costume will be penalized.

O7 The jury and assessment criteria

The jury consists of 4 to 6 'Ori Tahiti personalities with recognized expertise. Each jury member has one vote. In the event of a dispute, the President has a casting vote. The jury is sovereign, and its decisions are irrevocable. Jury members will assess groups' performances according to the following criteria:

Choreography, technical mastery, synchronization, stamina (energy and emotional transmission), artistic expression (beauty of the performance and costume).

O8 Competition penalties

'ORI TAHITI NUI 'OTE'A COMPETITION – 2026 competitors undertake to read and respect the Rules and Guidelines of the contest.

10 points will be removed from the final scores for each violation of the rules that will be noted by the jury.

O9 Bad sportsmanship

Any competitor displaying poor sportsmanship during the competition will be immediately disqualified.

Any competitor showing an attitude of poor sportsmanship at the announcement of the results will be disqualified for future 'ORI TAHITI NUI COMPETITION editions.