

Summer 2024 E-Notes of Board Meeting of June 3

1. Communications Received:

Dancing Etiquette and Safety:

- Blair and Tristan Gerrie sent an email to the board with concerns about etiquette and safety on the dance floor and how to help direct dancers at TA events.
- The board has replied with some suggestions. The teachers' panel will be asked to develop some guidelines when they meet again in the fall.
- In the meantime, an article will be submitted for the September *Set & Link*.

New Social Group:

- Leo Roytman is organizing a biweekly social group for September. It is designed for experienced dancers familiar with Level 3 formations with good phrasing and timing who want to further develop their dancing skills. It will include video recording for individual review and critique, discussion and idea sharing between group members, and minimal walk-throughs. He has requested affiliation with the Toronto Association, which has been granted.
- Look for an article in September's *Set & Link* for further details.

2. Upcoming Events:

List of Summer Highland Games:

- See [Dance Scottish What's On-Near](#).

Downtown Ceilidh:

- The Youth Committee is planning a ceilidh at the Horseshoe Tavern, located at the corner of Queen Street West and Spadina, on the evening of Tuesday, August 27.
- Laird Brown will provide the music for this event.
- Tickets are \$10.
- More information will be provided on our website as final details are worked out.

High Energy Class:

- A new high energy class is being planned for the fall, taught by various guest teachers.
- The class will be held once a month.
- Dates, times, cost, and venues to be determined.
- Check the Dance Scottish website for information as it develops.

Sunday Broadlands Specials:

- Planning is underway to set up sessions for the fall. However, Broadlands has limited availability for the times that work best for us in the upstairs room with the sprung floor.
- Alternate venues are being investigated.

Dancing Around the World:

- This is an initiative that Scotland is asking branches around the world to participate in, to mark one year after the centenary of the RSCDS.

- The dance program has been selected by Scotland and contains dances from Scotland, South Africa, Switzerland, Australia, Japan, India, USA, and Canada
- Because one of the dances included in the program of RSCDS dances was devised by a former Toronto Association member (Bob Campbell), this is an opportunity for us to share this experience with the world.
- We are hoping to secure a venue for a tea dance on the afternoon of November 23, 2024.
- More details forthcoming.

Social Group Updates:

- Any social groups with changing information need to let our treasurer Wendy Fulton know by mid-August in order to sort out insurance.
- All social groups are reminded to let Rob Lockhart know of changes, start-up dates, etc.

Great Lakes Ball:

- There is a link to photos and videos taken at the ball on their [website](#). A link was also posted in the June *Set & Link*.
- Due to the success of the ball, the funds that the Toronto Association loaned to the Great Lakes Ball Committee were returned in their entirety, along with an additional \$400.

Gently Used Clothing Sale Donation:

- The West End Workshop donated \$2,782.41 to the Toronto Association, with the funds designated for the 2025 Tartan Ball.
- The WEW committee is seeking volunteer(s) to house the unsold items and to run the event, if it is to continue next year.
- Some options are being pursued, but if unsuccessful, the clothes will be donated to a charity and the event will not be held.

Password-protected Members-only Page:

- The board is looking into the feasibility of password-protecting our members only page to protect privacy.

Early Bird Membership Draw:

- Again this year, we will hold an early bird draw for a free monthly dance ticket from the names of those renewing membership early.
- The ticket is valid for the 2024-2025 dance season only (October to April).
- The ticket is only transferrable to another dancer by the winner, i.e., if a non-dancing member so wishes.
- Additional details will be sent out with membership renewal reminders in August.

Advertising:

- Flyers, posters, and business cards with QR codes were available at Dancing in the Park.
- Remainders will be available for members to distribute or post in their communities and at the St. Andrews Ball practices and elsewhere.
- Please contact [Moira Korus](#), Education and Training Convenor, if interested in obtaining any of these items.

Social Media:

- How many people come to SCD through social media? Information from the association classes is that people heard about lessons from Facebook, Instagram, Google searches, at the St. Andrew's Ball, and by word of mouth.
- We need to check with younger members to assess the value of social media in attracting new dancers.
- We have decided not to renew Meetup for the time being.

Set & Link Ad Policy:

- Non-members can pay to post ads on our website or in *Set & Link*.
- In 2018, the cost per ad was \$30; the fee will remain the same.
- Spouses or children of members who have died may post ads for kilts, etc., without charge.

Dancing Gems Dance Book:

- The book is now available in hard copy and can be ordered on the [Dance Scottish website](#). The cost is \$15.00 including HST. Delivery is free to your social group. Shipping within Canada is \$5 for one book and \$6 for two books. If you are paying by e-transfer, please complete the JotForm on the website and make payment to the email address shown, indicating that the payment is for *Dancing Gems*. You can also email [Arlene Koteff](#) if you have questions.

Board Initiatives:

- We have updated our directors' information with the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA)
- We are updating attestations regarding vulnerable persons policies.
- We are reviewing and updating our by-laws and procedures.
- Volunteer recognition and nominations for volunteer awards, branch awards, and the scroll of honour are being organized. Watch for more information in the fall.

Dates for Board Meetings, 2024/5:

- Sunday, September 8, 2024
- Tuesday, October 8, 2024
- Sunday, November 3, 2024
- Tuesday, December 10, 2024
- Thursday, January 2, 2025
- Sunday, February 9, 2025
- Sunday, March 9, 2025
- Sunday, April 6, 2025
- Sunday, May 4, 2025
- Monday, June 2, 2025
- AGM: Sunday, April 27, 2025