

# Guidelines for the “European Square- and Round dance Convention” -

*Rev. 2023- 2024*

## **Purpose of the European Square – and Round Dance Convention**

The event is organized by one of the participating associations, to promote international squaredancing as a get-together dance.

It is designed just for European leaders with international caller/ cuer experience or at least international potential.

## **General statement**

If the hosting association or organizing committee cannot fulfil one or more of the following requirements it can apply for an exception. The request has to be addressed to the joint Board of Presidents of the participating associations, which will vote on it by regular majority (50+1). The decision is final.

### **1. Convention Date**

The European Square- and Rounddance Convention shall be held every second year in the even years. The Conventions should be held in the summer, preferably in the month of July or August. The decision of the final date is up to the hosting association.

Dates of national Conventions of each participating association need to be respected. The European Convention should preferably be at least 3 weeks away from the National Conventions.

All associations should do their best to block the weekend of the European Convention so that no other dances can be arranged.

### **2. Convention Duration**

The European Conventions should preferably have a program for 3 days. If not possible, a 2-day Convention is acceptable but not preferable.

### **3. Convention Location and Accommodation**

#### **a. The location itself**

The dance location should provide easy access by car or public transport.

The dance location should have at least 4 (preferably 5) dance halls. If these halls are not within walking distance, transport should be provided at regular intervals during the event. The main hall should be a minimum size of 1,000 sq. meters.

The halls should have a wooden or linoleum-covered floor. Carpet, stone, and paving tiles are to be avoided.

The expected numbers of participants should determine the spread over the halls. If there is 4 halls only, then round dancing must be provided in time slots in at least two halls.

Dressing rooms must be available in or at least near the halls. Other halls for related dance forms or demonstrations will be up to the organizing association. Enough toilets must be available for the expected number of dancers.

A location for vendors should be provided if possible. The number of vendors and minimum/maximum size in sq. meters are up the hosting association. Inviting vendors is up to the

hosting association.

A separate room for the callers and cuers should be available.

### **b. Road Signs**

All signs or directions should be in English or pictorial. They might be translated into the language of the hosting association.

### **c. Parking**

It is preferred to have sufficient parking space near the halls. If possible, an area should be assigned for campers and caravans (based on local regulations).

### **d. Hall interior**

Each hall should have a podium of at least 60 cm height and sufficient room for sound equipment and 2 persons to move around.

The main hall should preferably have a stage large enough to accommodate all the program staff at the same time.

Decoration of the halls is up to the hosting association and club(s).

### **e. Food and Refreshments**

Hot and cold drinks must be available close to the dancing halls during the whole event. Snacks would be nice too.

A restaurant or catering stand in or close to the building is preferred. If this is not available there should be directions to facilities in the neighborhood.

## **4. Convention Program**

It is up to the hosting association to create the Convention program. The minimum requirement dance programs are:

- Basic and Mainstream
- Plus
- Advanced
- Challenge 1 and 2
- Round Dance

This is based on the number of halls available. If there is a 5th or 6th hall available, suggested additional programs are:

- Clogging
- Contra

A 3-day Convention program starts on Friday afternoon and ends on Sunday afternoon. A 2-day Convention program starts on Saturday morning and ends Sunday afternoon. There is no minimum of dance hours, but a suggested program below indicates that a 3-day Convention program for one hall provides 20 hours of dancing and with a 2-day program provides 15,5 hours of dancing. If there are only four halls available, the organizing committee is free to “shuffle” with the program. Example: One block of Advanced can be changed to Challenge on Saturday and Sunday.

Suggested program below:

**Friday**

17:30	19:00	1,5 hrs.
19:00	20:30	1,5 hrs.
20:30	22:00	1,5 hrs.

**Saturday**

10:00	11:30	1,5 hrs.
11:30	13:00	1,5 hrs.
13:00	14:30	1,5 hrs.
14:30	16:00	1,5 hrs.
16:00	17:30	1,5 hrs.
17:30	19:00	1,5 hrs.
19:15	20:00	Ceremony
20:00	22:00	2,0 hrs.

**Sunday**

10:00	11:30	1,5 hrs.
11:30	13:00	1,5 hrs.
13:00	14:30	1,5 hrs.

This suggested program has blocks of 1,5 hours. It's also possible to have 1- hour blocks. 2- hour blocks are too long and therefore not recommended.

## **5. Convention Leaders**

### **a. General**

In general, each association should nominate its callers and cuers according to point 5b and 5c below. If an association nominates more than the allocated number of nominees, the hosting association can choose from the list of nominees.

The final decision will be taken by the hosting association.

The callers and cuers for the Convention must be living in the area covered by the nominating associations (but they do not need to be citizens of that country).

Each association must make sure that its nominees are familiar with these Guidelines for the Convention. Leaders need to know about the regulations regarding their attendance, especially concerning food and accommodation (for their partners). All nominated leaders agree to abide by these guidelines.

All lists of nominees should include the highest level/phase to be called/cued by each person. Also, a program block of "newbies" or local leaders could be an option within the program. This should not mean any extra costs.

### **b. Callers**

All callers should be able to call up to the A2 program. Three callers should be able to call up to the highest level required for the program. The associations have to be sure, that the callers are available during the whole Convention before they submit the nominations.

The number of callers per association should be as follows:

- 2x BAASDC (United Kingdom)
- 1x CSCTA (Czech Republic and Slovakia)
- 2x DAASDC (Denmark)
- 2x EAASDC (Germany, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland, France, Russia)
- 1x NVSD (the Netherlands)
- 2x SAASDC (Sweden)

### **c. Cuers**

All cuers should preferably be able to cue and teach up to phase VI. The cuers hired should be of sufficient quality and experience so that they can give advice in planning a good program considering the area in which the Convention is to be held. This advice will be subject to their ability and willingness and only by request of the hosting association.

The number of cuers per association should be as follows:

- 1x BAASDC (United Kingdom)
- 1x CSCTA (Czech Republic and Slovakia)
- 1x EAASDC (Germany, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland, France, Russia)
- 1x NVSD (the Netherlands)

### **d. Other Leaders**

All other leaders like clogging instructors or contra prompters should preferably perform on the highest level required for the respective Convention.

### **e. Payment**

It is agreed that it should be an honor to be on the program of an European Square- and Round Dance Convention.

Therefore, each caller or cuer gets a flat fee plus a reasonable compensation for travel expenses that should be kept to a minimum necessary. The

flat fee per caller or cuer will be € 500,00 (based upon the price level, year 2024). The hosting association can review the flat fee in line with inflation, but this is not necessary. The nominating association can top up the caller fee for its nominees if necessary.

Below are the suggested travel expenses per caller or cuer. The hosing association will negotiate with each caller or cuer the expected travel expenses. Each association can top up the travel fee for its nominees.

Suggested maximum travel expenses for the hosting association per caller or cuer:

- Travelling by plane: maximum of € 300,00
- Travelling by car: maximum of € 200,00

Furthermore, all callers and cuers ,as well as their partner, will have full board for the weekend, paid by the hosting association. This includes free dance entrance, accommodation (private accommodation is acceptable too), meals and refreshments (tickets). Refreshments shall be available on each stage in the halls and in the caller/cuer room.

### **6. Convention Advertisement**

The flyer of the European Convention will be published at least once (preferable two times) a year free of charge in the magazines of each participating association, as well as on their websites.

### **7. Convention Flyer**

The front page of the program should match the agreed design of the previous European Conventions. The design is a blue background with circular stars surrounding an outline map of Europe and dancers in gold colour printing.

The pre-flyer must be ready at the European Convention prior to the European Convention it promotes if possible. The final flyer with program must be ready one year before the actual European Convention. The flyers can be distributed through the associations. The hosting association will make sure that each association receives enough flyers upon its request. Each association must provide the hosting association with the number of flyers, they would like to receive.

### **8. Convention Badges**

The European Convention badges should follow the design agreed upon and used for the previous European Conventions. The organizers of every upcoming European Convention will provide new badges with year and place.

### **9. Convention Admittance Fee**

The price for the participating dancers should be as low as possible. Pre-registration at a reduced price should be possible. If necessary and possible the other participating national associations should provide help with pre-registration.

Extra fee can be charged for after parties, meals etc., but it must be clear exactly what is included, and it has to be optional for the dancers.

VIP tickets: Two tickets per association must be provided (for the board representative)

### **10. First Aid during the Convention**

First aid should be available on-site. The hosting association will provide this according to the local (national) regulations.

**11. Convention Ceremony on Saturday evening**

At the official ceremonies the representatives of the participating associations and all callers and cuers on the program should be recognized.

At this time, the Convention banner will be handed over to the hosts of the next Convention. Some kind of introduction of this next Convention would be appreciated.

The ceremonies have to be held in English. They can also be translated into the language of the hosting association.

It is recommended that the total time for the ceremony is kept reasonably short, especially if the dancers have to stand during the ceremony. Introduction of people, speeches and translation might be adjusted by the hosting association accordingly.

**Revision 2024 as agreed by:**

**BAASDC** - British Association of American Square Dance Clubs

**CSCTA** - Czechoslovak Callers and Teachers Association

**DAASDC** - Danish Association of American Square Dance Clubs

**EAASDC** - European Association of American Square Dance Clubs

**NVSD** - Netherlands Association of Square Dancers

**SAASDC** - Swedish Association of American Square Dance Clubs

-at their joint meeting on July 26th, 2024, in Ikast, Denmark, during the European Square Dance convention.

BAASDC   
PP DAVID GARLAND

CSCTA 

DAASDC 

EAASDC 

NVSD 

SAASDC 