



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

MINUTES FOR GC MEETING 3/26/18		
Voting Member	Title	In Attendance
Gary Stroick	President	Yes
Open	Senior VP	N/A
Jack Kellner	Secretary	Yes
Ruth Long	Treasurer	Yes
Giacomo Steccaglia	DanceSport VP	Yes
Melissa Dexter	Professional VP	Yes (late)
Leland Whitney	Social VP	Yes
Roger Greenawalt	DanceSport Delegate	Yes
Inna Brayer	DanceSport Delegate	Yes (late)
Michael Murphy	DanceSport Delegate	Yes
Damian Pataluna	DanceSport Delegate	No
Herb McGurk	Membership Director	Yes
Kym Zion	K12 Programs Director	Yes
Open	Development Director	N/A
Open	Admin Support Director	N/A
Hannah Cole	College Network Director	No
Don Davenport	Chapter Relations Director	Yes
Open	Marketing Director	N/A

Roll Call: There are currently 14 filled seats on the Governing Council. A quorum consists of 8 or more members in attendance. A **quorum is present** as 10 members are in attendance. A ByLaw amendment requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the filled seats; $0.75 \times 14 = 10.5$, or 11 votes would be required to amend the ByLaws.

1. Called to Order by Gary at 9:02 pm EDT.

2. Mr. Sami Yli-Pipari joined the meeting as a special guest. He presented certain proposed pro/am rules, including changes to Rulebook sections 2.2, 3.9, 3.10, 4.4 - 4.6 and 4.7. Suggestions were made and questions answered.

MOTION to approve proposed pro/am rules as presented in principle and send them back to the PC for exact wording and details (Gary/Roger). Passed 9-0-1. (Michael abstained.)

Melissa and Inna joined the meeting during Sami's presentation.
Sami left the meeting at 10:07 pm.

3. President's Report

Our insurance representative is reviewing the current D&O coverage with regard to coverage for chapter boards.



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4. Treasurer's Report

- A. **MOTION to approve a \$2900 contract with American Public Television (Ruth/Gary).** Passed 10-1-1. (Jack voted no and Michael abstained.)
- B. Ruth reported on bank balances.
- C. Ruth reported we met the minimum number of contracted hotel room nights for Nationals.
- D. Nationals has about 80 fewer registered participants than last year.
- E. NCDC has about 370 registered students, and Ruth believes we will be close to breaking even on the event.
- F. **MOTION to approve the concessions contract with MG Concessions for NCDC (Michael/Ruth).** Passed 12-0-0.

5. Secretary's Report

- A. We have now applied for charity registration in all states where we have chapters.
- B. Two more change-of-chapter-officers bank letters have gone out.

6. VP - Pro

- A. 14 people have registered for the professional congress.
- B. **MOTION to approve the proposed Professional Council organizational chart (Melissa/Jack).** Passed 12-0-0.

7. VP - Social

Leland reported on a recent district director meeting. The Region 3 District Director position is still open and Leland is recruiting candidates for it.

8. VP - DS

- A. Giacomo reported that three dance camps have already been held in 2018.
- B. **MOTION to approve Rulebook change:**
7.4.4.2.5 Before an athlete couple may receive a travel stipend the couple must provide evidence of that it has given an uncompensated performance or workshop for a USA Dance chapter. There must be at least one performance or workshop for each travel stipend an athlete couple requests. Adequate proof of a performance or workshop may include a photo or video of the performance or workshop, or a letter signed by chapter president acknowledging or thanking the couple for the performance or workshop.
(Michael/Ruth). Passed 12-0-0.

9. K-12 Director

- A. Kym is working with a new group in Atlanta about a K-12 program.
- B. Discussion about whether Canadian professionals can teach at the CT program.



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10. Membership/Ethics

A. Herb reported that there are currently 4 cases pending before the Ethics Committee. Two are in informal negotiations, one is going to a hearing panel, and one is being returned as it is incomplete.

B. **MOTION to approve Bylaw amendments regarding the Ethics Committee and Complaints** (Michael/Ruth). Passed 12-0-0. Attached as Appendix 1.

C. **MOTION to forward "letter of intent" as drafted by the website ad hoc committee to Dance Notions** (Herb/Don). Passed 12-0-0.

11. Development / Marketing

Ruth reported that Wheelchair Dance would like to join USA Dance as an associate member.

MOTION to accept American Dance Wheels Foundation as an associate member of USA Dance and as a member in our dance environment (Ruth/Inna). Passed 12-0-0.

Michael left the meeting.

12. Old Business

A. Gary proposed Kirk Sigmon for the Director of Administrative Support vacancy. **Ratification by GC passed 11-0-0.**

Gary asked Ruth to leave the meeting.

B. Gary proposed Greg Warner for the SVP vacancy. **Ratification by GC failed 7-1-2.** (Jack voted no, Inna and Giacomo abstained.) Vote was tallied and announced.

C. **MOTION to RECONSIDER the ratification vote on Greg Warner** (Giacomo/Inna). Passed 9-1-0. (Jack voted no.)

D. **PROPOSAL to ratify Greg Warner as SVP is back on the table.** Passed 9-1-0. (Jack voted no.)

13. Gary called the next GC meeting for Tu 4/10 at 9 pm EDT.

14. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn (Gary/Herb). No objections. Meeting adjourned at 12:09 am, 3.27.18.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Kellner
National Secretary



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Appendix 1

ARTICLE XIV – COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

- E. MANNER OF FILING: The Complainant must file the complaint with the Ethics Committee.
1. The complaint shall set forth in clear and concise language, in numbered paragraphs:
 - a. the alleged violation, complaint, denial or threat to deny, and
 - b. the remedy requested.
 2. The Complainant shall sign the complaint in the presence of a notary. The following language shall be added before the Complainant's signature, attesting to the accuracy of the complaint: "I certify the allegations in this document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge." The following language shall appear before the notary's signature "Subscribed before me on the ____ day of ____ in the year ____." The complaint shall be sent to the Chair of the Ethics Committee.
- F. COMPLAINT PROCESSING:
1. The chair of the Ethics Committee may personally review, or may appoint another member of the Ethics Committee to review, a Complaint to determine whether the Complaint sufficiently complies with the manner of filing described above, if after this review it is determined the Complaint does not sufficiently comply the manner of filing, the chair of the Ethics Committee shall return the Complaint to the Complainant for correction and re-submission.
 2. The chair of the Ethics Committee may personally review, or may appoint another member of the Ethics Committee to review, a Complaint to determine whether the Complaint raises a matter on which the Ethics Committee had previously provided a recommendation or guidance. If the Ethics Committee had already provided a recommendation or guidance on a matter, and the Respondent had acted in accordance with the recommendation or guidance, the Ethics Committee shall dismiss the Complaint in whole or in part. When making such a dismissal, the Ethics Committee shall explain the basis of the dismissal and may provide a copy of the recommendation or guidance to the Complainant.
 3. Where a Complaint is filed by an individual or organization who within the past three (3) years has had three (3) or more complaints dismissed by a hearing panel as frivolous, unsupported, or not brought in good faith, the chair of the Ethics Committee personally review, or may appoint another member of the Ethics Committee to review, the Complaint to determine whether the Complaint provides at least a good faith allegation of a violation, complaint, denial or threat

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to deny. If the Complaint does not meet this good faith standard, the Ethics Committee may dismiss the Complaint.

4. When a Complaint is not returned or dismissed by the Ethics Committee, the chair of the Ethics Committee shall cause a copy of the Complaint to be delivered to the Respondent(s) either in person, by certified mail, or like delivery service and shall appoint a member of the Ethics Committee to contact the Complainant and the Respondent within fifteen (15) days of the complaint filing to determine if the complaint can be resolved informally. The Ethics Committee shall prepare and submit a report within forty-five (45) days of the complaint filing to the Complainant, Respondent, and the GC outlining the terms of the resolution.

G. HEARING PROCESS:

1. **Filing Fee.** If the Complaint is not resolved informally, the Complainant may request a hearing. A request for a hearing panel must be accompanied with a filing fee as specified in the “USA Dance Complaint Fee Structure” policy document except that USA Dance is not required to pay a filing fee. The Complainant may request that the filing fee be reduced or waived for reasons of significant financial hardship. If such request is made, the Ethics Committee shall determine whether or not to reduce or waive the filing fee.
2. **Hearing Panel.** Upon the payment of the filing fee, the chair of the Ethics Committee must promptly notify the Respondent and after consultation with the other Committee members, shall within fourteen (14) days appoint a hearing panel consisting of at least three (3) individuals to hear the complaint. The Ethics Committee shall also appoint a chair of the hearing panel from the individuals selected. The Ethics Committee or any of its members may serve as or on the hearing panel. Other disinterested individuals identified by the Ethics Committee may also be appointed to and serve on the hearing panel. At least one (1) member of the hearing panel shall be an Elite Championship Athlete.
3. **Response to Complaint.** Prior to the scheduling of a hearing, the Chair of the Hearing Panel must cause a copy of the Complaint to be delivered to the Respondent(s) either in person, by certified mail, or like delivery service. In the event the Respondent(s) engaged in an informal complaint resolution the Respondent shall respond within ten (10) days following notice of the payment of the filing fee by filing with the Chair of the Hearing Panel an answer to each of the factual allegations in the Complaint. In the event the Respondent(s) did not engage in an informal complaint resolution the Respondent shall respond within thirty (30) days following notice of the payment of the filing fee by filing with the Chair of the Hearing Panel an answer to each of the factual allegations in the Complaint. The Respondent(s) may include new matter, also in numbered paragraph form, which contains additional facts. The Response shall be signed in the presence of a notary. The following language shall be added before the Respondent’s signature, attesting to the accuracy of the complaint: “I certify the

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allegations in this document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.”

The following language shall appear before the notary’s signature: “Subscribed before me on the ___ day of ____.” The Response shall be sent to the Chair of the Hearing Panel. The Chair of the Hearing Panel shall cause copies of the Response to be delivered to all interested parties.

4. **Complaints Involving Selection to Participate in a Competition.** Where a complaint is filed involving selection of an individual to participate in a competition, the complainant shall include with the complaint a list of all other individuals, together with their contact information, that may be adversely affected by a decision rendered on the complaint. The Respondent(s) shall also submit a list of individuals, together with their contact information, that may be adversely affected by a decision rendered on the complaint. The hearing panel shall determine those individuals who must receive notice of the complaint. The hearing panel will then be responsible for providing appropriate notice to these individuals. Any individual so notified then will have the option to participate in the proceeding as a party. If an individual is notified of the complaint, then that individual will be bound by the decision of the hearing panel even though the individual chose not to participate as a party.
5. **Conduct of the hearing.** The hearing panel may set such timelines and other rules regarding the proceeding and the conduct of the hearing as it deems necessary, however, the hearing shall commence no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of Response(s) to the Complaint. The hearing shall be informal. The hearing may be conducted by teleconference, if necessary or convenient to the parties. Each party is expected to appear personally to answer questions. They may be represented by an attorney, parent or other advocate if they wish. However, the hearing panel may exclude a representative that is disruptive, rude, or refuses to follow the rules and procedures set by the hearing panel. All parties shall be given a reasonable opportunity to present and examine evidence, and to present argument. Members of the hearing panel will have the right to question witnesses or the parties to the proceeding at any time. Any party may have a record made of the hearing. A court reporter may be present at the hearing at the request of a party. The court reporter shall be paid for by the party requesting the court reporter, or if mutually agreed, the cost may be equally divided. Any transcript shall be paid for by the party requesting the transcript.
6. **Decision of Hearing Panel.** A decision will be determined by a majority of the hearing panel. The hearing panel’s decision shall be in writing and distributed to the parties, the GC, and the Ethics Committee if it is not serving as the hearing panel within fifteen (15) days of the close of the hearing. However, the hearing panel may request from the GC an additional thirty (30) days to prepare its decision. The decision of the hearing panel will be final unless appealed to the GC.



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- J. **APPEAL:** Within thirty (30) days after receipt of a copy of the report, a party may request an appeal of the decision. The request shall be in writing and addressed to the President. It shall state why the decision of the hearing panel was wrong, why any alleged error by the hearing panel would have materially changed the hearing panel's decision, and what remedy is requested. A filing fee as specified in the "USA Dance Complaint Fee Structure" policy document shall accompany the request. The Secretary shall send the other party a copy of the appeal documents with a request for any follow up response they wish to make. Upon review of the appeal and any follow up response, the GC may:
1. returns the complaint to the panel for clarification or for the taking of additional evidence or reconsidering their decision or
 2. affirm the decision of the hearing panel, or
 3. take such other action as it deems appropriate. The decision of the GC is final.