

**BC Square & Round Dance Federation
Secretary's Report for
Annual General Meeting
August 5, 2011
Penticton, B.C.**

Club and Caller/Cuer Anniversaries:

The secretary maintains a list of special anniversaries so that the Federation can recognize these milestones. Club anniversaries that qualify are 15 years and over in multiples of 5, i.e. 15, 20, 25 years, etc. A crest is available for the club to attach to their banner. Caller/cuer anniversaries are also from 15 years and in multiples of 5 and a certificate can be presented. We do not provide recognition for the anniversary of an event, such as an annual dance or campout.

If your club, caller or cuer is celebrating an qualifying anniversary in 2011 or 2012 please advise the secretary by email or letter as far in advance of the event as possible.

Senior Games Participation:

I was involved in the organization of Square Dancing as an event at the Senior Games in 2009 (Richmond) and 2010 (Comox Valley). We were not eligible to participate in the 2011 games as they are being held in the Castlegar - Trail area of the West Kootenays. We require a coordinator who is active in the games district and there is very little square dancing in the West Kootenays at present. The games will be held in Burnaby in 2012 and we could re-apply for participation if we wanted to.

We thought the Senior Games would be a good way to promote our activity to a large group of people who might be interested in square dancing. In reality we were unable to make much of an impression on Senior Games participants or administration because we were hidden away in a corner of the community where very few other than our own participants ventured. The philosophy of the Senior Games is based on competition while our activity is much less competitive. Many of the dancers were upset with competition being a part of square dancing. The coordinators at both Richmond and the Comox Valley had serious problems dealing with the Senior Games bureaucracy and dancer attitudes towards the games.

I do not recommend we proceed with square dancing as a senior games activity and recommend that we advise the Senior Games, in writing, that we are withdrawing.

Team Building Project:

The Team Building Project was an idea that square dancing could be used as an activity for businesses and organizations that were holding seminars and meetings for the purpose of encouraging staff and/or members to work together more effectively. Square Dancing is an activity that encourages working together in a fun and friendly atmosphere. We could raise the profile of our activity by getting involved in this type of program.

Very little has been done to date on developing the Team Building Project but with the involvement of Brian Elmer of SquareUP BC and the encouragement of Nick Turner I feel the program can now be moved closer to a reality. I recently had a meeting with Brian Elmer and a Team Building report will be posted on the website. I am developing a lesson plan for the delivery of this program (hopefully with the assistance of Nick Turner). This lesson plan will also provide the basis of a training plan for callers who are interested in delivering the program.

I request that any members of the Federation who have ideas on promoting this program contact me. I also request that callers who have successfully delivered square dance parties to adult groups and who are interested in becoming involved in delivering the "Team Building Program" contact me.

Ken Crisp, Secretary
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