



North American Same-Sex Partner Dance Association  
Embracing and Welcoming All Dance Couples and Dancers

## NEWS

### Have you renewed your NASSPDA membership?

You can securely renew your membership or register now at our online platform <https://nasspda.org/membership-levels/>. The following levels of membership are available :

- Individual
- Couple (each registering discounted as 1st and then as 2nd partner)
- Student
- Teams
- Organizational

### Are you planning to attend a NASSPDA sanctioned event?

NASSPDA has created the new 2023 Event Sponsorship Program, as reported in the January 2023 eNewsletter, which not only is designed to help revive established NASSPDA sanctioned events, but also requires these events to offer all NASSPDA members a registration or admission discount of at least \$10.

The events sponsored are

- 1. Boston Open DanceSport Championships** on April 1, 2023, which will also feature this year's USA Championships (<http://www.bostonopendancesport.com/competition.html>).
- 2. April Follies**, brought back by the Bay Area Same-Sex Dance Association (BASSDA), featuring not a competition, but inviting everyone to show off their talents, followed by a show and social dancing on April 29, 2023 (<https://www.aprilfollies.com/grand-event>).
- 3. Floorplay LA**, on July 22, 2023, which will also feature this year's North American Championships. (<https://www.floorplayevents.com>).

### Want to serve on NASSPDA's Board of Directors, have a voice and effect change?

Then not only become a NASSPDA member or renew your membership, but also nominate yourself or someone that you know would be an excellent fit (<https://nasspda.org/board-member-election/>). The terms of six current Board

members are expiring and with the exception of one all are standing for reelection. Join the Board and help shape our community! And as a NASSPDA member have a voice and vote in the upcoming Board elections in May 2023!

### **The 11th GAY GAMES are coming soon**

The Board of NASSPDA in conjunction with the other member organizations of IFSSDA are working at this very moment with the organizing team of the 11th Gay Games in Guadalajara, which is the host city that is planning to offer Dancesport (<https://gggd12023.org/en>).



North American Same-Sex Partner Dance Association

**nasspda**

Embracing and Welcoming All Dance Couples and Dancers

USA SAME-SEX CHAMPIONSHIPS on  
April 1, 2023 Dedham, MA at  
**BOSTON OPEN DANCESPORT**

\* NASSPDA members  
receive \$10 discount

### **Ambassador Program**

In need of broader visibility, better promotion in the DanceSport world and advocating for same-sex competitive dancing, NASSPDA is looking to engage Ambassadors.

As many North American DanceSport organizations have changed their definition of a dance couple, we are witnessing interest and participation of newly formed same-sex, reverse role, and gender-neutral couples at their events. Many of those couples haven't been introduced or exposed to NASSPDA as an organization; hence, they also do not know the benefits of being a member of NASSPDA.

[Please use this link to access description and details as well as the application form](#)

*(\* please contact us if you encounter problems with accessing this form. A Gmail account login is required)*



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### **Online Donations?**

*Recently, NASSPDA's membership and payment platforms have been under malware attack and as a preventive measure we have taken down the feature from the website temporarily, while we are working on it, that allows to donate, join or renew membership. Any help from our community with advise and knowledge how to permanently resolve this issue would be greatly appreciated.*

***Thank YOU!***

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### **Annual NASSPDA Board Election**

The terms of NASSPDA's Directors of the Board, Benjamin Soencksen, Emma DiFrancesco, Erik Jaeger and Rufi Oswald, serving on the Board are expiring. With the exception of Rufi Oswald, all others are running for another term (Thank you, Rufi, for your invaluable services!!!). Everyone is welcome to run for these positions, whether self-nominated or nominated by others (see <https://nasspda.org/board-member-election>).

The timeline for this year's election is as follows:

- Candidate nomination deadline is April 22
- Ballots will be sent first by May 1
- Voting will end on May 14

If you are a NASSPDA member with an updated membership, please be therefore on the lookout for your ballot in May and make your voice heard by casting your votes for the listed candidates.

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# Competition Calendar

- **NASSPDA Sanctioned Competitions in 2023**

**2023 United States Same-Sex Championship** at the Boston Open Dancesport Championships

on April 1, 2023, in Dedham, Massachusetts

<http://www.bostonopendancesport.com/competition.html>

**2023 North American Same-Sex Championship** at Floorplay, LA

on July 22, 2023 in Los Angeles, California (exact location to be announced)

<https://www.floorplayevents.com/>

- **NASSPDA Sanctioned Non-Competitive Events in 2023**

**2023 April Follies** - Queer Dancing Grand Even

on April 29, 2023, in Oakland, California

<https://www.aprilfollies.com/grand-event>

*\*NASSPDA members receive a \$10 discount at all those events*

- **IFSSDA Sanctioned Competitions in 2023**

**The XI Gay Games**

From November 5 - to 8, 2023 in Guadalajara, Mexico

<https://gggdl2023.org/en>

- **NON NASSPDA Competitions in 2023**

**Rio Grande Dance Classic**

From April 13 - to 16th in Albuquerque, New Mexico

<https://riograndedanceclassic.com/>

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**Join us at the 2023 United States Same-Sex Ballroom Dance Championship!**

**April 1, 2023 in Dedham near Boston, MA**

This competition is the only all-inclusive ballroom dance contest in New England and one of the two NASSPDA sanctioned competitions in United States for this year.

We are welcoming everyone and supporting the LGBTQ+ dance community. Offering now an additional discount for current NASSPDA members (we will honor ESSDA members as well).

As one of the NASSPDA's Event Scholarships recipient, competitors will receive an additional discount of \$10 for the USA Championship.

The competition will include Single dance Category and Multy dance Categories in International Standard and Latin Division, Country Western Division and American Smooth and Rhythm Division.

Show Couple of the night this year is the USA Vice 10-dance Champions and Standard Champoons in Under 21 years category Christopher and Holly from Everet, MA.



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## **April Follies is back for 2023!**

BUT, in lieu of a competition, we are hosting "A Grand Event" to be held:

- April 29, 2023, 2pm-8pm
- Just Dance Ballroom in Oakland, CA

This will include:

The opportunity to showcase all the dances you have been working on (and may be preparing for the Gay Games in Guadalajara, Mexico , November 2023).

--All the usual competitive partner dances are welcome:

International Ballroom

International Latin

American Smooth

American Rhythm

Argentine Tango

Country Western

--Just tell us what dances you want to perform, and we will have music to run "heats" for you, (you might share the floor with a few other couples, just like at regular competitions)

--Formation Teams and Showdances

You bring the music and we will give you time and space to show your routine!

Additionally:

- Lots of social dancing
- Several "Luck of the Draw" dances
- Line Dances...stay tuned for details
- Dance Lesson(s)

Dinner will be available for purchase

AND...a Fabulous evening show: Platforms 20-30

Produced by Photis Pishiaras and Ron Jenkins

Price will be \$40 in advance, and \$55 at the door (NASSPDA members receive \$10 discount) .

For updated info, please go to [www.AprilFollies.com](http://www.AprilFollies.com)

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## Membership Information

### Membership Directory

Have you checked out the [NASSPDA Membership Directory](#)?

This is a resource to allow NASSPDA members to connect with others in the community. Please contact Webmaster and their email [webmaster@nasspda.org](mailto:webmaster@nasspda.org) if you'd like to be added to the directory (being added is a privilege available to NASSPDA members only).

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### Dance Partner Connections

We understand how hard it can be to find a dance partner. Therefore we'd like to help by offering this connection service where individuals in our community interested in searching for a partner can proactively post an ad and/or passively review ads.

If you'd like to post an ad, [please complete this form](#). It does not cost anything and you can share as much or little information as you want.

Here is the Dance Partner Connections webpage: [nasspda.org/dance-partner-connections](http://nasspda.org/dance-partner-connections)

## Outreach and Media



### **New partnership with The National Academy of Health and Physical Literacy (NAHPL)**

NAHPL is a diverse organization that seeks to advance health and physical literacy in our society, especially in K-12 schools, higher education, and in dance and sport venues. NAHPL seeks to grow and advance professional leaders who will interact and network on regional, national and global levels to expand health and physical literacy opportunities for all children and adults.

As a member and mission centered organization, NAHPL encourages and facilitates active participation by all members, advocating for health and physical literacy.

NAHPL leadership and members plan and implement professional learning opportunities and events at the regional and national levels, and advocate for health and physical literacy in Pre-K-higher education and across society.

<https://nahpl.org>

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