

Milestones & Major Events of Same-Sex Dancesport

There is no guarantee of accuracy and/or completion for the following listing.
Anyone who has corrections and/or additions, please e-mail info@nasspda.org.

YEAR	LOCATION	“EVENT NAME”plus NOTES
1990	Vancouver, Canada	“Gay Games III,” which includes same-sex dance couple demonstration (“Cheek2Cheek,” couple from Bay Area, USA)
1993	Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA	IAGLCWDC (International Association of Gay/Lesbian Country Western Dance Clubs) was founded
1994	New York, New York, USA	“Gay Games IV,” which includes same-sex competition as a side event at Roseland Ballroom attended by couples from USA & Canada
1994	Louisville, Kentucky, USA	first convention with a dance cruise on the Ohio River
1994	Oldenburg, Germany	first known independent same-sex competition
1995	Frankfurt, Germany	“Eurogames III,” which includes for the first time Dancesport as an official sport
1996	Sydney, Australia	first “Australian Same-Sex Dancesport Championships,” held since annually
1996	Berlin, Germany	“Eurogames IV,” Dancesport again included (introduction of grading)
1997	London, United Kingdom	first known independent same-sex competition in the UK, named “Pink Juke Box Trophy” and held since then every single year
1998	Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA	first same sex C/W competition at an IAGLCWDC convention, included from this time on annually
1998	Amsterdam, Netherlands	“Gay Games V,” which for the first time includes Dancesport as an official sport (new full set of rules established by Dutch organizing team “DancEquality,” creating the term “Equality Dancing” for switching lead & follow within a dance)
1999	Berlin, Germany	“Berlin Open,” organized by “pinkballroom”
1999	Las Vegas, Nevada, USA	after one year of discussion on the subject, the NDCA incorporated into its rules the definition of a couple restricting it as a man leading and a woman following, in response to various NDCA sanctioned competitions trying to open the floor to same-sex couple events

2000	Zürich, Switzerland	“Eurogames VI,” Dancesport again and permanently included (there had been no Eurogames in 1998 & 1999, and Dancesport wasn’t included in 1997, but independent same-sex competitions sprouted up, especially in Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom)
2001	Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania, USA	“OUTdancing Weekend” by Stepping Out Studios (NYC) includes a competition with single & multi-dance categories and couples from different states
2001	Hanover, Germany	“Eurogames VII,” with increased participation from American & Canadian couples
2001	Hamburg, Germany	first “International Queer Tango Festival”
2002	Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania, USA	“OUTdancing Weekend” by Stepping Out Studios (NYC) includes a competition with single & multi-dance categories and couples from different states
2002	New York, New York, USA	second same-sex competition in NYC at Stepping Out Studios with single & multi-dance categories and attendance by one couple from the UK
2002	Sydney, Australia	“Gay Games VI,” Dancesport again an official sport regulated under the rules of DancEquality (except the first 3 dances in Latin include Samba, not Jive)
2003	San Jose, California, USA	first independent same-sex competition in the Bay Area, called “California Dancesport Championships for Same-Sex Couples”
2003	Adelaide, Australia	SA SamesexDancesport formed, a committee affiliated with Team Adelaide promoting same-sex dancing
2003	Copenhagen, Denmark	“Eurogames VIII” (due to Gay Games VI there were no Eurogames in 2002)
2004	Oakland, California, USA	“Mid-Winter Madness, California Dancesport Championships”
2004	Munich, Germany	“Eurogames IX”
2004	San Francisco, California, USA	“Autumn Adventure, California Dancesport Championships”
2005	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	first “Philadelphia Liberty Dance Challenge,” held since then every year, except in 2013, and then again for the last time in 2014
2005	San Francisco, California, USA	first “April Follies, California Dancesport Championships,” held since then every year, starting with 2008 in Oakland, California, USA

2005	Sacramento, California, USA	USADF (United States Alternative Dancesport Federation) was created
2005	Berlin, Germany	first German Championships
2005	Utrecht, Netherlands	"Eurogames X"
2006	Sacramento, California, USA	WFSSD (World Federation of Same Sex Dancing) was created
2006	London, United Kingdom	UKSSDC (United Kingdom Same Sex Dance Council) was founded
2006	Chicago, USA	"Gay Games VII," Dancesport now permanently included (lower attendance of European couples, due to World Outgames I two weeks later)
2006	Montreal, Quebec, Canada	"World Outgames I," Dancesport included in all following Continental & World Outgames (this event marks the formation of GLISA, rivaling the FGG)
2006	Buenos Aires, Argentina	first "International Queer Tango Festival" in Argentina
2006	New York, New York, USA	DAGE (Dance Alliance for Gender Equality) was formed, a network of social and competitive same-sex partner dancers and LGBTQ social dance associations in the Tri-State area
2007	Orlando, Florida, USA	first US Championships under aegis of USADF
2007	New York, New York, USA	5-Boro Dance Challenge (last time held in 2008)
2007	London, United Kingdom	ESSDA (European Same-Sex Dance Association) was founded
2007	Antwerp, Belgium	"Eurogames XI"
2007	Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada	first "Vancouver Queer Dance Classic," intended to be annual, but cancelled the following year due to lack of registrations
2007	Oakland, California, USA	first meeting to form NASSPDA (North American Same-Sex Partner Dance Association)
2007	Montreal, Quebec, Canada	first "La Fiesta de Montreal," later renamed "Montreal Rainbow Dance Challenge," a competition held annually and first sanctioned by NASSPDA in 2011
2007	San Francisco, California, USA	first "California Dreaming," held also in 2008 and 2009
2008	New York, New York, USA	NASSPDA's first North American and New York State Championships at the 5-Boro Dance Challenge

2008	Munich, Germany	DVET (Deutscher Verband für Equality Tanzsport – German Association for Equality Dancesport) founded
2008	Barcelona, Spain	“Eurogames XII”
2008	Melbourne, Australia	“Asia Pacific Outgames I”
2009	Sacramento, California, USA	first “Dancing In The River City” competition, sanctioned by NASSPDA and held annually from 2010 through 2014
2009	Copenhagen, Denmark	“World Outgames II”
2009	San Francisco, California, USA	first “International Queer Tango Festival” in the USA
2010	Oakland, California, USA	BASSDA (Bay Area Same-Sex Dance Association) formed, organizers of “April Follies”
2010	Cologne, Germany	“Gay Games VIII”
2010	Wetzlar, Germany	DVET becomes a member of the DTV (Deutscher Tanzsport Verband – German Dancesport Association), the German amateur organization, a first worldwide for integration into mainstream
2011	Rotterdam, Netherlands	“Eurogames XIII”
2011	Wellington, New Zealand	“Asia Pacific Outgames II”
2011	Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada	“North America Outgames II,” also NASSPDA’s North American Championships
2012	Budapest, Hungary	“EurogamesXIV”
2013	Austin, Texas, USA	first “Same-Sex Swing Convention,” a competition held annually (not NASSPDA sanctioned)
2013	Antwerp, Belgium	“World Outgames III”
2013	Darwin, Australia	“Asia Pacific Outgames III”
2013	Boston, Massachusetts, USA	first “Boston Open,” NASSPDA sanctioned competition, held annually
2014	Cleveland & Akron, Ohio, USA	“Gay Games IX” (including Argentine Tango for the first time as a category and introducing new rules for this style)
2015	Columbus, Ohio, USA	first “Glitz & Glitter Ball,” NASSPDA sanctioned competition, held annually
2015	Woodbury, New Jersey, USA	first “Delaware Valley Equality Ball,” a former mainstream proficiency event, renamed and then

		sanctioned by NASSPDA
2015	Stockholm, Sweden	“Eurogames XV” (no Eurogames in 2013 & 2014 due to World Outgames III & Gay Games IX)
2015	Provincetown, Massachusetts, USA	first “Provincetown Dance Trophy” as part of the relocated “Boston Open”
2016	Palm Springs, California, USA	first “Floorplay In The Desert,” NASSPDA sanctioned
2016	St. Louis, Missouri, USA	“North America Outgames III” – cancelled
2016	Helsinki, Finland	“Eurogames XVI”
2017	Miami Beach, Florida, USA	“World Outgames IV” - sport events cancelled one day before, instead one-day IFSSDA event following IAGLCWDC annual convention
2018	Paris, France	“Gay Games X”
2021	Taipei, Taiwan	“World Outgames V”