



National Member of the World DanceSport Federation (WDSF) recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).
Associate Member of the New Zealand Olympic Committee (NZOC) - Affiliate member of Paralympics New Zealand (PNZ).
Member of the International Dance Organisation (IDO)

PRESIDENT REPORT

*Annual General Meeting 12 February 2017
Ace House, 111 Brougham Street, Wellington*

Another year has gone and the regions continue their work towards lifting the profile of dancesport around the country. Running competitions, social dances or fundraising, the people on our national and regional committees are to be congratulated for their continued dedication in what can be trying times. If we continue to work as a team this should help build the membership and create a stronger Association.

The Executive and Sports Officer continue their 'behind the scenes' work with the administration of the Association trying to ensure that Rules and other documents are current and up to date. Their hard work is acknowledged and much appreciated. Also a special thanks to the WDSF delegates who represented DanceSport New Zealand at the 2016 WDSF AGM at their own expense.

The WDSF management team has seen some significant changes over the past year with the retirement of President Carlos Freitag and more recently the resignation of Sports Director Marco Seitas. New President Lukas Hinder has set up a Presidential Task Force to combat competition manipulation and issued the first Task Force White Paper in October 2016. This document has been downloaded more than any official document other than Competition Rules and more than the Code of Ethics which is an indication of how important the issue is considered by members. The first step taken in December 2016 was to abolish all secrecy about panels of adjudicators prior to major competitions such as Championships and Grandslams. The second was an external audit of the Judging System 2.1 which resulted in significant changes to the system. It is hoped that System 2.2 or even 3.0 will be ready for the first Grandslam in Helsinki in March.

In December the news was released that dancesport would be included in the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires. Dancesport will be represented by the Breakdance discipline which has been under the umbrella of the WDSF since 2015. This announcement was received enthusiastically by all members and is a further step to the Olympic Games for dancesport.

In January Tommy Shaughnessy from Ireland was employed as WDSF Sports Director and also as a member of the WDSF Sports Commission. Check out the WDSF website for amazing videos of competitions around the world and the latest WDSF news. A link can be found on the DNZ website.

Nationally, the Christchurch DanceSport Challenge was held in Christchurch on 1 October 2016 featuring two-dance events in an attempt to attract more dancers along with one dance and other recreational events. This revised format proved to be very popular with dancers who attended as it provided more opportunity for competition for most.

Following the successful NZFATD One Dance Championships in June these different formats could be the way of the future. We need to provide vibrant and fun events for dancers and their supporters to attract and entertain.

It is time to work together to regenerate the sport from grassroots level.

Sandra Maxfield
President