

July 12, 2016

IMPORTANT USA DANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Governing Council of USA Dance welcomes Daphna Locker, President of the Greater New York Chapter, an accomplished DanceSport athlete and former National Secretary of USA Dance, to the appointed position of National Secretary to serve for remainder of the 2016 term of office. Her term is effective July 15, following the work accomplished by Marta Pascale, Greater Daytona Beach Chapter President, who was appointed to the position during the election-year transition.

Daphna is a long-standing, dedicated USA Dance volunteer and respected leader and has held numerous key offices and roles within the USA Dance organization for many years at both the chapter and national levels.

As she has described her dance history --

I am currently a member of the USA Dance Greater NY Chapter #3004, was the Co-President of the Chapter with Janine D'Andrea in 1998 and for a 2nd term in 2000-2002. In 2002 I moved to Denver, CO with my wife Julie and became a member of the Denver Chapter. In 2007, we moved back to NY and I once again joined the Greater NY Chapter. I was voted to be President of the Chapter for a 3rd time in 2014, and continue in that position to this day.

In Denver, I was a member-at-large for the Rocky Mtn Chapter #5006, from 2004 to 2007, and I helped start and run Colorado's only (at that time) all amateur dance competition, the Rocky Mountain Amateur Classic (RMAC). I just couldn't stay away from the MAC both literally and figuratively.

While living in Denver, in addition to serving on the local board, I became the DanceSport Delegate (the precursor to the current day DanceSport Delegates) for Region 5, (now part of District 7) and in that role worked on many revisions of the Dress Code and rulebook. In 2005, I ran for National Secretary and I was elected for 2 terms. Upon my return to NY, I resigned from that position to become the Chair of the National Organizing Committee for Nationals 2008-2014.

I currently serve as the Registrar for the National Collegiate DanceSport Championship and am on the organizing committee for the The Manhattan Amateur Classic NQE, otherwise known as "The MAC," and am the registrar for all three of the NJ DanceSport Classic competitions, 'Fall Frolic', 'Spring Fling' and the USA Dance NQE 'Summer Sizzler'.

I have been a competitive ballroom dancer for many years, starting as a Pro/Am competitor making the Pro/Am Adult Open Championship finals at the United States DanceSport Championships in Florida. After reaching that milestone, I started dancing Am/Am and worked my way up the ranks from Bronze to being a finalist in the Open Standard Senior I at the USA Dance National Championship in Minneapolis. With my same-sex partner, I have competed in the A level in same-sex competitions both in the United States and in Europe.

When not working in some capacity or other in the ballroom world, I'm a full-time Psychologist working in an inner-city hospital Psychiatric Unit with people who have serious mental illnesses.
