

FOCUS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF DANCESPORT AUSTRALIA LIMITED - THE GOVERNING BODY FOR DANCESPORT IN AUSTRALIA

ISSUE 34 - DECEMBER 2015

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DSA invites you to renew your registration / membership for 2016. Register online at www.dancesport.org.au, click on "MyDSA".

www.dancesport.org.au

MISSION STATEMENT

To improve, expand, empower and succeed in the promotion and development of Dancesports for all.

DANCESPORT AUSTRALIA IS A MEMBER BODY OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS

WORLD DANCESPORT FEDERATION - AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
- AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION - WDC AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL DANCE COUNCIL

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

FOR DSA THE ROLE OF PRESIDENT IS ONE OF LEADERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY, IT IS NOT, IN MY UNDERSTANDING, ONE OF STATESMANSHIP. WITH THIS THOUGHT I ACCEPT THIS POSITION AND THE CHALLENGES THAT FOLLOW.

It is fair to say that the past two years has seen more structural change of DanceSport than any other time in our history.

The foundation of this change is due to the tireless work of the previous National Council and State Branches, led by outgoing President Mrs. Adele Hyland.

Where are we today?

Firstly DanceSport participation numbers are steady and in some areas on an incline but more importantly I perceive that positive attitudes about the future of our sport have started to replace the negative feelings that only cause self harm. We as a group take this positive attitude and sell our sport to the wider community.

2015 saw the introduction of the 'Points' based elevation system which allows DanceSport greater flexibility as to how competitors move through their Grades. With such a large country and a wide range of competitions from which experience can be garnered, it is important that this elevation system be 'dynamic' in nature and easily adapted to future needs.

2016 will see a number of DSA projects that are aimed at the 'grass roots' of our sport. To this end the competition structure has been redefined to include 'Development Competitions', this is a specific competition registration that targets Recreational and non registered competitors.

Concurrent with the above 'Development Competitions' is the marketing of DanceSport to the general public. DanceSport's Marketing Commission will take on this unenviable job during 2016. This includes bringing together the existing DanceSport Australia website and the Project 5000 website into one website that is both promotional and user friendly to our members.

Organisation is already underway for the 2016 DanceSport Australia National Championship Event better known as D.A.N.C.E. (Canberra). Literature will be ready for distribution within the coming weeks. With more lead up time this year, we are looking to further develop this important competition, learn from previous experience and provide an even higher level of customer service than in 2015.

Working together as a united industry, competitors, coaches, RTFs, competition organisers etc is what is needed to gather real genuine momentum to move our industry forward. I urge all of us to talk more, think positive and work together to create a solid future for DanceSport. Something I think that everyone would welcome.

Finally I would like to thank you. Without our Members, DanceSport Australia would not exist and I thank you. Don't just dance, tell everyone you dance.

**Dallas Williams
DSA President**

DANCESPORT AUSTRALIA PLASTIC ID CARDS

For those members who were registered with DSA in 2015, your existing plastic ID card continues in place upon re-registration.

For new members joining DSA for the first time in 2016, you will be issued with a DSA members ID-Card shortly after registration.

DSA INTERNATIONAL SELECTION POLICY

Both the eligibility criteria and selection procedure for 'International Selection' can be found at www.dancesport.org.au click on 'About Dancesport' then 'Other Competition Rules'.

Competitors interested in representing Australia at international events should make sure they are familiar with the selection process and plan accordingly.

2016 DSA INTERNATIONAL SELECTION EVENTS

DanceSport Australia National Championships

24, 25, 26 June 2016

AIS Arena, Canberra

Junior, Youth, Adult, Masters 1, Professional & Ten Dance Standard and Latin

ADS Australian DanceSport Championships

9, 10, 11 December 2016

Hisense Arena, Melbourne Junior, Youth, Adult, Masters 1, Standard and Latin.

DANCESPORT AUSTRALIA ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Implementation of the Revised DanceSport Australia Accreditation Program is now in its final stages and will replace the previous program as from January 1st 2016.

DSA Accredited Members are advised to visit the DanceSport Australia website at www.dancesport.org.au and select 'Accreditation' to check

- the currency of their current accreditation
- matrices showing career pathways and requirements for Coaches, Adjudicators and Officials
- requirement for reregistration of all DSA Accredited Members as from January 1st, 2017
- listing of DSA Accreditation Workshop opportunities
- listing of DSA Accredited Educational Organisations offering learning Modules &/or Assessment
- the application process

for initial and subsequent accreditation.

This Revised DSA Accreditation Program has been developed over the past two years based on:

- international developments in DanceSport education
- feedback from our own members
- the changing requirements of government agencies and education generally and
- the demands of our own industry to provide meaningful recognition for our officials.

The structure of the previous policy has been retained in that the technical assessments and course work still remain an integral

part of the requirements of the program at all levels.

What differs from the previous program is the following:

- a) recognition of technical skill as demonstrated in performance and achievement
- b) accreditation levels align with current categories of competition
- c) recognition of attainment of qualifications attained outside the DSA accreditation program. (e.g. Cert IV in Training and Assessment, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Dance, etc)
- d) opportunity for organisations and businesses to develop

courses specific to the requirements of DanceSport. e) provide opportunity and incentive for DanceSport officials to engage in knowledge-sharing opportunities.

We are grateful for the contribution of many of our members during the Accreditation Review Process. There have been many surveys, discussions, workshops and administrative processes carried out in order to develop a program that will ensure quality of standards and further development of our sport. We look forward to the involvement of all accredited members to ensure the success of this program.

DanceSport Australia Commissions. Meet the people who 'make things happen' in DanceSport

Accreditation	Martyn Kibel VIC as Chair; Adam Blakey VIC ; Andrew Howlett VIC ; Jon Osborne QLD ; Linda Brown WA ; Jacques Klop SA ; Carol Kimmins NSW ; Patrica Heidke QLD
Australian and International Affairs	Adam Blakey VIC as Chair; Rebecca Beardsley QLD ; Chris Sandison QLD ; Cushla Gillard NSW ; Anna Longmore VIC ; Alan Shingler NSW ; Shane Hocking VIC
International Affairs Committee	Adam Blakey VIC as Chair; Philip Nicholas QLD ; Mary Barratt-Thompson NSW ; Peter Smith NSW ; Glen Tierney WA ; Madeleine Zoanetti SA
Ethics and Compliance	Katherine Gothard-Leigh WA as Chair; Chris Sandison QLD ; Joseph Di Rocco WA ; David Brooks NSW
Marketing and Communications	Andrew Howlett VIC as Chair; Cheryl Smith VIC ; Talysa Trevallion VIC ; Malcom Connor NSW ; Adam Stone NSW ; Peter Hegarty WA ; Yvonne Klop SA ; David Stearnes TAS ; Judy Williams WA
Rules	Derek Gatley WA as Chair; Jeff Elworthy QLD ; Carol Kimmins NSW ; Peter Hegarty WA
Sport and Development	Dallas Williams QLD as Chair; Debbie Godenzi WA ; Chris Milburn QLD ; Oryst Tkacz SA ; Jason Beaman VIC ; Meagen Alderton VIC ; Barry White WA

CHANGES TO DANCESPORT AGE GROUPS 2016 AND BEYOND

There will be two important changes that will occur on the 1st January 2016 that affect how competitors are separated into their Age Groups.

The first of these was published last year at this time (in Focus), that being the use of a person's birth year for determining the Age Group at which competitors in the Amateur Division participate. The Recreational Division has been operating using this system from its conception providing valuable insight into this style of management. Those of you who have competed overseas know that almost all international bodies already use the year of birth for determining Age Groups.

This method is standard practice in Australian Schools for determining sporting groups and provides consistency for parents that a child that commences in an Age Group at the start of a year will be eligible for that group until the end of that particular year. There can be no argument that the Australian DanceSport 'season' is based on the calendar year therefore the Australian Education standard and DanceSport will align perfectly.

The adoption of this change in the Amateur Division it will make it easier for parents and competitors in Juvenile, Junior and Youth levels in that each competitor will compete in that age for the entire year. Costuming requirements will be for the entire year, specifically when moving from Juvenile to Junior. Importantly any preparation required, costume or choreography, will occur on the first of January of any given year giving ample time for parents and children. The Age Groups for 2016 and beyond will be as follows:

Age Group	Year of Birth
Juvenile (12 & under)	2004 or later
Junior (13 to under 16)	2001 to 2003
Youth (16 to under 21)	1996 to 2000
Adult (21 to under 35)	1982 to 1995
Masters I (35 to under 50)	1967 to 1981
Masters II (50 to under 60)	1957 to 1966
Masters III (over 60)	1956 & earlier

The second change concerns our Masters competitors in which one partner may now be up to 5 years younger.

Over the last couple of years, numerous discussions with competitors, coaches and adjudicators have taken place regarding the development of the master's age divisions of DanceSport both here and internationally. As a result of these discussions, the following improvements have been made to the Masters Age Divisions.

A couple competing in Masters I, II or III may consist of one partner being five years younger than the published age division bracket, provided that the other partner is within the age division bracket. For example: A masters 1 couple could consist of one partner being 38, whilst the other could now be 32. This now provide a far greater capacity for new partnerships to be created across all the masters' age divisions.

RULES OF DANCESPORT AMENDMENTS

The following are the major rule changes made recently by National Council; these will be operative from January 1 2016; they are shown here in abridged form – the full rule amendments for these and other rule changes can be viewed at Rules of DanceSport on the DSA website.

Music Tempo (Rule 28.2)

For the following dances, music tempo will be - Tango 31–33 bpm; Samba 50-52 bpm; Rumba 25–27 bpm; and Paso Doble 60–62 bpm

Recreational Division – Juvenile Dress

There will be the option of wearing either the "Non- competition Attire" or the Restricted Competition Dress as defined on page 3 of the "DSA Restrictions on Competitor Dress" ; and competitors in this section of events who choose to wear Non – Competition Attire will be required to observe the "Optional Simple Dress" regulations.

Participation (Rule 9.5)

The following words are added to this rule... *"In circumstances where the participation of a couple is brought in to question, the matter shall be resolved by the Chairman of Adjudicators or, if none is appointed, then the Sports Director or if he/she is not available, then the organiser of the event".*

Age Groups (Rules 11.2 and 11.3)

See also the article on this page

Rule 11.2 will now read... *Masters I: one partner must have reached his or her 35th birthday or more in the calendar year. The other partner must have reached her or his 30th birthday or more in the calendar year*

Masters II: one partner must have reached his or her 50th birthday or more in the calendar year. The other partner must have reached her or his 45th birthday or more in the calendar year

Masters III: one partner must have reached his or her 60th birthday or more in the calendar year. The other partner must have reached her or his 55th birthday or more in the calendar year

With these changes effective from 1st January, 2016.

Rule 11.3 will now read... *"Couples in an Age Group event must comply with the stipulated age restrictions as set out in these rules at all times. As of the 1st January 2016, age grouping for the Recreational Division and the Amateur Division will be determined as that which applies at the end of the calendar year.(i.e. the age that falls in the calendar year is allocated from January 1st of that registration year.)"*

MEMBERS REGISTRATION PROCEDURES 2016

Registration Renewal of Membership is due on January 1, 2016. It is preferred that all members use the Online Registration System; however the Manual Registration System will also remain in place for 2016. Please follow the instructions below.

Online Registration System

The Online system will accept 2016 renewals of registration from December 14, 2015.

To complete the process members will need their user name, password and credit card.

1. Go to www.dancesport.org.au and click on "MyDSA"
2. Enter 'User Name' and 'Password' to log in
3. Go to Registration Renewal and follow the prompts ensuring that all details are accurate and correct.

Contact details can be altered but not date of birth or accreditation level. If either is incorrect, members should contact the National Registrar.

For members who registered for the first time in 2015, the relevant State Branch Registrar can provide the 'User Name' and 'Password'.

Manual Registration System

The manual registration procedures that applied in 2015 will be continued for 2016 as follows:

Competitors and General Member Registration

Complete the green form and forward it with the appropriate fee payment to the respective State Branch Registrar. Date of Birth details are only required if registering for the first time.

Accredited Member Registration

Complete the yellow form and forward it with the appropriate fee payment to the National Registrar. (Address shown on the bottom of the form). Members who hold DSA Accreditation as an Adjudicator, Coach, Instructor, Invigilator, Chairman or Scrutineer should note the "Working with Children" clause may vary from state to state.

A qualification is only recognised if the registration is maintained from one registration period to the next.

If a member is also a competitor, the

same form must be used to register in this category.

NOTE: Amateur Competitors / DanceSport Instructors

Amateur division competitors, who are DanceSport Instructors please note that, for the accreditation to remain effective, registration in both sections must remain current. Complete the yellow form "Application for Membership/Registration & Accreditation Renewal". The fee payable covers both competitor and instructor registrations.

General Registration Information

- Membership of DSA is not effective until it has been recorded on the National Database.
- A receipt for fees paid will be issued and all members will receive a registration card.
- Fees are inclusive of GST. Tax Invoice requirements are noted on the receipt.
- Payments made by cheque or money order are made payable to Dancesport Australia.
- Fee increases reflect the national CPI index, and where applicable, increased processing costs.
- Sports Injury Insurance is included in membership fees.
- The registration number remains constant from year to year. Please ensure that this is recorded on the renewal application.
- The address shown on the application form or member portal should be a personal mailing address. A dance studio address is not acceptable.
- It is in everyone's best interest to read the detail on the registration form before completing the registration.

Additional supplies of registration forms can be downloaded from the DSA website.



Travel Beyond Group

LET'S GET TOGETHER

**We all do a lot of travel...Right?
We all want cheaper prices...Right?**

Here's how to do it. For the best prices we need to use the power of numbers. If we all book through the same point we all get the benefit.

Travel Beyond & Qantas have agreed to provide DSA members with great travel deals on everything from airline fares, accommodation, car hire, baggage rates.

Your designated senior consultants Emma and Sheena are available on

FREE CALL (02) 9571 5555

Give your DSA member number for the best prices nationally & internationally.

HOW THEY WORK? ELEVATION POINTS AMATEUR DIVISION

Points Based Elevations: This is a merit and activity based system that encourages and rewards effort, excellence and participation in competition. Points are allocated as follows:

Result Points – the number of Result Points awarded will be the inverse of the number of competitors placed in the event, including final, semi final and any rounds. For example: In a competition with eight couples participating, the Result Points will be awarded as in the table below

Placing	Points	Placing	Points
1st	8	5th	4
2nd	7	6th	3
3rd	6	7th	2
4th	5	8th	1

Bonus Points – are awarded in the juvenile and junior age categories (only), are style specific and once per event for competing in a Competition (5 points); a Championship (10 points); and a National Championship (20 points).

Elevation Threshold Points in order to elevate

Level	Points Required to Elevate
C Grade	250
B Grade	250
A Grade	N/A

CONTACT US

NATIONAL AND STATE BRANCHES

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National Office

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National Registrar: Mr Steve Edwards
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www.dancesport.org.au

STATE BRANCHES (INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING)

NSW CHAIRMAN		NSW REGISTRATIONS OFFICER	
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VIC EXECUTIVE OFFICER		VIC REGISTRATIONS OFFICER	
Mr Andrew Howlett	24 Main Street	Mrs Norma Johnson	PO Box 158
Lilydale 3166	Tel: 03 9739 6011	Pascoe Vale South VIC 3044	Tel: 03 9357 3016
QLD EXECUTIVE OFFICER		QLD REGISTRATIONS OFFICER	
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Tingalpa QLD 4173	Mob: 0433 122 842	Edmonton QLD 4869	Mob: 0416 703 414
SA EXECUTIVE OFFICER		SA REGISTRATIONS OFFICER	
Mr Oryst Tkacz	17 Mowbray Street	Ms Sheree Holly	20 Crittenden Road
Mawson Lakes SA 5095	Mob: 0410 854 838	Findon SA 5023	Mob: 0425 329 596
WA EXECUTIVE OFFICER		WA REGISTRATIONS OFFICER	
Ms Linda Brown	5 Trevallyn Gardens	Mrs Jan Hunt	410 Princess Road
South Lake 6164 WA	Mob: 0431 311 065	Mount Helena WA 6082	Mob: 0439 186 198
TAS EXECUTIVE OFFICER		TAS REGISTRATIONS OFFICER	
Ms Alison Jacob	55 Fitzroy Crescent	Mr David Stearns	9 Molecombe Drive
Dynnyrne TAS 7005	Mob: 0417 165 424	Prospect Vale TAS 7250	Mob: 0407 053 221
NT ADMINISTRATION		NT REGISTRATIONS OFFICER	
Contact WA Executive Officer		Contact WA Registrar	

www.dancesport.org.au

Our website is the easy access point for information, news, rules and policy documents plus links to other sites and details of local and international events.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST 2016
(ALL FEES ARE INCLUSIVE OF GST)

Ordinary Membership Fee	\$70.00
Competitors	
Professional, Adult, Masters, Youth 16 years and over	\$75.00
Juvenile, Junior and Youth under 16 years	\$48.00
Transfer Fee from Recreational	
First Registration Only Adult, Masters, Youth 16 yrs & over	\$50.00
First Registration Only Juvenile, Junior, Youth under 16 yrs	\$30.00
Recreation Division	
Registration Fee	\$20.00
Accredited Member Renewals	
Accredited Coach	\$182.00
Accredited Coach and Competitor	\$195.00
Licensed Adjudicator	\$148.00
Accredited Coach and Adjudicator	\$195.00
Licensed Adjudicator and Competitor	\$162.00
Coach / Adjudicator / Competitor	\$195.00
Scrutineer	\$96.00
Event Registrations	
National Championships	\$550.00
Championships	\$275.00
Competitions	\$165.00
Unrestricted Competitions	\$121.00
Accreditation Fees	
Accreditation Applications	\$33.00
Adjudicating	
First Time Adjudicator Accreditation Application	121.00
Adjudicator Technical Assessment – Competition	\$200.00
Adjudicator Technical Assessment – Championship	\$250.00
Re-instatement of Accreditation – Up to one year absence	\$33.00
Re-instatement of Accreditation – One to five year absence	\$132.00
Coaching	
Assistant DanceSport Instructor (Single Style)	\$60.00
Assistant DanceSport Instructor (All Styles)	\$100.00
DanceSport Instructor	\$150.00
DanceSport Coach	\$200.00
Other	
Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	\$44.00
Scrutineer Exams	\$66.00
Chairman of Adjudicators – Competitions	\$33.00
Chairman of Adjudicators – Championships	\$44.00
Other Fees	
WDSF Athletes ID-Card Applications	\$25.00
Registered Teaching Facility	\$50.00

Focus Newsletter Editor
STEVE EDWARDS

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