



BC SQUARE & ROUND DANCE FEDERATION

Pre AGM Board of Directors meeting

Sunday, Sept. 13th, 2026 on Zoom 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

a. Call to Order Frank McNeil

Attendance: Vanda Stocks, Dennis Sutton, Wendy Krueger, Garry Dodds, Frank McNeil, Stacey Ruegg, Gary Weeks, Kirk Rockerbie, Dianne Wilson, Connie Ritchie, Brian Elmer, Rosalyn Garnett, Patrick Aubert, Wendy Trudel, Pat Zeeman

Absent: Mae Fawcett, John Corrigan, Ray and Deb Schmidt

b. Welcome everyone—Frank: special welcome to Stacey Ruegg, new Director at Large for Upper Vancouver Island Square Dance Association

c. Acceptance of the minutes of the BOD meeting of April 12, 2026—correction to the minutes in the Addendum to spell Westsyde with a “y” for the adult club. **Motion to accept the corrected minutes moved Patrick, seconded Dennis--carried**

d. Additions / changes to the current agenda; **motion to adopt the agenda, Gary/Patrick—carried.**

e. Treasurer’s report – Vanda Stocks – Year end: Vanda explained the statements she provided for the year end of June 30, 2026. Vanda will amend the statement to specify Provincial and National festivals. **Motion to accept: Vanda/Wendy T. –carried**

f. Correspondence—Wendy applied for BC Proclamation of Square, Round and Clog Dance Awareness Week for Sunday, Sept. 6 to Saturday, September 12th back in May and inquired again July 2nd. Auto-response emails is all that has been received. The proclamation is not on the BC Gov. site. Wendy put an informal proclamation out on Facebook.

h. Old business

1. Change in definition of duties of the 2nd Vice President (Dennis Sutton) tabled from January 25, 2026, BOD meeting. – *See Addendum 2*

Motion 1 to bring to the AGM Moved Dennis/Seconded Wendy Krueger—carried

Motion 2 to bring to the AGM Moved Dennis/Gary Weeks--carried

2. 2026 Caller School report – Garry Dodds summarized his report. See attached.

Moved Garry Dodds that the sponsorship for the 2026 Caller School come out of the Building Fund/seconded Wendy Trudel. The rationale is that the Building Fund was given to us to promote square dancing—carried.

3. 2026 National Festival report – Wendy and Dennis: Great success, great dancing, about 614 attendees. The CSRDS have forgiven the forgivable loan. The PTCC staff went out of their way to give us excellent service. Financials are not yet finalized.

4. BC Festival 2027 report – Pat or Connie: Has 29 registered, 17 dancers, 12 cuers; they are still working on the website; the rates will go up on January 1, 2027

5. Marketing Initiatives—Mae is absent. It was noted 2026 03 08 BOD meeting “Mae will do some research about costs of different types of marketing, and also costs of halls and callers, and do a report by May or June.” **Tabled; committee to be formed following elections.**

6. Additional concern—Mae Fawcett : brought forward from March BOD meeting: A lot of clubs, old and new clubs, are struggling and need some assistance to make them feel more steady—see *full notes in Addendum 3*. **Tabled; committee to be formed following elections.**

[2026 09 13 Rosalyn said to remove Westsyde from this list, as they are not needing assistance.]

7. Leadership Grant concerns - Lyle O’Hara (previous 2nd VP) –TABLED at January 25, 2026 BOD meeting—mileage, meal allowance, instructor allowance, grant maximum, joint funding of schools—see *full notes in Addendum 4*. **Tabled; committee to be formed following elections.**

i. New business

1. Grant proposal for new club start up – Dennis Sutton -- see *Addendum 5*

Motion to bring this to the AGM. Moved Dennis Sutton/seconded Wendy Trudel—carried.

2. 2027 Cuer School – Wendy; Asked for approval in principal to run the cuer school in Nanoose in July of 2027 before the 2027 mini-festival—granted. Wendy was asked for a budget and plan for the school . It was suggested to ask Brian and Darlene Penny as instructors.

{comments to note: Peter Tennant of Vernon has had a heart issue, gotten a stent. They were going to start round dance lessons, now delayed. }

3. Request for reports for the AGM—each BOD member and the leadership of each of the associations and our standing committees are asked to submit annual reports to the president prior to the AGM.

4. New idea: PeachCity Jamboree – Wendy -- see *Addendum 6*

Discussion points: 1. Rosalyn and Brian spoke for Region 3 that there are new clubs starting up right now, none strong enough to put this on. Maybe in 5 years there would be the ability for

the local clubs to handle it. So Rosalyn and Brian support the idea of a committee of BC people meeting remotely to do it with support from all over the province. 2. to consider it every second year, not annually. On the odd numbered years, members of our province are putting on a provincial festival and wanting to draw people to that event, so hold it on the even numbered years. 3. Frank supports the idea in principal and Wendy was asked for a plan with a budget for the idea; Wendy has August 2028 in mind.

5. Four Score + 10 badges – Connie; motion to purchase 10 (ten) Four Score + 10 badges.

Moved Connie/Vanda—carried.

j. Good of the Order

Summary of business to be brought forward to the AGM of October 25, 2026—

Treasurer's report

BC Proclamation difficulties

Amendments to Policies and Procedures, Motions 1 and 2

Note: Old Business 5, 6, 7 were tabled till after the elections October 25, 2026; then we will form a committee/s to address them

k. AGM: October 25, 2026 @ 9:30 am on Zoom

l. Motion to Adjourn 10:30 a.m. by Dennis

ADDENDA

Addendum 1

Expected attendance

President Frank McNeil

1st Vice President Mae Fawcett

Vacancy for 2nd Vice President

Secretary Wendy Krueger

Treasurer Vanda Stocks

Past President Dennis Sutton

Region 1 Lower Vancouver Island DALs Kirk Rockerbie, Gary Weeks

Region 2 Fraser Valley DALs John Corrigan, Dianne Wilson

Region 3 Okanagan DALs Brian Elmer, Rosalyn Garnett

Region 4 Kootenays DALs Ray and Deb Schmidt

Region 5 Cariboo and Northern BC independent clubs Patrick Aubert

Region 8 Upper Vancouver Island DAL Stacey Ruegg

Vacancy for DAL from UVICTA

Region 9 DALs Wendy Trudel and Steve Stent
Round Dance Chair Connie Ritchie
Sillery Award Committee Chair Wendy Krueger
CSRDS reps Pat Zeeman, Garry Dodds

Addendum 2

Motion to amend Policies and Procedures

Explanation

The manner in which the Federation operates has changed with time and, in particular, with the way it interconnects with Federations and Clubs. Its primary objective is to provide support for their work and to advise and help with their activities. The ever-increasing use of new techniques and particularly how these may be used to increase and maintain membership is vital.

The two Vice-Presidents of the Association's Executive Committee are the leaders achieving these activities efficiently and effectively. The proposed amendments to their respective job descriptions recognize that more flexibility is required particularly with the duties of the 2nd Vice President.

To recognize the personal skills each brings to their task, it may be necessary to reallocate aspects of their combined responsibilities between them. This is not in the current job descriptions, so this change, if approved, will provide for changes.

1st Motion

It is hereby resolved that Clause 5.2 b) of the Policies and Procedures of the Federation shall add the following sub-clause:

iv) Duties of the 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents may be adjusted to reflect the interest and expertise of each.

2nd Motion

It is hereby resolved that Clause 5.2 c) of the Federation's Policies and Procedures be deleted in its entirety and the following shall replace it:

5.2 c) The Second Vice- President shall:

- 1) In the absence or disability of the President and 1st Vice-President preside over Meetings and shall perform such duties as may be directed by the Board of Directors:
- 2) Assist the Treasurer with the preparation of the budget and, as requested, with other financial matters and policies:

- 3) Maintain an overview of the Federation's Constitution, Bylaws and Policy Documents to ensure they are up to date with changes in Legislation, Regulations and the Federation's operations and requirements:
- 4) Be responsible for ensuring the Federation's Executive and Board of Directors have an effective liaison with all Associations, Clubs and members who have registered directly with the Federation to ensure a two-way flow of information, requirements and ideas.
- 5) Be the liaison with the organizer of Caller, Cuer, Clogger teaching or training classes and ensure the Executive is aware of and can provide assistance as needed and approved.
- 6) Duties of the 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents may be adjusted to reflect the interests and expertise of each

Addendum 3

Additional concern—Mae Fawcett : brought forward from March BOD meeting: A lot of clubs, old and new clubs, are struggling and need some assistance to make them feel more steady—Westsyde, Lumby, and Lynda Potyok and Stephanie “Black Sheep” were mentioned. Response from the president: Now we have new clubs starting, we will discuss this and make a clear plan. [2026 09 13 Rosalyn said to remove Westsyde from this list, as they are not needing assistance.]

Discussion continued at May 18th, 2026 Executive meeting: Mae named several clubs struggling and mentioned hoping there can be a grant to help those in need. We would need to define exactly how to define struggling.

General discussion about helping clubs that might be on the verge of folding—to have a broader base of how to decide this—to get input from newer clubs like Patrick Aubert and Lumby Squares. Frank mentioned that about 2 dozen clubs have folded since he has been dancing and it wasn't about money, it was from aging out or lack of interest, or loss of caller; Covid-19 hit us hard.

When we set some parameters for a grant for struggling clubs, we'd ask for their full list of expenses of hall, caller fee and everything. Mae got lots of information when she asked lots of different clubs. Two clubs said they would send a written account to Mae about their costs. Hall costs vary so widely. Callers fees are range from nothing to \$140 to \$200. Mae maintains it is the hall costs that really hit them. The formula of Hall plus Caller divided by dancers would equal the door fee needed per dancer if the dancers come all the time.

Addendum 4

Leadership Grant concerns - Lyle O'Hara (previous 2nd VP) –TABLED at January 25, 2026 BOD meeting—mileage, meal allowance, instructor allowance, grant maximum, joint funding of schools—see full notes in Addendum 5.

- I think the mileage should be available only to travel over "X" KM where "X" is to be discussed. I was thinking about 50 KM but those are my thoughts and do not count ferry travel within that range so ferry fares would be reimbursable.

- Limit the value of meals. I suggest:

- o Breakfast = \$20

- o Lunch = \$30

- o Supper = \$50

- or as discussed. (Are these reasonable amounts?)

- Set a limit on Instructor costs. I suggest \$2500 max per Instructor to cover all their expenses.

- Drop the Grant maximum down from \$1500 to \$1000 per Participant.

I also think we need to start a discussion with Fraser Valley to see if they are willing to financially support the Caller and Cuer School within the Province as they are desperately in need of both Callers and Cuers themselves.

Addendum 5

Guidelines for Start Up Funding of New Clubs

1. Funding may be applied for within the dance season during which a club is formed and no later than 3 months into the next following dance season. The Federation takes the standard season for Square, Round, and Clog Dancing to be between the months of September and May.
2. The Grant Committee shall receive, review and determine acceptability of each application individually on its merits.
3. The club must be a new venture at a place, time or date where no club has operated or existed for at least a year prior to the date of application.
4. The maximum amount of the grant is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be paid in two tranches of five hundred dollars (\$500). The first tranche shall be paid upon initial approval of funding and the second tranche once the club proves to the Grant Committee it has been operational for not less than 6 months of the standard dance season, as defined in point 1.
5. The minimum number of dancers for a club to qualify shall be 1 ½ Squares (12 square dancers), 6 Pairs (12 individuals) of Round Dancers or 8 Cloggers. Not less than 50 percent of the dancers must be new to the activity or shall have been absent from these forms of dancing for at least 12 months.
6. The Committee must be satisfied that the club has a caller, cuer or leader who has the necessary competence to teach, call and/or cue at the proposed level of the activity. Competence may have been acquired by any method including training or coaching by a recognized caller, cuer or leader or by attendance at a training event or school.
7. The club and every member must have paid Federation Dues as well as payment to the Canadian Square and Round Dance Society to cover its dues and Third Party Insurance.
8. The grant is meant to assist with major expenses only including hall rental, caller, cuer or leader fees and other capital outlays. Details shall be required to determine allowability.
9. Whether or not the founder(s) of a club is/are a caller, cuer, leader, individuals or any combination thereof shall not be a factor in deciding grant eligibility.
10. The application form entitled **Grant Application for Start Up Funding of New Clubs**, obtainable on the Federation website, must be completed and submitted to the Vice-President of the Federation presiding over the Grant Committee. The Committee

reviewing the application has the right to make further inquiries and to request additional documentation as it deems necessary.

11. The Committee shall be granted an annual budget which it may not exceed without approval of the Federation's Board and the Board of Directors.
12. If the club has received any funding to assist with start-up costs from an entity other than this Federation prior to filing this application or has applied for or expects to receive such funding, it must be disclosed.

Addendum 6

PeachCity Jamboree concept

Written July 24, 2026 with edits August 16th, 2026.

The outpouring of happiness with the National Festival in Penticton last week brought me thoughts of "can an annual Penticton Jamboree be reinstated" ?

I want to share those thoughts with you.

Brian and Rosalyn, Directors at Large to the BC Federation for the Okanagan region, I shared the barest idea of this with you on Saturday at the Festival. We said we would think on it.

Daphne Green, thank you for your comment in response to my first sharing of this idea: July 24, 2026 Daphne said, "Having participated right to the 2019 end with 5-7 squares, I am not very optimistic or enthusiastic."

Let's start with a bit of description of how the PeachFest square dance jamboree was done. Thanks to Daphne for help on these details.

The event coincided with PeachFest, Penticton's annual city-wide festival.

The PeachFest committee worked with the Square Dance Jamboree organizers for publicity.

It took place in the first full week of August (in 1974 the BC Day stat was established as the first Monday of August; so then you could say it was the week following the BC Day holiday.)

The numbers grew throughout the days of the event. The Saturday night dance was the crowning achievement of the week.

On Wednesday and Thursday mornings the Jamboree held a square dance, like 9:30 a.m. till 11:30 or so. At the door was an adjudication person or persons (Regine Anderson and maybe Ralph Halsall is who I recall) and an MC, a caller. Callers came to an open mic (unscheduled; they added their name to a list) and got to call a tip or half a tip, depending on the numbers of callers. If they were new to the Jamboree, their performance was judged. If they were good enough, the following spring, they received an invitation in the mail to register and call on the Jamboree schedule that coming August. If they were not good enough, then they could come back the next year to try out again at one of these morning dances.

No individual could both call and cue at this event. I am sure this was because there were always dozens of dance leaders to be scheduled, and they gave everyone a turn.

There was evening square dancing from 7:30 to about 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Mainstream level with rounds between tips. The scheduling of the callers was one for the patter, and one for the singer, and then the cuer. The dances went until all the scheduled leaders had performed. The committee had pre-selected which patter music, which singer, and which round dance would be used by each leader.

On Thursday afternoon there was a Roundaree. All round dancing, maybe 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

On Friday afternoon there was a youth dance. The youth callers and cuers did the dance. Adults were welcome as dancers.

On Saturday from 10 to 11:30 a.m. was the Peachfest parade. Some dancers took part in it to make our presence known.

On Saturday afternoon there was the Aquaducks dance in Okanagan Lake for an hour followed by a Plus dance.

On Saturday there was the final evening dance. Again, scheduled with a caller for patter, a caller for the singer, and a cuer.

On Saturday night, the Jamboree committee announced who they chose to give the honors for the next year's Jamboree, namely the Friday night MC and the Saturday night MC. Maybe others. Someone can help me with those details.

The décor I recall was photo albums from past Jamborees.

This was not a festival—by that I mean there was only one room or space for dancing, so there were not multiple levels going on at once, and also, the schedule left good amounts of time for people to enjoy everything else about Penticton that is so special.

For decades, this event was held on the field in Kings Park. Tongue and groove plywood was put down for dancing. There were 3 to 4 thousands participating each year. By the time I was going in 2012 or 2013, there were 200. I experienced morning dancing in the park the first year I went and oh, it was hot. If you could be in the shade of the announcers' booth it was bearable. The next years I went, all the dancing was held at the Seniors Drop In centre on South Main Street, where the A/C did not cool the hall near enough.

Here's what I am proposing as a concept going forward:

We just put on a National Festival in Penticton with no club in Penticton. We met on Zoom. We had a fabulous venue. That can be done again on a smaller scale.

Venue: Penticton Trade and Convention Centre (PTCC) is available in August (usually they have less going on in August than other months, the staff told me).

We could rent Ballroom 2 and the atrium (gives access to the south washrooms) and have a meeting room for the BC Federation and a leaders' lounge.

I think we would edit the schedule. Consider having Thursday evening trail in and opening ceremony, Friday morning for new callers, and the Friday evening dance with a snack time and social hour to follow; Saturday is the parade, Aquaducks and plus dance in the daytime, and the Saturday evening dance. Sunday morning we could offer an interfaith service 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. followed by 10:00 a.m. to noon a Trail out dance. Put in pre-rounds for the evening dances, but no roundaree, no youth dance, unless numbers swell and there is a call for them.

The A/C would be marvelous.

The floor would be concrete, but there is also the parkay flooring that PTCC owns, we can use. Put the parkay up closest to the stage with concrete beyond. During the smaller dances, everybody would be on the parkay. In the big dances, not all the squares will be on the comfort of the parkay at once.

Naming—Mark proposes PeachCity Jamboree as the name. Peach City is the historic name of the city.

Dates—make it coincide with PeachFest; get in touch with the Peachfest committee and get reacquainted with them and how they work. Be in the parade.

Committee—

We need to explore options. It was Penticton clubs who put it on in the past. I do not know if clubs from up and down the Okanagan Valley were on the committee. I am guessing they were not. But now we have no club in Penticton, I am suggesting we first want to involve clubs in Region 3, the OSRDA.

IF the OSRDA wants the Jamboree as their own without the involvement of others in other regions, that's one option. If clubs are born in Penticton again, if Okanagan Valley clubs prosper, it could be Region 3 would take it on completely.

Does the Jamboree in Penticton mean enough to the future of square dancing in BC to have input, guidance, sponsorship or (dare I say) control in the hands of the Federation?

IF it is acceptable to all that volunteers from other regions get involved to help put on this annual event, then I propose the Federation set aside some seed money now. And if some of the "ifs" were sorted out, there could be a motion that the Federation would elect a trustee who would chair the committee. That trustee could be specified to come from Region 3 if someone was up for the task. Maybe just until such time as Region 3 clubs can take it on without help from outside the region. Funds earned would go to putting on future jamborees. A line item in the BC Federation budget would be in trust.

I do not think I have exhausted all the talking we need to do if reinstating jamborees in Penticton should be undertaken.

This is just the start of the conversation.

Best regards,

Wendy Krueger