

**NZ DanceSport (Charitable) Trust
Chairpersons Report
Presented at NZDA Meeting
8 & 9 February, 2014**

This year has been relatively good for the Trust. The great news is that we have been successful in meeting all of our debt arising from the two international competitions ran in 2011 and 2012 and we have robust plans in place to repay debentures and loans made to the Trust. The core trustees and secretary have for the most part met weekly this year and their personal commitment in meeting our financial obligations despite personal challenges has been the reason we are in the good shape we are in. Our Trust activity has changed from fundraising to pay debt to a focus on fund raising to set up and run events which will enable us to move to a good financial footing going forward and begin to help rebuild the amateur dancesport community.

We are working with a number of Salsa and Street Latin Professionals in Auckland to set up a Competition (s) that will be run on an annual basis in New Zealand. The inaugural event will be run this year and our Event Director will profile that event in his report. I think that it is important to note that our IDO membership and the certification and titles that it brings are what make this arrangement with the Salsa community attractive to them. As a working Trust for the dance community I would urge the delegates to appreciate the importance of DanceSport New Zealand owning this relationship for the dance community.

The Trust is working in partnership with Federal to plan for the World Masters Games Dancesport Event in January 2017 to be held in Auckland.

Again, I would like to urge the DNZ National Delegates to communicate widely regarding all decisions made on DNZ policies and procedures so our athletes understand the importance of supporting the amateur body and why having our license is important. It concerns me greatly that our amateur brand has become so undermined that even our affiliated organisations will allow athletes to compete without the license. As an organisation, I believe our focus should be in rebuilding that brand, I believe that will need to be done from working in the schools along side the street dance communities.

Once again thank you to the regions for supporting the Trust with financial contributions in the last year. Detailed information about the Trust financial activities will be presented in the Trust Financial Report.

I would like to thank the hard work and commitment of our Event Director, William Joyce, Treasurer Sandra Maxfield, Secretary Jenny Lamb. I would also like to again acknowledge that there have been many personal challenges which the team has had to deal with and yet the committee continues to remain committed to promoting dance for dancers in New Zealand.

I made the personal commitment to remain Chairperson of the Trust until we had met our legal obligations as a trust. We have done that and I feel that we have a path forward to promote dance and dance competitions in the future. I feel the trust now needs new blood I am stepping as down as Chairperson and will be resigning from the Trust having served out my term. I wish DNZ all the very best and urge the team to tactically focus on promoting the kind of competitions which recognise many styles of dance so that we can showcase to the dance community what Ballroom and Latin really is about and rebuild the status and brand of DanceSport New Zealand.

Becky Blackshaw
Chairperson