

BC Square & Round Dance Federation

Region #1 Report to Board, March 9th, 2013

1. My wife, Pamela and I are the new Region1 representatives effective February 2013. We are members of the Country Cousins Square dance Club, Victoria, BC. We have been Board members of the club for about 7 of the last 12 years and are currently its representatives to the Lower Vancouver Island Square and Round Dance Association (the LVIWSRDA).
2. We would like on behalf of the LVIWSRDA and ourselves to thank the late Jack Corrigan and Dorothy Ferguson for the effort and work they did as our region's representatives to the BCSRDF and to recognize the contributions made to square dancing on the Island and in the Province by them.
3. Our Region now only has nine functioning clubs, 1 Plus, 2 Round Dance and 6 Mainstream of which 4 are in Victoria, 1 in Duncan and 1 on Saltspring Island. Unfortunately, at least two may be regarded as not having strong membership.
4. 3 Square Dance Clubs started new dancer classes in September, 2012. The Country Cousins started with 26, but at this time are down to 21, all losses being for health reasons. The Promenaders have 8 and the Cowichan Cloverleaves 5. The Rainbow Rounders have 2 new dancers. These numbers are moderately encouraging.
5. In an effort to reestablish regular A level dancing, Gary Dodds commenced AI classes designed both as a refresher for A Dancers who lost their caller with the retirement of Brent Besse and to attract experienced Plus Dancers. An average of 3.5 squares has been attending.
6. LVIWSRDA had a benefit dance on 30th November called by Brent Besse, as guest caller and Pat Zeeman as cuer. Both donated their services and the Colwood Women's Institute waived the hall fee. The turnout of 95 dancers provided a welcome boost to Funds.
7. Our Region and the Upper Island Region (#8) are holding a joint dance in Nanoose on September 29th, 2013.
8. Last year, we were not able to organize any special events for Square Dance Awareness Week for a number of reasons, the primary being inability to identify a suitable venue where the effort would produce a commensurate reward, difficulty in finding volunteers for a demonstration and the loss of our organizer. So far the prospects for this year do not seem any better.
9. The Region is struggling to recruit dancers to fill Executive and delegate positions. Dancers seem willing to volunteer at club level but do not seem to be willing at the Regional level.

Respectfully submitted;

Pamela & Dennis Sutton

9th March, 2013