



FRASER VALLEY SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the General Meeting December 1, 2019
Centennial Lodge, Queens Park, New Westminster

Meeting brought to order at 1:00 PM

Welcome – Jean Galbraith

Jean welcomed everyone, including guests, and reminded everyone to speak clearly as the meeting was being recorded. She also pointed out that only the reps can make motions and vote. However, visitors are invited to ask questions.

Attendance:

Abbotsford Grand Squares (Wanda March, David McVige, Dianne Wilson), **Century House Squares** (Jim Brown), **Chilliwick Rhythm Reelers** (Steve Armstrong), **Chuckwagon 8's** (Vicki Townson), **Royal Swingers** (Nancy and Peter Slinn), **Stardowners** (Mary deCario, June Fitchett, Al Gibbs), **Surrey Square Wheelers** (Donna Lonneberg), **Swinging Hubs & Wheeling 8's** (Marcia Smith), **Swinging Singles** (Ron Fleck, Sylvia French), **Town 'n' Country Dancers** (Greg Dahlgren, Barb and Guy Trysenaar), Sandi Poje, Ron Robertson, Jean & Alex Galbraith, Maureen Wilson, Don Allan, Blair Wallace

Absent:

Brent's Bunch, Delta Sundancers, Diamond Country Dancers, Guys & Gals, Motiv8ors, Rhythm B's, Quicksteppers, Squares Across the Border, TW Twirlers, Valley Promenaders, Wesburn Wranglers, White Rockers

With attendance taken, it was noted that a **quorum** was established.

Motion to approve agenda as presented -- M/S - Barb Trysenaar/Don Allan -- CARRIED

Correspondence

a) none

Motion to approve minutes of Oct. 6.19 general meeting as circulated -- M/S - Sylvia/Donna Lonneberg -- CARRIED

REPORTS –

a) **Treasurer's Report** – Don Allan (financials attached separately)

- Presented the balance sheet as of Nov 29, 2019
- Explained what the four funds were
- Page 2 - shows breakdown of income and expenses by fund
- Anniversary dance is one of the main funds
- The 60th Anniversary dance and Fees forwarded to the BCSRDF were major Operating Fund expenses
- Page 3 income expense data -- see Don if you have any questions
- The registration process has been completed
- Almost same number of dancers as last year 568 - +15 additional registrations --
- Send Don an update if haven't done so
- Some new registrations may come in from clubs who have new dancer classes in January

Notes on the Registration Process

1. 22 clubs registered. Squares Across the Border did not register.
2. 7 clubs submitted their registrations via email, 15 mailed paper copies
3. 8 clubs used the PDF form and submitted a printed copy of the file
4. 4 clubs submitted a filled PDF form file
5. 10 clubs submitted hand written paper forms
6. Several clubs did not submit a CSRDS form
7. Contact information forms were not included with the registrations forms that were submitted to BCSRDF

Some Registration Statistics

1. The average club size is 26 dancers
2. The median club size is 22 dancers
3. The five largest clubs contain 55.6% of the dancers. The largest clubs are Surrey Square Wheelers, Swinging Singles, Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers, Abbotsford Grand Squares and Town & Country

Motion to accept Treasurer's report as circulated -- M/S - Don Allan/June Fitchett -- CARRIED

b) **Vice President's Report** – Barb Tryssenaar

Aside from our club dancing at Town & Country, and Chuckwagons, we have attended a few special dances. Not as many as we aimed for but....

It was our pleasure to dance to Gary Shoemake when Guys & Gals brought him up. He always calls a great dance. Also, we had a fun time at the 'PRAWN DANCE' put on by the Fidalgo Fogcutters in Sedro Wooley, with Kevin Thomaier calling. You might ask WHY we are mentioning dances from across the line. It is because the Americans are coming up to our dances so we feel that we should support them.

Locally, we attended the Stardowners' Oktoberfest and the Wesburn Wranglers benefit dance. The club fundraiser for the teens was very poorly attended but thanks to the Brendzy family and Brent Mawdsley, the dancing was first class. Please remember this dance next year. It is important to support our teens.

We presented the Stardowners with a crest for their 40th anniversary last week.

We attended the Caller/Teachers' meeting as representatives from this organization. We have nothing to report from there.

This executive body is in need of your help. One of our director couples has resigned and I can't seem to find anyone to take their place. This is a fun job: You have a few clubs assigned to you and you visit them and report back to the executive on what is happening with these clubs. Oh, you are expected to attend the FVS&RDA executive and general meetings -- END of JOB.

Also, when we took on the vice president's job, we said we would fill in for a year. Well, a year is almost up and we are looking for someone to replace us. AND, are you aware that the Galbraiths are in their THIRD year as president couple? This is not by choice, but speaks to their commitment to our organization. They would like a break.

I know that sounds preachy, but it is time to see if you, or anyone in your clubs, can come to the aid of the FVS&RDA. After all, this is a recreation for all of us, and it would be nice to see some new faces on the executive.

c) **Valley Circle/Webmaster** – Blair Wallace

Valley Circle Report

- November done & out
- December done & out
- Subscription renewals complete

Blair commented that numbers are down from last year, but will probably go up when some people realize that didn't re-subscribe for the new dance season.

Valley Circle Subscriptions by Club

CLUB NAME	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ABBOTSFORD GRAND SQUARES	33	27	39	35	30	40	29
ABBOTSFORD SWINGING HUBS	17	20	19	17	15	15	18
BRENT'S BUNCH				9	9		8
CENTURY HOUSE	13	13	14	11	9	7	8
CHILLIWACK RHYTHM REELERS	16	18	30	25	17	13	10
CHUCKWAGON 8'S "A" LEVEL	16	18	18	9	15	13	12
CHUCKWAGON 8'S "PLUS" LEVEL	8	14	9				
DELTA SUNDANCERS	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
GUYS N GALS	7	6	8	5	8	7	2
MOTIV8ORS	5	8	6	5	5	4	2
RHYTHM B'S	10	7	8	4	4	6	6
ROYAL SWINGERS	18	19	14	14	14	12	11
SQUARES ACROSS THE BORDER	1	7	0	0	0	0	0
STARDOWNERS	18	15	17	17	16	19	17
SURREY SQUARE WHEELERS	33	42	41	39	42	48	42
SWINGING SINGLES	37	33	35	34	29	24	14
TOWN & COUNTRY DANCERS	17	14	13	11	13	9	7
WEAVERS	2	0					
WESBURN					2	0	0
WHEELING 8S	2	2	6	2	3	3	5
WHITE ROCKERS	4	7	8	13	8	8	11
TOTAL CLUB DELIVERY	257	271	285	250	239	228	202
TOTAL MAIL	58	51	40	39	44	41	41
TOTALS	315	322	325	289	283	269	243

Webmaster

- Site updated

d) **BC Federation** – David McVige

- no report

Blair explained that David McVige's and Betty Langtry's position have not been deleted. They are still delegates, as far as the FVS&RDA bylaws are concerned. He said that the only way they can be relieved of their position is to be fired, impeached or they resign. A meeting will be called to come up with a plan to address the new structure.

Blair asks that the delegates to send him any information that they receive as he doesn't receive anything from the BC Fed.

e) **Canadian Dancers Society** – David McVige

- no report

Jean commented that the CSRDS has not changed their bylaws, so David is still the rep.

f) **Promotion Committee** – Brent Mawdley (absent)

Brent asked Greg Dahlgren to report on his behalf, as he was unable to be at the meeting.

- Greg received nothing formal from Brent, as far as a report, but they did have conversations on new dancers. Town and Country did well on their own before Brian's facebook ads came out. They got 23 new dancers from facebook posts and local newspaper ads, which were free. After Brian's facebook ads came out, they got nothing. They feel that they were successful because they started early (in June).
- Lots of people didn't know about square dancing. It was suggested we do year round advertising, perhaps by using The Shopper and the coupon package that comes in the mail, perhaps we could do this for 3 years. Someone mentioned advertising in the Coffee News. It was pointed out that the free one is available only if they have available space in that issue. There are also paid ones available, which have a guaranteed space per issue.
- The plan is to document all of the advertisers that are available out there and document how each ad fares. The promo committee is planning on asking for a large amount of money.
- Sylvia asked that, if the plan is to advertise all year, are we obligated to make new dancer classes available at times other than the regular September startup? The Shopper only comes out four times a year. In the Sept and Jan editions, club can advertise for new dancers. These ads can be club specific with their own details.
- Wanda talked to Mike Rohde about holding a special weekend to try square dancing. Advertising could be a joint effort between clubs. Not many clubs have January startups. Wanda, who started dancing in a January, would have missed out on square dancing if she'd have to have waited until the following September.
- Advanced advertising should be planned for more than two weeks before startup as people need to make plans
- David mentioned that it is up to individual clubs as to whether they have January start ups for new dancers.
- For those who are interested, the next FVS&RDA promotion committee meeting will be held on **Saturday, February 1, 2020** at 10:30 AM at Frank McNeil's. If you are interested in attending, please contact Maureen (mw.fv.promo@gmail.com) for more details
- Barb pointed out that when you apply for money you must have a well-documented game plan, or it will be voted against. In the past, money has been given out and nobody knows what was done with it.

g) **Festival 2020** – Norm Cox

Eight months from today will be the Closing Ceremonies for the 2020 National Square Dance Festival to be held in Surrey, B.C. from July 29 to August 1, 2020 at the Sheraton Guildford Hotel. At the present time we have 556 Dancers registered and this number includes some 60 Callers and Cuers. You can go on the Web Page to find who the great Callers and Cuers will be. There are also Wheel Chair Dancers and a Clogging Group coming.

Hotel Rooms are almost sold out.

Trail-In Dance will be on Wednesday, July 29 at the Hotel and will cost you \$5.00 each if you wear your Registration Ribbon otherwise the cost will be \$10.00 each. Wear your Canadian Colours – Red and White. Trail out Dance will be in Abbotsford on Sunday, August 2.

Blair is putting together a Souvenir book and for a fee you can publish your Club Ad in it.

Blue, Green and White are the Festival Colours which have been chosen for this Festival but use your own imagination to design your Outfit.

June Fitchett is looking for Volunteers to help out with various jobs that need to be filled as part of the Festival Day to Day operations. Contact her at 604-951-0889 and offer your services.

For further information check the website –www.squaredance.bc.ca/2020 or go on Facebook: Festival 2020 - 21st Canadian National Square and Round Dance Festival or

Contact Norm Cox at 604-584-5506 email – marymcox@telus.net

h) **Gala 2020** – Dave Hammer (absent)

Jean gave the highlights of Dave's report.

- Gala location will be at *Kennedy Hall, Surrey*, held on **Saturday, Sept. 19, 2020**
- Steve Edlund and Kevin Thomaier (from Washington) and Krista Baird (cuer).
- level: Mainstream with plus tips,
- Ticket price: \$20.00 for adults, (possibly half price for teens)
- Workshop in the afternoon will be held between 2-4 pm. Included in the price of the ticket
- *Scroll of Honour & Driscoll Award presentations* by Barbara Tryssenaar and Ron Robertson respectively at approx. 9-9:15 pm,
- *The next Gala meeting will be held on Sat. Feb. 29th at Betty and George Langtry's home*

Blair mentioned that this dance still needs to be entered into the Valley Circle annual dance register.

i) **Vancouver & District Caller/Teachers Association** – John Corrigan (absent)

- no report

- Steve Armstrong asked if the association have a list of callers and where they call.
- Peter pointed out that the list will be handy for club presidents to get a sub caller.
- Blair said that he will create one for distribution to the clubs and send it out.

j) **Driscoll Award** – Ron Robertson

Ron didn't have too much to report, but is sending out letters. May get some response. Both teen clubs have very few members. Those members haven't been in the club for very long. They won't have enough experience to apply. The award will be handed out at the September Gala.

He explained some of the background behind the Driscoll award.

The Driscoll family, who are no longer with us, decided that they wanted to do something for the teens as an award for the male and female who do the most for promoting square dancing. The nominees get points for each and the teen with most points gets the award. For the last couple of years there have been very few competitors - Erica Corsa was last year's winner. The year before we had a male and female recipient.

Blair suggested that we look at the work that Heather Reynolds, Krista Baird, and Nicholas and Caitlyn Brendzy, all previous Driscoll award recipients, have done in the square dance community, and that will give one an idea of who should be receiving this award.

The following is posted on the Valley Circle website

<https://www.region2.squaredance.bc.ca/driscollguidelines.html>

The Driscoll Teen Award, initiated by the late Harold and Sella Driscoll in 1999, is an Annual Award that recognized both a male and female B.C. Teen or Pre-teen Dancer who has promoted dancing through leadership, co-operation, teamwork and ambassadorship. The Recipients are selected by the Driscoll Award Committee established by the Fraser Valley Square and Round dance Association for the purpose of selecting the Annual Recipients of the Award.

Check out the website for the *Driscoll Teen Nominee Eligibility Requirements*.

l) **Scroll Of Honour** – Barbara Tryssenaar

- The recipient of the scroll of honour receives a pin and a framed certificate.
- Barb has still not received any nominations but hopefully will have some by next meeting
- She will take anyone's application.
- Blair also pointed out that you can only win this award once. He then asked for former recipients to stand. And 9 people stood up as having already received it.
- This award is open to callers cuers and dancers.
- It was also pointed out that it is difficult to gather up the information unless the person is close to the person who is being nominated.

The following is posted on the Valley Circle website

https://www.region2.squaredance.bc.ca/scroll_guidelines.html

The Driscoll Teen Award is usually presented annually to one dancer couple or person and one caller couple or person annually, within the Fraser Valley Square & Round Dance Association and Vancouver and District Caller/Teachers Association.

The Honour is in recognition of the people who have gone above and beyond the call of duty and have dedicated their service to the square dance community. This goes beyond the club level and they have shown leadership to the FVS&RD Association or B.C. Federation or Canadian Society.

Motion to accept reports as given -- M/S - Jim Brown/Vicki Townson -- CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS –**1) BC Federation Bylaws - Director and Delegate (Blair)**

- The BC Fed has changed their bylaws and has eliminated the position of delegate

BC Fed – Delegates versus Directors at Large

13.1 (D) Delegate(s) to the BC Square & Round Dance Federation

- (i) The delegates to the BC Square & Round Dance federation shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and ratified by the General Membership.
- (ii) The delegate(s) shall be member(s) of the Executive Committee.

Maybe:

- Don't modify the bylaws – just create “rules” around the role of the “delegate(s)”.
- Rules would include:
 - FVS&RDA ask the clubs to assign their proxy to the delegates;
 - FVS&RDA ask the V&DCTA to assign their proxy to the delegates
 - FVS&RDA assign their proxy to the delegates;
 - All assigned proxies are open (i.e. unrestricted – vote as the delegate sees fit;
 - Delegates act as the communications conduit between the BC Fed, the FVS&RDA and the FVS&RDA member clubs;
 - Delegates would be required to make reports at the FVS&RDA General and Executive Meetings;
 - Delegates would be required to provide the Valley Circle with copies of BC Fed Newsletters, etc. for potential publication;
 - Delegates would attend the BC Fed General meetings.
- FV Caller-Teachers and clubs are members of the BC Fed
- The next BC Fed AGM will be held in Penticton. Because it is a bit of a trick to get everyone there the BC Fed allows a vote by proxy. The plan is to do same at the FVS&RDA level. We will appoint a proxy. Those proxies will attend the meeting with a proxy for each club -- a possible 22 plus 2 = 24 votes
- It is suggested that the proxy would be open ended allowing the proxy to vote according to their own conscience. Blair gave David a copy of the rules for the proxies
- Blair pointed out that, maybe we don't have to change our bylaws, but will appoint a delegate.

Some queries/clarifications that were brought up during discussion:

- The proxy pertains to the club only. Our bylaws state that within our organization, we are not allowed to have proxies.
- Total votes carried count as a quorum
- We want it open-ended because if something comes up that wasn't on the agenda, the proxies would have their hands tied if it was specific

- Will it only be open-ended for those things that come up at last minute? Not necessarily -
- In the event of amended motions, if the proxy is too specific, it could not be used to pass the motion.
- Proxies represent clubs. However club reps can attend and vote on their own. The proxies must be reviewed each year.
- If one club brought a whole square there would they still get only one vote? Yes.
- How does a club get the information on what will be voted on?
- Who will be responsible for getting the proxies? Ans: via communications from BC Fed
- Each club should make sure they send someone to the FVS&RDA general meetings
- Contact forms should be sent directly to BC Fed
- BC Fed hasn't sent anything back. Blair received their information for the November issue of the Valley Circle
- Recap - The reason for all this because in the good old days any dancers who attended could vote. Now each club has only one vote because of the New Societies Act? Ans: Yes.
- We have some clubs with different numbers. Is it fair that the clubs with larger numbers get the same vote as the smaller clubs?

2) **Swinging Singles Building Fund Legacy** (Norm - unofficial chair of the finance committee)

\$10,000.00 from the Swinging singles Legacy Building Fund was set aside to be used as Grants to Clubs in need of Financial Aid this year. Of that \$10,000.00 the Committee agreed both Teen Clubs would receive \$1,000.00 and \$2,000.00 would go to the F.V. Promotion Committee thus leaving \$6,000.00 for Grants to Clubs.

The Treasurer sent out requests forms to all clubs with their Registration Forms in September. We received 5 requests, as one came in late after a phone call saying it was on its way, so at the time of the Executive Meeting all forms had not been received and reviewed so a motion was made at the Executive Meeting on November 23, 2019 that the final decision on the distribution of the Funds would not be made until all forms had been reviewed and that will take place at the next Executive Meeting in February 2020.

Some guidelines are in place:

1. The Club must be a Viable, Operating Club in the Fraser Valley.
2. The Club must apply for the Grant.
3. The Club must be a Paid Up Member of the Fraser Valley Association.
4. The Club must submit a Budget for the coming year with their application.
5. The Club must submit a last year's Financial Statement.

The following Clubs have submitted applications:

Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers; Town and Country Dancers; White Rockers;
Swinging Hubs; and 1 Teen Club

NEW BUSINESS –

a) **Vacant Director Position**

- Jean reminded everyone that we still have a position open due to the stepping down of Anni and Kris Christensen.
- The job of a director is to visit the clubs and bring back to the executive as to concerns and give recognition to people (eg 25 year dangles, etc)

- She also suggested that maybe they could shadow one of the current directors to see how the position works.

b) Comment regarding insurance:

- Every year, the FCSRDA has to provide a '**Certificate of Insurance**' (COI) to Burnaby for hall rentals. The COI lists all the clubs that dance in Burnaby.
- Don dealt with it last year. Norm does business with the insurance and has to find out who is dealing with this. Don hasn't heard anything pertaining to the upcoming January 2020.
- Sylvia French indicated that the Swinging Singles had to provide a COI to Burnaby Lake Pavilion. Another clubs also indicated that they provide COIs to New Westminster and to Maple Ridge.
- Burnaby Lake insists that they have a copy of the insurance coverage, same with New Westminster -- a copy of the insurance will suffice
- Pat Zeeman of the BCSRDF has to send registration information to the CSRDS before FVSRDA or other clubs can apply for COIs
- Don is intending to apply for a COI for Burnaby in December

GOOD & WELFARE –

- Jean's younger brother passed away from lung cancer on Nov 4th. She is having a few health issues, at this time, as well.
- Dan Adams Sr. (CRR) - had back operation and is back to dancing

ORDER OF THE DAY --

Abbotsford Grand Squares - Wanda March

Dec. 16 - Christmas Potluck dinner and All Levels dance

6 PM - dinner -- bring dishes

7 PM -- dance with Heather Reynolds calling

Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers - Steve Armstrong

Friday, Dec. 13 - Christmas dinner dance

Brent is calling

Dinner is at 6 PM

Royal Swingers - Nancy Slinn

1. **Dec. 13** is the final windup potluck dinner at 7 pm

\$6 for members - \$7 for guests

2. **Jan 3** - startup

3. **March 20** - Royal Swingers 50th anniversary

Tickets will be available in new year

More info at next meeting

ORDER OF THE DAY (Continued)

Surrey Square Wheelers - Donna Lonneberg

1. **Tues Jan. 7 & Wed Jan 8** - 2020 start-up and Jersey Night
2. **Wed. Jan. 29** - annual recycle sale
Doors open at 6:30 PM with social dancing until 7 PM
7:00 - 7:30 PM - square dancing
7:30 - Recycle sale
Cost \$1.00 per person
3. **Sat. Apr. 4** - 50th Happiness Dance (Kennedy Hall)
Our club is the longest contributing donor to The Centre for Child Development
7 PM - doors open
7:30-8:00 - Pre-rounds
8:00-10:00 - Square dancing
Mainstream with Plus tips
Admission by **donation**

Swinging Singles - Ron Fleck

1. **Dec. 10** - Christmas dinner is almost sold out
Caller: Nicholas Brendzy
2. **Tues. Dec. 31** New Year's Eve dance with a live classic rock band - 'Rainshadow'
There are only 3 tickets left as of Dec. 1st
3. **Jan. 7** - New dancers program start up
Nicholas Brendzy is calling
Burnaby Lake Pavilion

Town 'n' Country Dancers - Greg Dahlgren

1. **Mon. Dec. 16** - Ukrainian themed Christmas dinner and dance
Mainstream with plus tips
Tickets available until Dec. 12th
Cost: \$20 each
2. **Fri. Jan 10** - New dancers class - Pitt Meadows

Vancouver and District Caller Teacher Association - Barb Trysenaar

- Sunday, Dec. 29** - Annual New Dancer Mid-Term Prom
ASAA Hall (1:30-4:00 PM)
Cost: \$7.00
All levels

NEXT MEETING – **Sunday, Feb 16, 2020** – Centennial Lodge, 1 pm

ADJOURNMENT @ 3:10 by Ron Fleck