

See our

website: www.texandudes.com

T D L D

Texan Dudes Line Dancing



May

2024

Wanted Poster

Hi and welcome to the latest news and reflections of yours truly.

As we enter the summer months the days get longer and as a result travelling becomes a lot easier. I am sure a lot of us line dancers will be seeking out events they can attend. With this in mind I have dedicated a lot of this month's newsletter to those events and a little guidance as to what to expect.

First a little recap of what we have been up to in the past few weeks. We decided that a little sunshine was required and so headed to Portugal for a week of R & R. Unfortunately we picked the wrong week as for the first five days the wind howled and the rain lashed down.

We also thought that whilst there we would easily find a line dance venue to enable us to get our dance 'fix'. This also proved to be a non starter. (say Ahhh!) We are sure that line dancing is alive and well in Portugal it just wasn't within range of us.

None of this has deterred us from going back to Portugal. It is a beautiful country, very friendly people and the wine and food is exceptional.

We just need to do a little more research into where and when we go!

What Type Of Line Dancing Event Are You Attending?

When a club has a social it is up to them to advertise what type of event they are putting on. There are now so many dances that it is more important than ever to let dancers know.

Club Social.

When we have a social we don't advertise it to the general public. On our flyers(Leaflets) we describe it as a 'club' social.

We also point out on those flyers that dances will be restricted to dances we have covered. We have done this for many years for good reason.

It is that we want to give our club dancers a reward for supporting us. It is the chance to practice and display as many dances that they know and, we can fit into a three hour evening. (Thus unencumbered by the time constraints of a class situation).

This is not to say we don't welcome non club dancers. We are confident that we do enough of the current line dances, along with our catalogue of all time line dance favourites they will have a full evening of dancing.

We have always planned the social evenings so that all levels of dancer are included throughout the entire evening. We have been to far too many events where beginners are catered for the first hour then totally abandoned for the remainder of time through lack of planning.

Only by staying with dances we have covered will we have a full dance floor for the entire evening.

Open Club Social

This is an event where the club advertise they will play 'ALL requests', irrespective of how many dancers know the dance.

The downside to adopting this policy is that club members may spend a lot of the evening watching four dancers perform their latest dance. The upside is the club dancers get a chance to see what other clubs are doing. (I suppose they could do this if they went to that other clubs social!)

Open Social

There have been a number of these events running over the years. They are line dance socials often 'linked' to a club or clubs.

Often they are a monthly event where lots of clubs will attend. Advertised as playing 'ALL' requests this is an ideal way to catch up with what's 'hot' and what's 'not'!

The 'upside' is that as there are usually a number of clubs in attendance you usually have a representative number of dancers on the floor for all dances.

But the once a week dancer who hasn't been dancing for long should be aware. Dances on offer to you 'may' be restricted because the dance playlist is very much on an 'ad hoc' basis.

*But what if any of the above events has booked a 'live' act? Maybe someone who is a recognised line dance act. Or maybe they want a Country music 'line dance' act? Do they expect the act to be able to play and sing all the songs the dancers are used to dancing to? So the event organiser has to do his/her homework by checking the acts playlist. **Ie: You can then ask them to play the songs in their repertoire which you want for your event? So...***

Club Social.

The 'first thing' to do when booking a live act for your club social is to look at the playlist of the person you are hiring. Can they accommodate the dances your club know? How will their playlist fit in with your evening?

If the act doesn't play the song your class are used to dancing to is there another song which will fit the dance?

Open Club Social

Exactly the same criteria as above except in this case does the act have a broader list of current or popular line dance songs? You will have to ascertain if the playlist will satisfy the needs of most of the dancers attending.

Open Social As above.

Country Music Festivals

Be aware that not all Country music acts are playing for line dancers! It is up to the dancer to decide what dance will 'fit' the song being played.

I am sure I have missed something from these guidelines as I haven't mentioned the many different types of line dance clubs and the different music genre used but it is at least a starting point for discussion. But whatever event you attend I'm sure you will 'Have Fun'!

As a follow-up to these guidelines.

We have just seen the brilliant Nadine Somers playing at AB Coasters. Simply put, a class act for any line dance event. (Or any event for that matter!)

Dance Teaches in April

Good Rockin' Tonight - Improver

By Alison and Peter Metelnick

Music: Good Rockin' Tonight By Rod Stewart and Jools Holland

What a great piece of music to dance to.

Oldie –

Sweet Sweet Smile - Easy Improver

Music: Sweet Sweet Smile By The

Carpenters. A fun dance introduced to our improvers.

Dance Like No One Is Watching

Lavinia & Mick

Tel: 020 8440 7340 * Mob: 0778 624 8740

E-mail: TexanDudes@aol.com