

B.C. Senior Games Report  
B.C. Square & Round Dance Federation  
Board of Directors Meeting  
March 29, 2008 at  
Wellington Hall, Nanaimo, B.C.

At the BOD meeting last year in Victoria, it was announced that we had been approved by the BC Senior Games for inclusion of Square Dancing as an “Optional Sport” in the 2009 and 2010 games. It was carried at that BOD meeting that we would get involved with the BC Senior Games and that up to \$1000 in expense money would be available to the committee, if required, to work on this initiative.

Our involvement was confirmed at the AGM in Penticton and members were advised that there was not much that could be done until the sites for the Games were chosen. If, for example they were to be located in a remote area where there is no current square dancing activity, we would be unlikely to get the required number of Regions/Zones to compete.

On January 2, 2008 I was advised that the 2009 Games were to be held in Richmond and the 2010 Games were to be held in the Comox Valley. This was excellent news because there is currently square dancing activity in both of these Regions/Zones, and it should be possible to get dancers involved.

I advised by e-mail the executive and BC members who had previously indicated an interest in involvement in the Senior Games, and sent a follow-up e-mail requesting that an overall “Co-ordinator” for square dancing at the BC Games should be sought. I did not have to screen out a lot of applications for the job. In fact, I think that they must be still lost somewhere out in cyberspace. I also sent out an e-mail with “Information About the BC Senior Games” that I received from the Games executive.

- At this point we need to identify a person or persons who are prepared to Co-ordinate the Square Dancing activity for the Senior Games. Because the 2009 games are being held in Richmond (Zone 4/Region 2), it would seem appropriate that a volunteer should be sought from that area. *(possible motion that if a suitable volunteer is found the executive committee should appoint them to the position of Senior Games Co-ordinator for the Square Dance activity)*
- We also require a volunteer from each Region/Zone where there is Square Dancing activity, to get involved with their local Zone Committee, and determine how participation in your Region should be carried out. *(local associations should advise the BC Federation Executive who their local Region/Zone representative is)*

Please note that the BC Senior Games Zones correlate quite nicely with the BC Fed Regions,

- Zone 1 = Region 1 (Lower Vancouver Island)
- Zone 2 = Region 8 (Upper Vancouver Island)
- Zone 3 (Fraser Valley) & 4 (Vancouver) = Region 2
- Zone 5 = Region 3 (Okanagan)
- Zone 6 West Kootenays & 7 East Kootenays = Region 4 (Kootenays)
- Zone 8 (South Central) = Region 9 (Thompson/Shushwap)
- Zone 9, 10, 11, 12 = Region 5 (The Rest of the Province)

Smaller Regions can submit “combined” teams.

The Senior Games executive have advised us that our next step is to sign a “Memorandum of Understanding” so that both parties have clarification as to their benefits and responsibilities. The proposed wording was to be considered as a guide only, and rewording can be negotiable. I sent the MOU to the executive, and received a reply only from our President. Nick has quite a few questions about the wording of the MOU, but I am certain agreeable phrasing can be established. *(The BC Fed executive should have the authority to enter a MOU with the Senior Games, hopefully with the involvement of a newly appointed Square Dance Co-ordinator).*

Information on the local Zone Committees is available on the Senior Games website and Associations, clubs and/or individuals from each area should make contact with the local committee. It was pointed out that these committees will be very much pre-occupied with preparation for the 2008 Games, but should be advised that Square Dancing has been approved as an “Optional Sport” for 2009 and 2010, and perhaps we could become involved in somewhat of an observer role until our time comes, and we finally become mature enough to be involved in the Senior Games.