



RULES & GUIDELINES OF THE 'ORI TAHITI NUI SOLO COMPETITIONS – 2026

AT TAHITI PEARL BEACH RESORT – ARUE – NOVEMBER 19th, 20th & 21st 2026

Contact: register@oritahitinui.org

The 'ORI TAHITI NUI SOLO COMPETITIONS – 2026 are opened to individual dancers competing Thursday evening November 19th for youth or *Taure'a*, Friday morning November 20th for child or *Tama* and Saturday November 21st for Adults or *'Arioi*.

IMPORTANT: A participant in the 'ORI TAHITI NUI SOLO COMPETITIONS – 2026 is excluded from the 'ORI TAHITI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2026.

S1 The different categories of the competition:

- **Session 1 - Youth or *Taure'a***
Hine Taure'a & Tama Taure'a 12-14 years | *Taure'a Vahine & Taure'a Tane* 15-17 years
- **Session 2 - Child or *Tama***
Hine Tamahou & Tamahou 6-8 years | *Tamahine & Tamaroa* 9-11 years
- **Session 3 - Adult or *'Arioi***
Toa Vahine & Toa Tane 18-23 years | *'Aito Vahine & 'Aito Tane* 24-29 years
- **Session 4 - Adult or *'Arioi***
Hiva Vahine & Hiva Tane 30-35 years | *Feti'a Vahine & Feti'a Tane* 36 years & over

S2 Registration procedures

S2.1 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](#).

S2.2 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.

S2.3 The registration fee is 2,500 F CFP to compete in one of the categories.

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](#).

S3 Registration and access to the SOLO competition

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

S3.1 Session 1 - Youth or *Taure'a*: Thursday evening November 19th 2026 from 5PM.

- Registration from 5PM to 6PM for both *TAURE'A* categories.
- **Competition starts at 6:30PM.**

S3.2 Session 2 - Child or *Tama*: Friday morning November 20th 2026 from 7 AM.

- Registration from 7AM to 8AM for both *TAMA* categories
- **Competition starts at 8:30AM.**

S3.3 Session 3 - Adult or 'Arioi - Toa & 'Aito: Saturday morning November 21st 2026 from 7AM.

- Registration from 7AM to 8AM for both *TOA* & *'AITO* categories.
- **Competition starts at 8:30AM.**

S3.4 Session 4 - Adult or 'Arioi - Hiva & Feti'a: Saturday afternoon November 21st 2026 from 12:30PM.

- Registration from 12:30PM to 1:30PM for both *HIVA* & *FETI'A* categories.
- **Competition starts at 2PM.**

S4 Competition Protocol

The competition takes place if there is a minimum of 3 competitors by category. If this quota is not reached, there is no contest in the corresponding category. However, the registered competitors may, if they agree to it, be enrolled in an extended category. A category with 3 competitors participates directly in finals.

S4.1 The playoffs and the finals present a series of 3 to 4 competitors.

In each category, 40% of the competitors participate in the finals.

Prizes are given at the end of each session in the ballroom Endeavour.

S4.2 The award-winners of the *Toa*, *'Aito* and *Hiva* of the Adult or 'Arioi division participate in the OVERALL 'ORI TAHITI NUI SOLO COMPETITION – 2026.

The competition will be held at the beginning of the 'ORI TAHITI NUI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2025 dinner/Gala held at the "Tahiti Pearl Beach Resort - Arue" hotel **on Sunday November 22nd 2026 starting at 6:30PM.** The 3 award-winners in each genre (*Vahine/Tane*) compete collectively in order for the jury to determine who will be the **2026 'Arioi Vahine and 'Arioi Tane.**

S5 Music for the competition

The organizers prepare a selection of musical compositions consisting of traditional percussions or *pehe* (songs) for the competition. **Performance length is 1'00 to 1'30 for the Youth or *Tama/Taure'a* division and 1'30 to 1'45 for the Adult or 'Arioi division.**

These *pehe* are played live by the TAHITI ORA orchestra.

S6 Competition outfits

S6.1 Competition adornments of 'ORI TAHITI NUI SOLO COMPETITION are exclusively made from FRESH plants (ornamental foliage, drupes and flowers).

Important: a simple headdress (either head lei, tiara or small headband) with a MAXIMUM HEIGHT of 15CM is now obligatory. A penalty of 10 points will sanction the candidate displaying a head ornament exceeding 15cm in height.

Matching neck adornments to the headdress are encouraged. **Necklaces/leis stop at navel.**

Ankles, wrists and arms adornments matching with head ornaments are allowed.

Belts and leg ornaments are strictly prohibited.

S6.2 Female Solo competition dance costume is composed of a *pāreu* and *tāpe'a tītī* in solid fabric, cotton, *faraoti* or tergal. The *tāpe'a tītī* may be adorned with or made of fresh plants and/or match the head or neck adornments.

The *pāreu* is a rectangle of hemmed fabric, **LONG ENOUGH (under the knee) AND LOOSE AT THE ATTACHMENT TO ALLOW THE ARTIST TO MOVE WITH DECENCY**, without a belt.

S6.3 Male Solo competition dance costume is a *pāreu ta'amu tihere* in solid fabric, cotton, *faraoti* or tergal. The *Maro* is prohibited.

S6.4 Loosing any part of the costume will be penalized.

S7 The jury and assessment criteria

The jury is composed 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 soloists’ performances according to the following criteria:

Quality of the *fa’arapu* and *pā’oti*, technical mastery, rhythm mastery, stamina, artistic expression (harmony, overall beauty), costume.

S8 Penalties of the competition

‘ORI TAHITI NUI SOLO COMPETITION - 2026 competitors undertake to read and respect the Rules and Guidelines of the contest. For each ascertained breach, a 10-point penalty shall be deducted from the final score.

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

S9 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 different results during the competition will be disqualified for future ‘ORI TAHITI NUI COMPETITION editions.

S10 Winning tickets in ‘Arioi categories by a resident of French Polynesia, give access to destinations served by Air Tahiti Nui. Such tickets are dependent on availability on flights in the various categories of fares, on the season, on seat occupancy rate, etc... **Additional miscellaneous taxes and fees shall be paid by the ticket winner.**

Tickets won by foreign competitors must imperatively be used to come back and compete in the ‘ORI TAHITI NUI COMPETITIONS of the following year.

Additional miscellaneous taxes and fees shall be paid by the ticket winner.