

FOCUS

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

ISSUE 35 - AUGUST 2016

2 REPORTS FROM DSA PRESIDENT AND DSA SPORTS DIRECTOR

Read reports from the President and the Sports Director to find out about the success of current programs and plans for the next steps in our development as a sport and activity for all ages.. Pages 2 & 5.

3 BECOME A COACH OR ADJUDICATOR

Would you like the challenge and the opportunity to be a leader in DanceSport? This is an investment in your future and you will be amazed at how much you already know. Read the article in this issue and the Accreditation Program on the DanceSport Australia web site; then contact your State Accreditation Officer. Page 3.

4 NOTICE OF STATE BRANCH & DANCESPORT AUSTRALIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Notice is hereby given of the 2016 Annual General Meetings of each State Branch of DanceSport Australia Limited, and of the Annual General Meeting of DanceSport Australia Limited. The Meeting Notices are included with this issue. Page 4.

3 DANCESPORT AUSTRALIA RULES OF DANCESPORT UPDATED

DSA is continually evaluating and updating rules of competition and event procedures in order to provide the best possible competitive environment for our members. Update yourself on the latest changes by visiting www.dancesport.org.au. An overview is provided. Page 3.

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

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

DEVELOPMENT OF ANY SPORT IS A COMPLICATED SUBJECT BUT IT MUST BE COMMENCED AT THE 'GRASS ROOTS' OR 'FOUNDATION' LEVEL; THERE IS NO MAGIC BULLET.

It is pleasing to report that the last 6 months has seen a steady increase in Recreational Division numbers.

This positive situation is largely due to the introduction of policies that promote participation which has led to several grants from State Government Sporting bodies for the promotion of further development.

The past few years has seen a major reconstruction in the way funding is distributed for sports across Australia. State bodies have drastically reduced funding for elite sporting people in favour of sporting groups that concentrate on mass participation. I gratefully acknowledge the State Sports & Development Departments' assistance in guiding our policies so that DanceSport Australia is in a good position to progress forward. An example of this assistance came in the awarding of a grant of \$70,000AUD to DanceSport Victoria for the purposes of DanceSport Development. Needless to say that this level of funding does not come without strings attached but we are positive that meeting Government

requirements will build stronger future agreements of this type. In plain English, if we don't keep participation moving in an upward direction we will have funding reduced or removed entirely.

Having said that the International Olympic Committee has a major concern with how development competitions are run and that concern is specifically aimed at the 'Skating System' method of assessment. The complexity of the Skating system does lead to confusion; I do answer a considerable amount of queries about results and how they are calculated.

DSA has been requested to investigate a system suitable for the 'foundation layer' of DanceSport in Australia. This system must be clearly understood by the base supporters of our dancers, that is, 'mum and dad' as it is they who decide if their child will continue in any given sport. Unlike the Skating System this system ideally will use a formula that is clear, simple and provides performance feedback to the competitor. DSA is rising to this challenge. All the best...

Dallas Williams
DSA President

DSA HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

At the 2016 DSA National Championship recently held in Canberra, DSA President Dallas Williams proudly presented four Honorary Life Memberships of DanceSport Australia to the following DSA members who were judged to have made outstanding contributions to improving and sustaining DanceSport. All have worked tirelessly and conspicuously for our industry over many years, without thought of personal gain. Their efforts have contributed substantially to the development in DanceSport and its standing and attractiveness in the community. Our congratulations to -

Steve Edwards Chief Executive Officer, DanceSport Australia; **Norma Johnson** State Registrar, Victoria; **Sue James** State Registrar, New South Wales; **Carol Kimmins** Chair, New South Wales State Branch.

AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES... CONGRATULATIONS

To all those DanceSport Australia couples nominated to represent us at upcoming world championships, DSA National Council offers best wishes to you all.

WDC World Professional Standard

Steven Grinbergs & Rachel Plaass
Jared Parnell & Ashley Payet

WDSF World Standard & WDSF World Latin

Brodie Barden & Lana Skrgic-de Fonseca

WDC World Professional Latin

Andrey Gorbunov & Karla Gerbes
Craig Monley & Sriani Argæet

WDSF World 10 Dance

Andrew Nolo & Alexandra Vladimirov

WDC World Professional 10 Dance

Leighton Stevenson & Elise Browning
Vaughn & Alison Liddicoat

WDSF World Youth Standard U19

Riley Moriarty & Meghan Philpott

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTIONS

DanceSport Australia's International Selection Committee will only be choosing Australian Representatives to the following world Championships -

1. WDC World Professional Standard (2 Couples), WDC World Professional Latin (2 Couples), WDC World Professional 10 Dance (2 Couples)
2. WDSF World Amateur Standard (2 Couples), WDSF World Amateur Latin (2 Couples) and WDSF World 10 Dance Championship (1 Couple).
3. Australia is to select representatives for WDSF Asian Pacific Amateur Standard (2 Couples), WDSF Asian Pacific Amateur Latin (2 Couples).
4. Australia is to select representatives for WDSF World Cup Amateur Standard (1 Couple), WDSF World Cup Amateur Latin (1 Couple) and WDSF World Cup 10 Dance Championship (1 Couple).

All other age divisions of WDSF World Championships are open to any couple from Australia and more than two can dance these events. Please nominate yourself to adamblakey@me.com for DanceSport Australia's endorsement and nomination to the relevant bodies.

ACCREDITATION

BECOME A COACH AND / OR

ADJUDICATOR WITH DSA

The role of both the Coach and the Adjudicator is seen as being of considerable importance from a variety of perspectives and requires training, supported by a comprehensive and properly regulated syllabus and process for accreditation, in order to effectively meet the challenges these roles can present.

For most dancers considering attempting an accreditation level, their thoughts immediately turn to examinations and the amount of study and time involved. While formal examinations are a component of the accreditation process, as well as practical and generic components, the benefits far outweigh the efforts required.

So why undertake study to achieve an accreditation level, whether as an Instructor/Coach or an Adjudicator? While you may presently be very capable and competent, studying the detailed technique required will result in further knowledge and understanding as to why figures are designed a certain way, and what combinations of preceding and following figures work to create a smooth choreography. This will enable you to be a more effective teacher or coach since your increased depth of understanding will substantially help you pass on the required information to your students.

Similarly, studying to improve your adjudicating accreditation will also increase your knowledge of dance performance and judging criteria, enabling you to be a better, more consistent adjudicator, as well as a more knowledgeable coach. So what is the down-side?

The main challenge is the time involved – we are all obviously busy and our time is limited and precious. However, in this case the time spent is an investment and not a cost, and it is definitely worth spending. There is also the fear that you may not pass the exam, but this is very unlikely. Firstly, you will be amazed at how much you already know – you have so much knowledge gained from all the lessons and experience that has got you to this point. Secondly, the assessors who will examine you are there to help extract this knowledge, not to try and “catch you out”; they want you to succeed and want to pass on their knowledge! You have everything to gain and nothing to lose – there is no down-side!

So the first step is to talk to your Instructor/Coach or mentor about your accreditation pathway, to plan out your study/training, and to schedule your exam, whether a new accreditation or an upgrade. When you are ready to do the assessment you need to apply online, and then contact your State Accreditation Officer to set up your assessment. Then you are on your way!

Please see the Accreditation Program on the DanceSport Australia web site for full details of what is required at each level and for each style. So happy studying and best wishes for your future accreditation goals.

Martyn Kibel, Chair Accreditation Commission

DSA NATIONAL MEETINGS - NATIONAL COUNCIL AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF DANCESPORT AUSTRALIA LTD

The National Council will meet in Melbourne on October 1st. The 2016 Annual General Meeting for members is the subject of a separate notice included with this issue, for members entitled to vote in accordance with the DSA constitution. Please note that juvenile, juniors and provisional members (those with less than 12 months membership as at 1st August, 2016) are not entitled to vote at the AGM of DanceSport Australia Ltd

DSA INTERNATIONAL SELECTION POLICY

Current policy can be found at www.dancesport.org.au click on 'Rules and Policies' 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.

DANCESPORT AUSTRALIA RULES OF DANCESPORT

DSA's National Council recently reviewed and approved the following changes to the 'Rules of DanceSport', effective as from 1st July 2016.

Rule 28.1 Music Tempi The DSA music tempi is amended in the following dances -

Dance (Bars per Min)	Present DSA Rule	New DSA Rule
Samba	50-52	48-52
Rumba	25-27	24-27
Paso Doble	60-62	56-62

Rule 13.2 Elevation Points – Recreational Division

The points required to elevate are now altered to 250 (from 300) for the Beginner and Intermediate levels.

Rule 13.6 Elevation Calendar – Recreational Division

Rule 13.6 is now - In the Recreational Division the competitors 'Level' will be assessed at 30th June and 31st December in each calendar year according to the points system.

Rule 13.5 (b) Bonus Points (New Rule)

That Rule 13.5 becomes 13.5 (a), and that a new rule 13.5 (b) be added to read –

13.5 (b) Bonus Points – Additional points will be awarded to DSA Amateur Division competitors attending DSA events registered at “Competition” level as follows -

ACT, NT, Q'land & Tasmania - 20 Bonus Points

South Australia - 15 Bonus Points

NSW & West Aust- 10 Bonus Points

Victoria - 0 Bonus Points

Rule 12. Rule Title

The descriptive title of Rule 12 now becomes 12. RECREATIONAL and AMATEUR DIVISION EVENTS and NOVELTY EVENTS

Rule 16.5 (a) (i) Competitors Compliance with Dress Regulations

Rule 16.5 (a) (i) becomes

(i) 'non-competitive attire' as defined by the conditions for 'Optional Simple Dress and Shoes' regulations as set out on page 4 of the “DSA Restrictions on Competitor Dress”;

Rule 10.2 (b) Adjudicator Licensees' Return to Amateur Division

Rule 10.2 (b) is amended to become -

An application for membership in the Amateur Division of competition shall not be granted to any applicant who has been awarded or has held an adjudicators licence in the fifteen (15) years preceding such an application. In the circumstance that permits such an application being granted, then the applicant is to be reinstated at the A Grade level of competition. This rule does not apply to adjudicators who partner competitors in the events defined under rules 24.3 b), c) and d).

NOTICE OF STATE BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS 2016

TO ALL CURRENT FINANCIAL MEMBERS OF DANCESPORT AUSTRALIA LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF EACH STATE BRANCH OF DANCESPORT AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ACN 085 929 835

Business of the Meeting:

- Election of the State Branch Board for the ensuing two year period.
- Presentation of the Branch Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements.
- Receive Reports presented by the State Branch Board.
- Attend to any Motions on Notice.
- Items as defined by the State Branch Board.
- General Business.

Attendance and Voting Rights

Please note the following:-

- Only persons whose names are recorded in the National Register of Members (which is the Dancesport Australia Limited membership register for the purposes of the Corporations Act), are members of Dancesport Australia Limited.
- Only Members of Dancesport Australia are entitled to attend and vote at DSA meetings.
- Receipt of a competitor registration form or other joint registration/ membership form by the State Branch Registrar and/or recording of a competitor's registration status in a Branch competitor register does not constitute the recording of the name of a person in the National Register of Members.

- Notice is hereby given that the recording of the names in the National Membership Register shall cease on August 1st and shall not recommence until October 31st.
- Branch General Meetings are not General Meetings of the Company within the meaning of that term in the Corporations Act.

Structure Of State Branch Boards

The State Branch Boards to be elected at the meeting shall comprise nine (9) representatives, viz:

- 2 Coach Representatives
- 2 Competitor Representatives
- 5 General Member representatives

The following conditions apply:-

All voting for Branch Directors as representatives of their registration/ licence category shall be in person or by proxy. Voting rights shall be determined by entry in the national membership register and shall be subject to the following further restrictions:

- a. Only members of the Branch are eligible to vote
- b. Only licensed coaches may nominate and/or vote for coach representatives
- c. Only registered competitors may nominate and/or vote for competitor representatives
- d. All financial ordinary members and life members may nominate and/or vote for general member representatives.
- e. A financial member who is a licensed coach may nominate and vote in both the coach category

and in the general member category.

- f. A member who is a competitor may nominate and vote in both the competitor category and the general member Category.
- g. A member who is a competitor and coach may nominate and vote in all three categories.
- h. The order of the election process will be 1st-Coaches; 2nd-Competitors; 3rd General Members.

Nomination for Election to State Branch Boards

Any person who is an Ordinary Member of DSA and who has voting rights as defined above may nominate for election to the State Branch Board. Nominations must be in writing (or by fax or email), can be submitted by the nominee and do not need to be seconded. Nominations are to be received by the Branch Board Secretary 14 days prior to the date of the meeting (or such shorter time as approved by the State Branch Board). Intending nominees should refer to the conditions (a) to (g) listed under "Structure of the State Branch Boards"

Notices of Motions

Any member wishing to submit a notice of motion for the attention of the Bi-Annual General Meeting must submit such notice to the Branch Executive Officer in writing and to be received 14 days prior to the meeting (or such shorter time as approved by the State Branch Board).

MEMBERS!! ATTENDANCE AT THE AGM IS YOUR RIGHT.

*Your Branch Board put a lot of time and effort into organising these meetings and deserves your support. It's your chance to be informed and to get rid of those "why don't they" comments. **Better still** – why not nominate as a candidate for election? Being a Branch Board member gives you the opportunity to be involved in how the sport is administered in your state, to be a part of planning for the future and addressing local issues. Nomination only requires a simple statement of intent, directed as advised above – no formal qualifications are necessary.*

STATE BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS 2016

STATE MEETING VENUE AND TIME

NSW	<p>Saturday, September 24th Parramatta RSL O'Connell Street, Parramatta NSW 2150 Commencing at 7pm</p> <p>ADDRESS FOR NOMINATIONS Dancesport New South Wales Returning Officer- Mrs Sue James PO Box 158 Seaforth NSW 2092</p>
VIC	<p>Sunday, September 18th Ydance 909D High Street, Thornbury VIC 3071 Commencing at 10am</p> <p>ADDRESS FOR NOMINATIONS Dancesport Victoria Returning Officer - Mr Russ Hesketh 5 Malabar Court Keysborough VIC 3173</p>
QLD	<p>Sunday, October 16th PCYC Fortitude Valley 458 Wickham St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006 Commencing at 9.30am</p> <p>ADDRESS FOR NOMINATIONS Dancesport Queensland Returning Officer - Ms Jody Rollason 70 Regents Circuit Forrest Lake QLD 4078</p>
SA	<p>Sunday, October 16th Madeleine Dance Emporio 2 East Parade, Ringwood SA 5062 Commencing at 10.30am</p> <p>ADDRESS FOR NOMINATIONS Dancesport South Australia Returning Officer - Ms Karen Bollenhagen 9 Sherwood Place Blakeview SA 5114</p>
WA	<p>Sunday, November 6th Dept of Sport & Recreation 276 Vincent Street, Leederville WA 6007 Commencing at 10am</p> <p>ADDRESS FOR NOMINATIONS Dancesport West Australia Returning Officer - Mrs Maureen Perry 3 Fortune Street Warwick WA 6024</p>
TAS	<p>Sunday, October 9th ZEPS Meeting Rooms 92 High Street, Campbell Town TAS 7210 Commencing at 10am</p> <p>ADDRESS FOR NOMINATIONS Dancesport Tasmania Returning Officer - Mr G Crawford 8 Batman Ave West Launceston TAS 7250</p>

REPORT FROM THE SPORTS DIRECTOR

POINTS BASED ELEVATION.

From the outset the 'Points based elevation system' was designed to be dynamic - that is a flexible structure that can be adjusted to give the best outcome for DanceSport.

DanceSport participants would be aware that Juvenile and Junior competitors receive 'Bonus Points' to assist these competitors attaining the next Grade as these competitors have a very limited time in which to elevate before they move up into the next Age Group. It has always been intended that 'Bonus Points' would be awarded to competitors in other Age Groups to assist with levelling out the elevation process.

Why is this necessary? Well essentially Australia is a large country with the demographics of our DanceSport competitors varying dramatically from region to region. For example Queensland has the greatest percentage of Masters Competitors while Victoria has the greater quantity of competitors overall with all the other States scattered in-between. Also the number of competitions conducted in an area will have an impact on the Points competitors collect.

Another problem is that all competitions are run very differently region to region, a 'regional flavouring' so to speak, where competitors and Competition Organisers get used to doing things in a particular way. Much of this comes from how many competitors attend a competition and the amount of time there is to run that event. For example, larger competitions do not allow competitors to dance outside their Grade or Age Group while smaller events allowed a crossover in both Grades and Age Groups with some even allowing Masters to compete in the Adult events. Add to the above the fact that many competitors attend competitions outside their local region means the experience

competitors gain can vary greatly. Of course this problem existed under the 'Win' based elevation system and many times competitors did not compete at events for the fear of elevating. Not a great outcome for our sport.

It is far too simplistic to count the number of competitors registered in a particular State and derive a 'Bonus Points' formula. As you would expect the participation rates for Victorian competitions is quite high and many times I have heard it said that Victorian competitors would collect double or possibly triple the amount of points that competitors from other states would collect, simply not true.

What DanceSport achieved in 2015 was remarkable, for the first time ever we have the 'Points' records from every DSA competition which include the results of every competitor, first to last place, in every event. In fact some 28,000 records were created for the Amateur Division alone and all this was done via the 'Points Elevation System'. Information can now be extracted from this data to assist with the complexities of formulating 'Bonus Points' for each State.

Having crunched the numbers the following 'Bonus Points' will be awarded for attending DSA registered 'Competitions' -

ACT, NT, O'land & Tasmania
20 Bonus Points

South Australia
15 Bonus Points

NSW & West Australia
10 Bonus Points

Victoria
0 Bonus Points

Points are awarded in the same manner as for the Juvenile and Junior Age Groups that is ONCE per competition per Style. All 'Bonus Points' will be re-evaluated at the end of each calendar year and may be adjusted as numbers in States vary.

CONTACT US

NATIONAL AND STATE BRANCHES

National President

Dallas Williams
Email: president@dancesport.org.au

National Office

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National Registrar: Mr Steve Edwards
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Email: ceo@dancesport.org.au

Webmaster: Office of the Chief Executive

Email: webmaster@dancesport.org.au
or ceo@dancesport.org.au

www.dancesport.org.au

STATE BRANCHES (INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING)

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Mob: 0418 415 227

NSW REGISTRATIONS OFFICER

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VIC EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Mob: 0431 311 065

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Dynnyrne TAS 7005
Mob: 0417 165 424

TAS REGISTRATIONS OFFICER

Mr David Stearns
9 Molecombe Drive
Prospect Vale TAS 7250
Mob: 0407 053 221

NT ADMINISTRATION

Contact WA Executive Officer

NT REGISTRATIONS 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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