

NEW MEXICO SQUARE DANCE CALLERS' ASSOCIATION

BY - LAWS

Revised May 11, 2013

Article I

Membership

- A. Membership in this organization shall be extended to all who are qualified to call a full dance and are capable of teaching new dancer classes through the mainstream program. This basic qualification deals only the mainstream program and does not require that members be capable of calling or teaching plus , advanced , or challenge programs .
- B. Any prospective new member, who is sponsored by one of our memebers, shall be allowed to call at the Trail In dance before the State Festival.
 - 1. Members , shall receive all benefits of the association , including the right to vote, hold office , serve on any committee , and to participate in calling engagements sponsored by the association.
 - 2. Any caller who is currently calling for one or more clubs or who is a member of any callers' association or is a member of or subscriber to Callerlab / American Callers Association , or is accredited by either of these organizations , will be accepted in this association.
 - 3. To maintain membership:
 - a. A member should be calling as often as is possible to maintain proficiency.
 - b. A member should follow, as close as is possible , the teaching order and teaching practices outlined by Callerlab. New dancers should be taught movements by definition and in as much depth as possible .
 - c. A member should subscribe to and adhere to the Callerlab Code of Ethics , which are appended hereto and are officially adopted as the Code of Ethics for this association.
 - d. A member should be willing to devote time to assisting new callers .

Article II

Membership Evaluation

All evaluations are done by an evaluation committee established by the executive board . If the evaluation committee recommends , the member in question may be evaluated at the next business meeting . All voting is by secret ballot .

- A. Any member may request an evaluation of any member .This evaluation shall be requested only for good cause , such as violation of the Code of Ethics, lack of proficiency, etc. The request for evaluation shall be forwarded to the executive secretary-treasurer who shall forward it to all members of the executive board. The request for evaluation must be in writing, citing the alleged violations. The executive board shall establish a membership and evaluation committee to investigate the allegations. If the committee recommends, the membership shall be apprised of the circumstances at the next business meeting. If the membership is voting on termination of the membership , a two-thirds majority, of members present, is required to terminate .

Article III

Dues

The initiation fee and first years dues for this association shall be twenty dollars (\$20.00) . The subsequent annual dues will be established by a membership vote at each regular business meeting at the State Festival . Dues are due and payable at that meeting. For the purposes of bookkeeping, the dues year shall be from State Festival to the following State Festival . Dues are for the full year between State Festivals , regardless of when they are paid . Members not attending the business

meeting should mail their dues to the executive secretary-treasurer, as soon as possible, after the State Festival.

Article IV

Association Badges

There is not an official association badge . If desired , members may purchase a dangle with “NMSDCA” engraved on it or if they desire , may purchase a tastefully designed badge with the words “ New Mexico Square Dance Callers’ Association “ engraved upon it .

Article V

Duties of Officers

A. President. The duties of the president shall be to guide, direct, control and coordinate all functions and activities of the association, it’s officers and it’s committees. He/she shall be member pro tem of all committees and shall appoint the chairman of these committees.

He/she shall work closely with the other officers of the New Mexico Square and Round Dance Association in preparing for and presenting the State Festival, offering the assistance of this association when warranted. He/she shall serve as Vice President for Squares of that association.

B. Vice President. The duties of the vice president shall be assisting the president in routine matters and shall act in the place of the president in case of the president’s absence or if the president becomes incapacitated and can no longer carry out his/her duties. The vice president acts as parliamentarian.

C. Executive Secretary-Treasurer. The executive secretary-treasurer shall be responsible for the financial and fiscal affairs of the association and shall keep complete and accurate records of such affairs. He/she shall maintain an up-to-date roster of all members and forward a listing to each member as changes occur. He/she shall prepare and distribute the association newsletter at least once per quarter and shall see that all members who are not Callerlab members, subscribers

or apprentices receive pertinent Callerlab correspondence. He/she shall be the point of contact for Callerlab. Once per year, the executive secretary-treasurer shall see that a listing of all members is published in the Southwest Dancer. He/she shall keep minutes of all business meetings and shall act as corresponding secretary. As treasurer, he/she is authorized to expend funds for postage, printing, office supplies, the listing in Southwest Dancer. The executive board is authorized to approve other major expenditures.

Article VI

Committees

Because of the long distances involved, there are no permanent committees in this association.

When the need for committees arise, the president shall appoint them for a specific purpose and term.

Article VII

Newsletter

A newsletter shall be prepared and mailed whenever deemed appropriate by the executive secretary-treasurer.

The newsletter shall be prepared at least quarterly but a monthly newsletter is desired. Members are encouraged to submit material for publication to the executive secretary-treasurer.

Article VIII

Visitation by the President

Because of the long distances involved, the president is not required to visit the various districts during his/her term, however, if a district has a callers' association, it might be possible for that association to book a dance for the president to call and combine it with a meeting. This would help defray the costs for the visit and would help other district callers' learn what is going on around the state.

Article IX

Amendments and supplements to the By-Laws

These by-laws may be revised or supplemented by a majority vote of voting members present at an regular business meeting provided written notice of the proposed revision, amendment or supplement is mailed or e-mailed to all members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

Article X

Parliamentary Procedures

Any matters pertaining to parliamentary procedures not covered by these by-laws shall be governed by “Robert’s Rules of Order.