

Council of Dancers Meeting

2:00 Sunday 27 April 2025

Via Zoom

1. Call to Order - Dave Western
 - 1.1. Confirmation of Quorum Appendix A - Barb Englehart

Bylaw 9.04 (a) sets the “quorum for the transaction of business at a Council of Dancers meeting (at) 25 percent of the member clubs entitled to vote at the meeting”. With 12 of the 18 clubs being represented, we have a quorum.
 - 1.2. Opening Remarks Appendix B - Dave Western
 - 1.3. Agenda Accepted as presented - Arlo Speer
2. Record of the 17 November 2024 Meeting - Arlo Speer

MOTION: Speer/Mason that the record be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**
3. Reports
 - 3.1. Executive Committee
 - 3.1.1. Interim 2024-2025 Financial Statement Appendix C - Bob Pitruniak
 - 3.1.2. Registrar’s Report Appendix D - Barb Englehart
 - 3.2. Dance Committee Appendix E - Michelle Gravelle
 - 3.3. Publicity Committee Appendix F - Lamar Mason
 - 3.4. Club Liaison Appendix G - Gerry Johnson
 - 3.5. Technology Appendix H - Arlo Speer
 - 3.6. Ottawa Area Callers’ Association Appendix I - Brian Crawford

There were questions about the new CallerLab proposal for square dance levels. Callers in attendance explained how the CallerLab process for approving such changes will take time so it is unlikely that any changes might be introduced for the coming dance year.

At the request of the Chair, the OACA agreed that, once CALLERLAB has made a final decision on the proposed changes to the square dance program, the OACA will host an on-line seminar to explain the changes to Member Clubs and the Board.
 - 3.7. Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation Appendix J - Arlo Speer
 - 3.8. Acceptance of Reports

MOTION: Brown / Armstrong that the reports be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**
4. Old Business
 - 4.1. Proposed EOSARDA fees increase Appendix K - Dave Western

Prior to the meeting the Board circulated a proposal for a gradual increase in annual EOSARDA Membership fees, the first tranche being a \$2.00 increase for both clubs and dancers to take effect in Dance Year 2025/26.

Council did not support this proposal. After some discussion a motion was introduced from the floor, proposing a larger increase in EOSARDA fees:

MOTION: Speer/Mason that in accordance with discussion at the November Council of Dancers meeting, the EOSARDA fee be increased by \$5 so that the EOSARDA dancer and club fees would each be \$7.

After considerable discussion and many questions about the amounts of regional, provincial, and national fees, **the motion was tabled** until the EOSARDA President could contact club presidents to seek their input. The Chair deferred a vote on the new motion pending consultation with Member Clubs and Associations.

Information Notes:

1. Item 5.1.3 of the [record of the 17 November 2024 Council of Dancers meeting](#) addresses this topic.
2. Although the proposed motion refers to “dancer” and “club” fees, the proposed dancer rate would also apply to dance leaders and the club rate would also apply to associations.
3. In addition to the EOSARDA fee, EOSARDA also collects fees for the Canadian Society and the Ontario Federation.
 - a. The Canadian Society fee for dancers, dance leaders, clubs, and associations is \$5.
 - b. The Ontario Federation fee for dancers and dance leaders is \$1 and for clubs and associations is \$3.
 - c. After EOSARDA collects Society and Federation fees from our dancers, these funds do not remain with EOSARDA – they are distributed to the other two organizations.
 - d. The fees for both the Ontario Federation and the Canadian Society are expected to remain unchanged for the coming dance year.
4. A portion of the fees going to the Canadian Society provides third party [liability insurance coverage](#) for dancers, dance leaders, clubs, club executive members, associations, and owners of facilities we use for dancing.
5. The following chart compares the current EOSARDA fee with the proposed \$2 and \$5 increases:

Fee Paid by	Fee paid to	Current Fee	Fee with \$2 Increase	Fee with \$5 Increase
Dancers and Dance Leaders	EOSARDA	\$2	\$4	\$7
	Ontario Federation	\$1	\$1	\$1
	Canadian Society	\$5	\$5	\$5
Total		\$8	\$10	\$13
Clubs and Associations	EOSARDA	\$2	\$4	\$7
	Ontario Federation	\$3	\$3	\$3
	Canadian Society	\$5	\$5	\$5
Total		\$10	\$12	\$15

5. New Business

5.1. The future of Square Time

- Gerry Johnson

Gerry is willing to continue editing Square Time; however, he experiences increasing difficulty getting clubs to submit material for the editions.

Clubs are invited to advise Gerry about the preferred path forward for the future of Square Time.

5.2. Project Fair Squares

Appendix L - Lamar Mason

EOSARDA is interested in helping clubs increase interest in modern square dancing.

Most clubs have responded to the Publicity Committee about their interest in participating in this initiative. The Publicity committee will proceed working with clubs interested in participating in the programme.

5.3. Proposed 2025/2026 Budget

Appendix M - Bob Pitruniak

The Treasurer had prepared a draft budget based on \$2 per dancer and \$2 per club fee increase. Discussion on the draft budget was deferred pending a decision on the Association's future fee structure.

A special meeting of Council will be called in June to seek approval of a revised budget prior to the start of the Association's next Fiscal Year.

5.4. Appointment of person to conduct a “review engagement”, i.e., a review of our financial statements

- Bob Pitruniak

Mary Cruse offered to complete this work for EOSARDA.

MOTION: Speer/Pitruniak that Mary Cruse be appointed to conduct the review of our financial statements.

CARRIED

5.5. Election of Board of Directors

- Dave Western

Although further nominations will be accepted at the Council of Dancers meeting, the following individuals have confirmed their willingness to let their names stand for election as a director:

Shirley Brown

Barbara Englehart

Ron Gardner

Michelle Gravelle

Gerry Johnson

Carole Lauzon

Lamar Mason

Bob Pitruniak

Arlo Speer

Dave Western

MOTION: Pitruniak/Armstrong that the above slate of nominees be elected as Directors of EOSARDA.

CARRIED

5.6. Call for Volunteers

- Dave Western

All last year's volunteers have agreed to serve for another Dance Year. No new volunteers came forward.

5.7. Club News:

- 5.7.1. Carole Lauzon of Glengarry Tartans invited all clubs to attend the Spring Flutterwheel in Alexandria on 18 May at Glengarry Sports Palace.
 - 5.7.2. Meri Squares has introduced ½ hour mentoring sessions (not by callers but by experienced dancers) before its regular dance sessions. The initiative has been successful with many experienced dancers joining the coaching periods.
 - 5.7.3. Veer North went well with many visitors from other clubs, including Toronto. Unfortunately, there was less local support than had been hoped for. The next Veer North event will be in 2027, probably not over the Easter weekend.
 - 5.7.4. Lamar reminded members that EOSARDA has coffee urns, water containers, and other equipment available for use by local clubs at their events.
 - 5.7.5. The Apple Blossom Festival in Belleville was successful with approximately 12 squares, including 6 or 7 squares of basic dancers.
6. The next Council of Dancers Meeting will be fall 2025 at a date and time to be determined.

(Members elected to the Board of Directors (both newly elected and returning members) remained online following the Council of Dancers meeting for the new board's organizational meeting Board.)

Appendix A: Attendance Record

Club	Surname	First name	Club	Surname	First name
Voting Delegates					
Capital Carousels	Currie	Gavin	Meri Squares	Mason	Lamar
Glengarry Tartans	Lauzon	Carole	Ottawa Area Callers Assoc.	Crawford	Brian
Limestone Dancers	Brown	Shirley	Ottawa Date Squares	Robichaud	Jean-Marc
Grenville Gremlins	Armstrong	Debbie	Swinging B's	Milne	Bob
Lockits	Clarke	Geoff	Swinging Swallows	Mastine	Jeannie
Mississippi Squares	Grant	Marian	Quinte Twirlers	Dunham	David
Napanee Pioneers	Wilson	Karen			
Non-voting Delegates					
Grenville Gremlins	Cruse	Mary	EOSARDA	Englehart	Barb
Limestone Dancers	Penney	Debbie		Johnson	Gerry
Meri Squares	Shackleton	David		Pitruniak	Bob
Napanee Pioneers	Peters	Noreen		Speer	Arlo
Quinte Twirlers	Dunham	Valerie		Gravelle	Michel
Swinging B's	Milne	Carol		Gardner	Ron
				Western	Dave

Appendix B: Opening Remarks

Good afternoon and welcome to EOSARDA's Council of Dancers and Annual Meeting for 2025. 12 of our Member Clubs and 1 association have registered delegates for today's meeting with 26 registered participants. Thank you for taking the time to join us this afternoon.

According to our By-laws, a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the membership is 25 percent of our Member Clubs and Associations. EOSARDA currently has 17 Members, so a quorum of the membership is 5. Given today's attendance, I think I can safely say that we have a quorum and the meeting may proceed as scheduled.

Before we begin, Arlo will briefly review the protocols for today's Zoom meeting.

(Arlo)

Thank you, Arlo,

Lamar and Michelle will help me watch for hands indicating that someone wishes to address the meeting. We will do our best to make sure that all who wish to speak have the opportunity to do so, please be patient.

We will take a 15-minute break around 3:00. Unfortunately, the downside of an on-line meeting is that you are going to have to provide your own snacks and drinks.

A brief reminder about the rules of engagement this afternoon.

Under EOSARDA's new By-laws:

- \$ Any dancer registered with EOSARDA may attend Council and speak at the meeting
- \$ Each Member Club or Association may designate one Voting Delegate who may vote on any issue before Council.
- \$ Only designated Voting Delegates have a vote
- \$ No delegate may vote more than once on any issue (you don't get two votes if you represent more than one club)
- \$ Members of EOSARDA's Board of Directors cannot vote unless they are also designated as Voting Delegates for a Member Organization
- \$ The Board is bound by any decision or direction issued by this Council.

Along with the usual reports from the Chairs of our Standing Committees, this afternoon our Treasurer will provide us with an up-date on the Association's financial situation. Later this afternoon, Bob will also present Council with a draft budget for next year. That budget has been put together keeping in mind the direction the Board received from Council in November.

Also, our Publicity Chair, Lamar Mason, will be briefing Council on a new and very exciting Publicity initiative which we hope all clubs will support. More on that later this afternoon.

As always at our AGM, one of the most important tasks is the election of a new Board of Directors to steer the Association through Dance Year 2025/26.

I am pleased to announce that all of our current Directors have agreed to serve for another year and we have two new nominees for next year's Board. Good news indeed.

But two of our current Directors have expressed a desire to retire by the end of the next dance year or perhaps sooner. If the Board is to continue to meet the needs of you, our Member Clubs, additional Board members are needed now while experienced Directors are available to pass on their knowledge and experience. The work, while important, is not difficult and Board meetings usually take place on Zoom, so no travel is required. The only requirement, besides a passion for dancing, is that a Director must sit on at least one of the five standing Committees (Executive, Dance, Publicity, Club Liaison or Technology). If being a director is not your thing, then we also need a number of non-Board Volunteers to help with the day-to-day work of the Standing Committees. Interested? Your opportunity to keep our region functioning smoothly will be upcoming shortly

Lots to talk about. I call the meeting to order.

Appendix C: Interim Financial Statement

EOSARDA 2024-25

Revenue and expenses to 10 Apr 2025

Bank reconciled to 31 Mar 2025

	Jul - Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	YTD Total	Budget	2023-24
Bank at month end	\$ 10,024.68	\$ 12,894.68	\$ 11,312.68	\$ 11,312.68	\$ 10,146.68	\$ 8,252.32	\$ 8,827.37						\$ 10,896.33
GIC	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
Petty cash				\$ 351.00									
Total Cash	\$ 20,024.68	\$ 22,894.68	\$ 21,312.68	\$ 21,663.68	\$ 20,146.68	\$ 18,252.32	\$ 18,827.37	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00			\$ 20,896.33
Accounts Payable				\$ 2,122.41	\$ 1,206.41	\$ 1,601.41	\$ 185.00						\$ 871.65
Prepaid expenses	\$ 6.09	\$ 156.09	\$ 156.09	\$ 156.09	\$ 156.09	\$ 156.09	\$ 156.09						
REVENUE													
EOSARDA Dues		\$ 2,720.00	\$ 1,830.00	-\$ 32.00		\$ 168.00	\$ 48.00				\$ 4,734.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,610.00
Xmas Dance revenue				\$ 843.00			\$ 843.42				\$ 1,686.42		\$ 324.00
Frosty Fling revenue							\$ 746.00				\$ 746.00		\$ 716.00
Square Time Subscr + Ads											\$ 0.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 0.00
Interest		\$ 300.00									\$ 300.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00
Total revenue	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,020.00	\$ 1,830.00	\$ 811.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 168.00	\$ 1,637.42	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 7,466.42	\$ 5,225.00	\$ 5,875.00
EXPENSES													
Bank Fees						\$ 4.95	\$ 4.95				\$ 9.90	\$ 10.00	
Cards											\$ 0.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 0.00
OSRDF/CSRDF Dues			\$ 3,412.00			\$ 60.00		\$ 96.00			\$ 3,568.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,488.00
OSRDF Mtg Travel Exp											\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
EOSARDA Travel Expenses											\$ 0.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 122.00
Board Meetings											\$ 0.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 242.84
Council of Dancers Mtgs											\$ 0.00		
Office Expenses											\$ 0.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 44.51
Badges											\$ 0.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 14.63
Xmas dance expenses				\$ 492.00			\$ 492.00				\$ 984.00		
Frosty Fling expenses							\$ 565.42				\$ 565.42		\$ 430.00
EOSARDA Dances											\$ 0.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 0.00
ENTANDEM Fees											\$ 0.00		\$ 56.25
Publicity											\$ 0.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 482.67
Domain Name Registration											\$ 0.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 64.58
Website Hosting											\$ 0.00		\$ 85.50
Repairs and new equipment											\$ 0.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 0.00
New Dancer Recruitment				\$ 1,800.00		\$ 1,081.41					\$ 2,881.41	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,745.21
Dance Leader Training											\$ 0.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 500.00
CSDRDS Pins											\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
Visiting dangles											\$ 0.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 167.24
New Dancer Celebrations											\$ 0.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 45.95
Square Time Printing/Postage											\$ 0.00	\$ 700.00	
Recognition and awards												\$ 100.00	
Compliance Fees												\$ 180.00	
Total expenses	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,412.00	\$ 2,292.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,146.36	\$ 1,062.37	\$ 96.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 8,008.73	\$ 12,920.00	\$ 7,489.38
Profit/loss	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,020.00	-\$ 1,582.00	-\$ 1,481.00	\$ 0.00	-\$ 978.36	\$ 575.05	-\$ 96.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	-\$ 542.31	-\$ 7,695.00	-\$ 1,614.38

Notes:

1. Numbers in the Bank row are an accurate figure for the amount of money in the bank account at the end of the month
2. Accounts payable include any cheques that have not cleared the bank at the end of the month

Appendix D: Registrar's Report

EOSARDA 2024-2025 REGISTRAR'S REPORT											
	As of June 5, 2024	As of Mar 21, 2025	Difference from June 2024 as Mar 2025	Total Members Registered by Club	SQ	RD	LINE/ CLOGGING	New Dancers by Club (new to the activity)	SQ	RD	LINE/ CLOGGING
NEW SQUARE DANCERS	125	149	24	Capital Carousels		17					
new to activity 136vs 125				Clangary Tartans	21			4			
RETURNING SQUARE DANCERS	393	375	18	Oronville Gnomins	46			9			
NEW ROUND DANCERS	0	0	0	Limestone Dancers	36			11			
RETURNING ROUND DANCERS	12	17	5	Lockits	35						
				Merl Squares	78			25			\$50
				Mississippi Squares	75			12			
NEW LINE DANCERS/CLOGGERS	0	15	15	Napanee Pioneers	36			7			
new to the activity 8				Ottawa Date Squares	44			13			
RETURNING LINE DANCERS/CLOGGERS	9	0	-9	Quinte Twirlers	62			23			
				Sunshine Square	6						
TOTAL TO DATE	539	556	53	Swinging B's	34			10			
				Swinging Swallows	29			4			
				Square Dance Ottawa	6			4			
CUERS, CALLERS, LEADERS AND PARTNERS	13	12	-1	Crazy A's	1			0			
				Riverside Gypsy Squares	0						
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP TO DATE	552	568	16	Russell Squares	25			14			\$50
				Rideau Canal Cloggers	17		17				8
TOTAL CLUBS TO DATE	20	18	-2	TOTAL	551	17	17	136			8
TOTAL ASSOCIATIONS TO DATE	2	2	0								
Note: Numbers are based on registration information received as of the issuance date of this report. Any new members that join after the issuance date of this report will be added.											
Issued: November 11, 2024											
Updated: November 16, 2024											
Updated: February 7, 2025											
Updated: March 21, 2025											

Appendix E: Dance Committee

Michelle Gravelle, Chair

Lamar Mason

Dave Western

1. EOSARDA Christmas Dance and Frosty Fling

Both dances were a success:

- The Christmas dance attracted 88 people (69 paid dancers/19 complimentary) and made a profit of \$350.89
- The Frosty Fling attracted 80 people (60 paid dancers/ 20 complimentary) and made a profit of \$180.58

The Christmas dance was held in Prescott at the South Grenville District Highschool. A highlight of the dance was the Trillium Award Presentation to Gerald and Marlene Casselman which attracted a number of former Harbour Lites dancers. Other special features were the caller showcase and the generous donations in both food items and cash to the South Grenville Foodbank. It should be noted that the rental for Prescott is “free” as a nonprofit organization. The breakdown of the 69 paid dancers was as follows: 2 – A2, 53 Plus, 9 Mainstream and 4 SSD/Basic and one unidentified.

The Frosty Fling was held in Ottawa at St. Marks Anglican Church. We encouraged all clubs to come with their new dancers as it was free for them! Of the 20 complimentary registrations – 14 were for SSD and /or Basic Dancers.

We wish to thank all people who volunteered to help with the various tasks that are required to run a dance: putting up chairs and tables, arranging the refreshment table, greeters, staffing the registration and the Share the Wealth desks.

Many thanks to Dave Hutchinson for calling at the Christmas Dance and for Brian Crawford and John Charman for calling at the Frosty Fling.

2. Discussion regarding Mother’s Day Dance:

It was agreed to forego the Mother’s Day Dance for 2025. This was due to the fact that there were a number of SSD/Basic opportunities for dancing in April and May and that the numbers of SSD/Basic dancers attending the open dances was low.

3. Future Dances

Open dances are a vital part of EOSARDA whether organized by a club or by EOSARDA. Please make every effort to support the dances by attending and be sure to bring your new dancers, where applicable. We continue to educate that the best way for new dancers to practice and improve is to attend open dances where they can enhance their learning from “new to them” callers.

4. Co-Sponsored Dances

There were no co- sponsored dances this past year.

Appendix F: Publicity Committee

Committee members: Lamar Mason (EOSARDA Director)
Gloria Bateman
David Western
David Dunham
Valerie Dunham

OBJECTIVES

1. Raise awareness of square, round and line dancing in Eastern Ontario to assist in dancer recruitment
2. Support clubs with recruitment and retaining dancers
3. Raise the visibility of EOSARDA and www.eodance.ca among member clubs

UPDATE SINCE NOVEMBER 2024

1. We are very pleased to have Dave and Valerie Dunham join the Publicity Committee. Their efforts with the Quinte Twirlers have resulted in attracting many new dancers locally and we are looking forward to drawing on their experience to assist across EOSARDA.
2. The committee's focus has been on identifying a way to work with clubs to enhance recruitment and visibility of square dancing.
3. The committee has identified an initiative that we have named Fair Squares. The goal is to work with clubs to identify fairs, events or locations where there is strong potential to increase the visibility of square dancing in general and to assist in recruiting for local clubs.
4. We have shared the Fair Squares initiative with all EOSARDA clubs. We have reached out to recruiting clubs to get their feedback and offer our support.
5. Wendy VanderMeulen and Lamar Mason, who administer the EOSARDA FB page, met with Carole Lauzon to learn more about boosting messages on the FB page and advertising via FB to increase visibility. A sincere thank you to Carole for sharing her knowledge with us.
6. The Publicity Committee continues to examine ways it can provide advertising and promotional resources to EOSARDA clubs.
7. The EOSARDA Facebook page was regularly updated with open dance notifications and upcoming events. We encourage clubs to provide their flyers in jpeg format for easy posting on FB.
8. The Publicity Committee provided articles to Square Time.
9. The Publicity Committee will be working with the webmaster and clubs to collect open house information early this summer so events can be highlighted on the web page separately from the general club dance schedules.

Appendix G: Club Liaison Report

Committee Chair:

- Gerry Johnson*

Committee Members:

- Michelle Gravelle *
- Gavin Currie *
- Debbie Penney (** are also Board members, all others are our committee volunteers!*)

New Dancer Celebrations (Michelle)

The spring celebrations are well underway. The total of new graduates is expected to be at 71. The following clubs will or will have had an EOSARDA rep and /or package mailed. Congratulations to all the new dancers.

Swinging B's - (6 graduates) held Friday, April 4 - package was mailed

Ottawa Date Squares – (5 graduates) held Wednesday, April 9 – EOSARDA representative: Michelle Gravelle

Grenville Gremlins – (5 graduates) held Monday, April 14 - EOSARDA representative: Lamar Mason

Mississippi Squares – (12 graduates) held Tuesday, April 15 – EOSARDA representative: Dave Western

Meri Squares – (10 graduates) Thursday, April 24 – EOSARDA representative: Barbara Englehart

Quinte Twirlers – (16 graduates) Wed., April 30 – EOSARDA representative is welcome; but package has been mailed.

Swinging Swallows (1 graduate) Thursday, May 8 – package to be mailed

Napanee Pioneers – (4 graduates) Friday, May 9 - EOSARDA representative: Lamar Mason

Limestone Dancers – (7 graduates) – Thursday, May 29, EOSARDA representative always welcome, but not necessary

Glengarry Tartans (5 graduates) & will hold during a summer workshop: package to be mailed

New Dancer Recruitment Subsidy Program (Debbie)

So far, we have received 10 applications. Cheques have been mailed as follows.

\$300.00 to Napanee

\$290.41 to Russell Squares

\$300.00 to Limestone Dancers

\$300.00 to Glengarry Tartans

\$300.00 to Swinging Swallows

\$300.00 to Mississippi Squares

\$300.00 to Meri Squares

\$185.00 to Grenville Gremlins

\$300.00 to Quinte Twirlers

\$300.00 to Swinging B's

We have spent \$2,875. Of our \$3,000 budget.

We have 5 applications that have been passed on to Federation.

So far, we have not received any requests for new year request. We will be following up with clubs.

Dance Leader Training Subsidy Program (Gavin) –

\$1,200 budgeted. We have had no funding request this year.

EOSARDA Dance Dangle Program (Michelle) – We continue to promote the dangle program in square time articles and with face to face conversations, while at open dances. It is on my radar to investigate an additional supplier to ensure we are getting the best price.

Association Recognition of Major Anniversaries & Accomplishments - (Gerry) –

Reminder again that if your Club has an anniversary coming up; or has a dancer celebrating a dancing milestone, etc., please contact Gerry (mailto:gjohnson_2003@hotmail.com).

Scheduling Conflict Policy (Gerry) – no issues so far.

Square Time Publications – (Gerry) – new issue for February is on the web. The April edition has been delayed until after the Council of Dancer's meeting.

Report Submitted by: Gerry Johnson, Chair

Appendix H: Technology Report

Committee Members: -

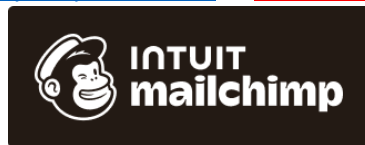
- Arlo Speer – Chair; EOSARDA Bulletin Manager
- Bob Summers – EOSARDA Webmaster, Sound Equipment
- Geoff Clarke – Sound Equipment
- John Charman – Sound Equipment

1. *EOSARDA Bulletins*

- There are currently 144 subscribers to our system (down 3 from fall 2024), of whom 67% review EOSARDA Bulletins “often”; 3% access bulletins “sometimes” and 27% “rarely” access the bulletins. So far in 2025, we have distributed 42 bulletins – just over 10 per month, on average.
- If you do not receive EOSARDA Bulletins directly but would like to, [Click here to add yourself to the direct mailing list.](#)
- If you receive EOSARDA Bulletins but would like to stop receiving them, you can unsubscribe by using the link at the bottom of any EOSARDA Bulletin you receive.
- If you haven’t received an EOSARDA Bulletin for some time, you can click [here](#) to see the last 20 messages online.
- If you forward EOSARDA bulletins to others in your club (**and we certainly hope you do!!**), please remember to delete the “Unsubscribe” link from the bottom of the message to avoid having any of your club members inadvertently cause **you** to be unsubscribed.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



2. *eoDance Website*

- We continue managing website hosting & domain registrations.
- Normal operation & maintenance continues for the site with improvements made as needed.
- Suggested updates and calendar events should be forwarded to webmaster@eoDance.ca

3. *Sound Systems (2)*

- EOSARDA has two (2) Hilton sound systems available on loan.
- One system is stored southwest of Ottawa in Kemptville; the other east of Ottawa in St-Albert
- Leaders and clubs wishing to borrow a sound system should contact: Equipment@EOSARDA.ca

Appendix I: Ottawa Area Callers Association Report

For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, we have 15 callers in good standing, of which five are new callers.

The OACA schedules six meetings per dance season, and we meet at the Alexander Community Center. Our meeting typically consists of a business session and a workshop session; the workshop portion is used to build on our shared experience and to help develop and strengthen our skills.

This past season, we have received several excellent workshop presentations from both experienced and novice callers.

In April, Dave Western attended our meeting to discuss strategies for attracting new dancers and retaining existing ones. The discussion was productive, and we valued Dave's input.

A member proposed reducing the number of meetings per dance season, and another proposed that the OACA organize a dance event that would provide opportunities for out-of-town members and newer members to call. We will be discussing these topics to see if these changes are necessary and/ or desired by the membership.

A huge Thank You to John Charman for chairing the OACA for the past two seasons.

Our next meeting is scheduled for the first Sunday in October.

Brian Crawford has agreed to chair the OACA for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Appendix J: Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation Report

The Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation will hold its Annual General Meeting on Saturday 03 May 2025 using Zoom. All Ontario dancers are welcome to attend. You must register to attend the meeting – to register, use this [link](#). Those who have registered will receive a Zoom link to access the meeting a few days before the meeting. Anyone wishing to add items to the agenda can submit them by e-mail to dan.roy1950@gmail.com.

The Federation Board will meet over the summer to review the nominations submitted for this year's Trillium Awards. Award recipients will be notified after the summer meeting. All 2025 nominations from EOSARDA have been submitted.

Some clubs have reported that the facilities they rent for dancing are asking for higher levels of tenant liability insurance. In response, the Canadian Square and Round Dance Society has arranged for tenant liability insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000 (an increase from the former \$1,000,000). The updated coverage can be found on the CSRDS website:

<https://csrds.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/25-insurance-coverage.pdf>

Registration fees for the Canadian Society and the Ontario Federation remain unchanged from 2024. Each year when EOSARDA collects its own fee, it also collects national and provincial fees on behalf of our Society and Federation. Dancers and dance leaders pay a combined \$6 to Federation and Society while clubs and associations pay a combined \$8. These fees are in addition to the current \$2 EOSARDA fee.

The Canadian Square & Round Dance Society's FESTIVAL 2026 will be held in Penticton, B.C. 15 – 18 July, 2026. The event will be hosted by the B.C. Square & Round Dance Federation and will operate under the name **Canadian National Square, Round and Clog Dance Festival**. Registration is now open – check out the [registration link](#).

Appendix K – Revised EOSARDA Fees

At the November 2024 Council of Dancers there was a consensus that EOSARDA fees should be increased in Dance Year 2025/26. While several numbers were suggested, by the end of the meeting there was general agreement that the increase should be up between \$4.00 and \$5.00 per year for both Member Club/Association and Dancer/Caller fees.

No increase in the fees for either the Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation or the Canadian Square and Round Dance Society is anticipated.

In preparing a draft budget for next year, the Board has taken Council's views into account and is proposing, as a first step, an increase in EOSARDA registration fees of \$2.00 per year. Under this scenario, in September of this year;

- \$ the per Member Club/ Association fee will increase from \$10.00 a year to \$12.00 with EOSARDA retaining \$4.00 and passing \$8.00 on to Federation and Society
- \$ the per Dancer/Caller fee will increase from \$8.00 per year to \$10.00 with EOSARDA retaining \$4.00 and passing \$6.00 on to Federation and Society

The Board is seeking Council's approval of the new fee schedule.

Dancer Registrations 2008 - Present

