



National Governing Body of DanceSport, Member Organization of the US Olympic Committee, and the World DanceSport Federation

Comments Regarding the 2016 December Governing Council Meeting Minutes

It is with deep regret that on December 30, 2016 a preliminary and unapproved version of the 2016 December Governing Council minutes were inappropriately published on the USA Dance web site. These minutes were immediately taken off the USA Dance web site when the current administration took office on January 1st, 2017 as the unauthorized draft minutes were not approved and the contents in some instances were inaccurate and potentially harmful. The current administration sincerely apologizes to those individuals referenced in the draft minutes as well as the general membership for any unsubstantiated material in that publication.

Governing Council Meeting – Minutes

EMBASSY SUITES ORLANDO AIRPORT - 5835 T. G. Lee Boulevard, Orlando / ph: 407-888-9339
Saturday, December 10th & Sunday, December 11th, 2016

Voting Member	Title	In Attendance
Ken Richards	President	Yes
Daphna Locker	Secretary / Secretary Elect	Yes
Ann Durocher	Senior VP / Sr-VP Elect	Yes
Scott Coates	Treasurer / Treasurer Elect	Yes
Stan Andrews	DanceSport-VP	Yes
Jean Krupa	Social VP	Yes
Rog Greenawalt	DS Delegate / DS Delegate Elect	Yes
Inna Brayer	DS Delegate / DS Delegate Elect	Yes
Edward Golbert	DanceSport Delegate	No/phone vote
Nicole Palagashvili	DanceSport Delegate	No/school
Jim DiCecca	Dir. of Membership / Social-VP Elect	Yes
Linda Succi	Director of K-12 Programs	Yes
Angela Prince	Director of Public Relations	Yes
Hannah Cole	Director of College Network	Yes
Efrosyni Iosiphidis	Director of Admin Support	Yes
Renata Shvarts	Director of Education	Yes
Irina Feingold	DS-Delegate Elect – was voted in when Nicole resigned	Yes
Non-Voting Attendees	Title	In Attendance
Lydia Scardina	National Past President	Yes
Esther Freeman	National Past President	Yes
Peter Pover	National Past President	Yes

Non-Voting Guests	Title	In Attendance
Glenn Weiss	President Elect	No
Bill Davies	DS-Vice President Elect	Yes arrived at 3
Carole Barber	DS-Delegate Elect	No
Ben Moseley	Dance Notions	Yes

Saturday, Dec. 10

2:00pm – Welcome, Roll Call, Establish Quorum Ken/Daphna
 Additional Non-Voting Attendees: John Davis – Orlando Chapter President; District Dir. Don Davenport 14 of 16 GC members were in attendance. A majority of GC members constitutes a quorum, therefore the quorum criteria was met. Twelve votes were needed to pass a Bylaw change while nine votes were needed for a motion to pass. Edward had stated that he will be able to call into the meeting during bylaw vote but Nicole could not.

Items in **Red = Motions**

Nicole Palagashvili resigned as of this meeting. A motion was presented to install Irina Feingold as an appointed DanceSport Delegate to complete Nicole Palagashvili’s term of office.

Motion – Presented by Ken – to allow Irina Feingold to compete Nicole Palagashvili’s term of office. 2nd by Stan

Abstentions – Inna

Against – Roger

In Favor – Ken, Daphna, Ann, Scott, Stan, Jean, Jim, Linda, Angela, Hannah, Efrosyni, Renata

Motion carried by 12 votes

2:20pm – Departmental Reports and Motions (max 20 min each)

(Note: this will not be a reading of each report. Instead it will be an opportunity for Q&A and discussion of pending issues & motions raised.) Department reports were given by outgoing directors and officers.

- K-12 Linda Succi
 Linda reported on the activity of the K12 program, including surveys conducted to determine what chapters had such programs. She cited the amount of publicity given to various programs, such as Special Olympics. Linda provides music sets upon request to chapters with KIDZ programs. Only 21 chapters have active youth programs.

 Action item: K12 needs some form of fundraising to help get the programs moving.
- Membership Jim DiCecca
 Down 3000 members since Sept 2013, biggest challenge is keeping current members, current renewal is 27%. We did a mail study and of those social dancers we mailed the renewal notice, the renewal rate went up to an average of 60%, may be worth sending out membership renewal letters to people whose memberships were not renewed going back to 2013. Consider expanding the mail to DanceSport, youth, and youth studios.

- Collegiate Hannah Cole
Hannah reported that USA Dance lost the National Collegiate DanceSport Championships this past year to Ohio Star Ball (NDCA). Work needs to be done among colleges and she is most excited about the Academy and education dovetailing into collegiate events. She suggested resurrecting IDF and alternate years in the US and England.

- Publicity (Not Magazine) Angela Prince
Angela reported that she has held the position since 2007 and that the Public Relations job is a 15-20 hour per week position. She suggested that USA Dance explore other social media other than FB. Focus needs to be on posting a positive corporate message on social media sites.

- Admin Support/Music Licensing/Intellectual Prop Efrosyni Iosiphidis

- **Current Music Licenses:**

2016	ASCAP	Blanket License Agreement for Websites & Mobile Applications	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2016
2016	ASCAP	Dance Club Trade Associate License Agreement (covers all uses**)	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2016
2016	BMI	Noncommercial Music performance Agreement – digital use	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2016
2016	BMI	Music License for Competitions/Shows	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2016
2016	SESAC	Performance License	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2016
2016	SESAC	License Agreement for Websites	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2016

- **Intellectual Property**

- The registered trademarks that were renewed:
 - USA Dance, Inc.
 - USA Dance logo
 - The trademarks that are newly registered:
 - American Dancer.
- Newly filed trademark applications and currently pending:
 - USA Dance for Kidz (logo)
 - Dancing for America
 - Trademark applications that still need filing are:
 - USA DANCE NQE (logo)
 - USA Dance Sanctioned (logo)
 - USA DANCE Registered (logo)

- USA Dance Academy Renata Shvarts
Renata reported that this is in the early stages of development but off to a good start with four events in the past four months. She plans to hold two days of syllabus workshops during Nationals and offer the opportunity for judges to take their examinations. The intent of the Academy is to promote dance to members, coaches, judges and to Social as well as DanceSport.
Challenges are:

For the purpose of educating the incoming Governing Council members, a detailed assessment backed with specific facts was given by President Ken Richards about issues and challenges this Governing Council faced over the last two years. He noted that not all matters were resolved and therefore some remain to be completed by the incoming GC.

10:30am – DanceSport Council Report / Transition Stan Andrews

- DanceSport Rulebook Changes to vote on
 - Revised Proficiency Points Section & Guide

Motion to approve the new Proficiency Point system – 2nd Renata – Abstentions – 0, No – 0, carried by unanimous vote

7.4.4.1 – NQE participation prior to entering WDSF events.

- In several federations this has been an issue, a couple cannot compete in a WDSF event unless you support the federation in which you are a member. DSC wants to add that in order to compete in a WDSF event in the USA, they need to have danced in an NQE at some point during the competition year.

Motion – presented by Stan, 2nd by Ann, carried by unanimous vote.

11:15am – Break – 10mins

11:25am – Social Dance Council Report/Motions Jean Krupa

- A status report on district management, chapter conferences, cruise services, and merchandising was provided.

12:00pm – Break/Check-Out – 20mins

12:20pm – Transition of Governance Items Ken/Ann/Daphna

The current GC presented transition information and documentation to the newly elected GC members.

1:00pm – Working Lunch In-Room Ken/Ben Moseley

Ben Mosley presented information on the USA Dance information storage technology, email system, website, and technology used for chapter marketing and support.

Returning Business Motion – Compensation

Edward Golbert called into the meeting.

Motion Presented by Scott – Compensation for voting members of any USA Dance National Body, council or committee will be allowed as long as (a) the compensation is not directly linked to their job on said national body, council &/or committee and (b) an Ethics Committee is established within 90-days of the new board of directors taking office (deadline April 1, 2017.) – 2nd by Hannah
Abstentions – Ann & Inna

Scott- yes
Hannah – yes
Rog –no
Stan-yes
Irina – yes
Efrosyni –yes
Linda – yes
Angela –yes
Renata – Yes
Eddie – yes via the phone
Jim – yes
Daphna –yes
Ken – yes
Jean – yes

Motion passes

3:00pm – Meeting Adjourned