

Dunedin Social Guidelines

At Dunedin Dancers, we pride ourselves on being welcoming and inclusive in our social dancing, our Festival and our events, and we thank you for your contribution to this. There are a few areas we would like to highlight.

Forming up:

- Please watch for people who want to dance but have been sitting out, and make sure they get included.
- Having said that, please respect that some people do not wish to or are unable to dance every dance.
- This is the 21st century. Men can dance with men just as well as women dancing with women.
- Don't assume two women who have chosen to dance together would rather split up to dance with men.

Most of our Wednesday evening callers are not trained teachers, so please be understanding. In particular:

- Wherever possible, please let the caller continue without interrupting.
- If you think the caller is wrong or your set doesn't understand, please attract the caller's attention rather than running a private class for your set.
- Please keep yourself to the speed of the caller during the walkthrough. As a caller, it is very confusing if different sets are in different places.

Dancing etiquette:

- It's great to help out. However, when guiding other dancers, please keep it contact-free.
- We welcome spontaneous embellishments in the dancing...as long as everyone in the set can cope with it...
- Please always wear underwear with kilts.
- We welcome capable children who already know how to dance, as long as under 16s are accompanied by a parent or guardian who is looking after them.
- Remember, children may have been dancing for several years and be experienced dancers. Show them the same respect as other adult dancers.

In general:

- Please respect your committee. If they make a request, please take heed. They are the ones responsible for the Society.
- If you disagree with committee decisions, by all means take it up politely (and preferably privately) with them, but ultimately they are the ones setting the rules.
 - If you disagree, there are always spaces on the committee...
- And finally, we welcome everyone equally regardless of race, gender, religion or sexual orientation. Bullying, intimidation or discrimination of any kind are totally unacceptable at any time. However we are all human, and tempers can fray...
 - If you find yourself in an uncomfortable position, extract yourself and enlist the help of a committee member.
 - If you observe behaviour which makes you uncomfortable, by all means try to defuse the situation, but always report to a committee member.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation!