

***Square and Round Dance Federation of Nova Scotia
Annual Report to
Canadian Square and Round Dance Society***

August 16, 2023

We continue to face the challenge of recruiting dancers to replace the dancers that did not return after the COVID restrictions were lifted. Some reasons for not returning were health, relocation, or had moved on to a new activity.

At this time there are no active clubs and no active callers in ***Cape Breton Region***, and ***Highland Region***. All remaining clubs in Nova Scotia experienced a much higher than normal cancellation of their dances due to weather, therefore no graduations of new dancers in the spring of 2023.

Fundy Region:

Cumberland Twirlers MS have retained most of their dancers and conducted a small class. Potential new dancers have been recruited for fall startup.

NB - NS Border Rounders is dancing only and no longer providing teaching classes.

Central Region:

Lake City Swingers MS - continues to struggle with low numbers of dancers and conducted small class. Fall startup is scheduled with unknown returning numbers.

Stardusters MS - continues to struggle with low numbers of dancers and conducted a small class. Potential new dancers have been recruited for fall startup.

Harmony Squares Plus have retained most of their dancers and continues with a small class.

Sail Sets Dances Plus, Advance and Challenge struggles with low numbers.

Fun Time Rounds have retained most of their club members and are teaching when required.

Halifax Contra Dances are continuing and the numbers for their dances remain stable.

Contra Time Dancers is presently on hold.

South Shore Region:

South Shore Squares MS continues to struggle with low numbers of dancers and conducted a small class. Potential new dancers have been recruited for fall startup.

Valley Region:

Fundy Squares MS have retained most of their dancers and conducted a small class.

Potential new dancers have been recruited for fall startup.

Nova Scotia continues to promote our activities at every opportunity. (i.e. community expos, active seniors groups, social media, etc). Our demographics are providing us with a challenge, however, we continue to be encouraged with some clubs having some success with recruitment and retention.

Sunday afternoon (July 9, 2023) Harmony Squares and Stardusters joint square dance was video recorded for the promotion of a Canadian singer Afie Jurvanen, stage name “Bahamas” new song release titled “*Second Time Around*”.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YY3V_oAYmMY

South Shore Squares resumed its annual special dance Buccaneer’s Bash in April 2023. It is clear by attendance and dancer comments there is a strong desire that the clubs return to hosting their annual special dance.

In addition to aging dancers we are also facing the challenge of retiring callers and regions without a local caller.

Fundy Region has one caller (caller travels from NB) and one cuer.

Central Region has two full-time callers, two-part time callers and one cuer

South Shore Region has one caller (caller travels from Valley Region)

Valley Region has two callers (one travels to South Shore Region)

Other one calls for Fundy Squares.

The Federation Marketing continues to advertise and promote our dancing with demos, PSA’S, Bookmarks, Brochures, Flyers, social media and word of mouth and is available to assist Clubs with their local programs.

Respectfully submitted,

President Square and Round Dance Federation of Nova Scotia

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