



Branch Report
DanceSport Western Australia

Prepared for
DanceSport Western Australia AGM
and
DanceSport AGM

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September 2017

DanceSport Western Australia

Branch Report

5 September 2017

The DanceSport WA Board is comprised of the following members as at
(5 November 2016):

Office Bearers:

Chairperson:	Judith Williams
Executive Officer:	Jan Hunt (Linda Brown to November 2016)
Treasurer:	Derek Gatley OAM (Jan Hunt to November 2016)

Elected Representatives:

Coach Representatives:	Daele Fraser OAM & Jan Reilly
Competitor Representatives:	Peter Hegarty & Jack Johnson
General Representatives:	Anna Di Vincenzo, Derek Gatley OAM, Jan Hunt, Barry White & Judy Williams

Appointed Representatives: Karen Ho & Linda Brown

Member Protection Officer: Joseph Di Rocco

Richard Morrissey and Grete Kasi left the Board November 2016.

Chairman:

Judy Williams has continued in the role of Chairman of DanceSport WA (DSWA), providing leadership and clear direction to all members. A corporate governance session was held for all DSWA board members in March, to reinforce the roles and responsibilities of board membership.

Operational Plan:

DSWA strategic plan continues to steer the board meetings in line with Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) requirements. The strategic plan will be reviewed early 2018 to ensure the board remains on track and to develop our business plan for the next 3 years.

Meetings:

Regular meetings have taken place with a full quorum in attendance. All resolutions and proceedings are minuted and issued including the names of the board members present. Board meetings were held at the DLGSC Offices in Leederville.

Finance:

The Treasurers report has been issued monthly and at time of writing confirms DSWA is managing finances well, under the careful watch of Derek Gatley OAM. Registration fees have been banked and receipts issued for cash received in a timely fashion.

Complaints and Appeals:

Following a decision by DSWA not to allow Mr. Steven Greenwood to return from professional to the amateur division, Mr. Steven Greenwood made a formal appeal to DSA National. The DSA Sports Director and CEO appointed a tribunal, which was instructed to overturn the State decision based on Rule 10.5.

No other complaints or appeals have been received.

Membership changes:

There have been a few requests for change of membership types and grades, which have been dealt with at board level.

Compliance and Ethics:

There have been no issues or matters raised which have required the Board to convene a Compliance and Ethics committee. Mr. Joseph Di Rocco remains as the MPO for DSWA and has not received any complaints or issues again this year.

Accreditation:

Linda Brown has performed the role of Accreditation Officer. With the change in process for applications moving to national control and online, the main role is advising process and scheduling examiners. For this period, level 1 standard is still the main accreditation requested with few applicants moving to level 2 or different styles.

Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation (DLGSC)

Most of this year DSWA have either had a caretaker consultant or none. Louise Haywood has now been appointed and she is proving to be very supportive of DanceSport. We have confirmed funding of \$13,000 until 2018, which will be used to educate and support our DSWA membership.

DLGSC advised all sports bodies must have a Concussion Policy. Judy Williams researched and wrote a DSWA specific Concussion Policy, which was approved by both DLGSC and DSA.

Quarterly reports were submitted to the department prepared by Judy Williams, which have been received well and continue to meet DLGSC requirements.

Promoters Meeting:

In September DMIA, ADS, AID and DSWA come together to plan dates and venues for the following calendar year. An extra meeting this year was convened, to share ideas, and explore the reasons for declining numbers. The outcome of which has been well received by the members. Some of the issues included: lack of changing rooms, insufficient time between recreational and amateur events when amateur dancers are partnering recreational dancers, and number of competitions.

Website:

Anna Di Vincenzo continues as web master and is integral to the success of all our social media streams. Anna is constantly updating the available information and ensuring that DanceSport in Western Australia keeps up with the times.

Electronic Scrutineering:

DSWA provide the scrutineering system to the promoters for a small fee. Lauren Chisholm provides the management expertise for the system for all the championships.

Maureen Perry is the DSWA scrutineer who attends all competitions and championships and when the Electronic systems are not used or fails, Maureen ensures the correct results are recorded manually.

Education and Training:

Returning to the beautiful South of Perth Yacht Club, our Xplo event took place in March 2017 with guest presenters Steven Grinbergs & Rachelle Plaas, Peter Townsend and Ross Heidke. We also had the bonus of a last-minute presenter Ruud Vermeij, who was welcomed by all attending.

The free juniors' day was also well received and took place in the City of Perth with the same presenters. Two exciting days of dancing with some great Australian and international champions started the 2017 dancing year. Xplo committee was made up of Linda Brown, Barry White and Jan Hunt.

Throughout the year, it was also great to see young studio coaches taking group workshops and camps out of the studio and making them available to all.

Membership Survey:

Jack Johnson compiled the survey, using feedback from the Board and dance societies of WA. The membership survey which was available both online and in paper form received well over 100 responses, and it has provided DSWA with an insight into real issues for the members. Many of the issues raised are being addressed and the statistical results have been published.

Fund raising:

Anna Di Vincenzo, Jan Reilly, Richard Morrissey and various member volunteers continue to run the sausage sizzle, which is always a success. This event is held twice a year at Bunnings Melville and generally raises approximately \$1500 profit, which is distributed to the DSWA state team in November each year.

DSWA State Team:

Jan Reilly and Anna Di Vincenzo collate results over the year and compile the DSWA State Team ready for announcement in the AGM in November. This information takes some time to compile, but our members love to see where they are in the tables. The top couples are encouraged to attend the Australian Championships in December and if they do they are rewarded by receiving funding, which must be used to fund their trip. Being part of the State Team also entitles the couples to press interest and local funding.

Flash mobs:

New for 2017, Karen Ho has led the Flash mob committee, partnering with Dance Connect and Perth Ballroom dancing to make our first 2 flash mobs, very successful. The first took place in June in the City of Perth with a second following at the newly built Elizabeth Quay. Turnout was excellent, and dancers from social, recreational and amateur divisions took part. Members of the board and dance societies also attended, handing our flyers and talking to the audience. This was a fabulous marketing exercise and really brought DanceSport to the people. There are plans afoot for further flash mobs in the summer.

Para Dance:

DSWA Chairman Judy Williams has been approached by Rebound WA, to conduct “come and try” days for their junior and adult wheelchair athletes in the new year.

Rebound WA is the peak sporting body for Paralympic athletes and are looking to offer DanceSport to its members due to the lineage of DSA / WDSF / World Para Dance and the Paralympics.

The “come and try” day is scheduled for Saturday 3rd February 2018 followed by two 6-week courses. It is then anticipated the para-athletes will be encouraged to continue into DanceSport competitively. The pilot program will be held at the Rebound WA base at the Herb Graham Centre in Muraoka.

Judy has researched para dance in terms of coaching and safety and has been in contact with world experts. DSWA have applied for funding under the Annual Grant Scheme to cover the costs of the pilot program and bring an international coach to Perth.

Routines will be choreographed and interested coaches will be offered the opportunity to learn para-dance skills.

It is anticipated the introduction of para-dance will offer many opportunities to Dancesport such as: lessons for coaches, partnerships, new audience reach for our championships and competitions.

DLGSC is eager for this program to be a success in WA and then run it out Australia-wide. Another “first” for WA.

WA Open DanceSport Championship:

In its 32nd year the WA Open DanceSport Championship has a change of committee and format. This year brings team events, more teacher/student events and a social after party for everyone. Held at the HBF Stadium in Mt Claremont, the WA Open DanceSport Championship is lining up to be the event not to miss.