



**Agenda for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the
European Equality Dance Association (EEDA)
At 10:00am BST, 11:00am CEST on Sunday 24 August 2025**

The meeting will be held by [Zoom](#).

(1) Opening

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Confirmation that the AGM is quorate and properly convened
- (c) Approval of the Minutes of the 2024 AGM (draft minutes [here](#)) and matters arising

(2) Reports

- (a) Board's Annual Report (Appendix 1)
- (b) Financial Report (Appendix 2)

(3) Approval of the annual and financial reports and discharge of the EEDA board for 2024/2025

(4) Elections (Appendix 3)

- i. Elections for the open positions on the EEDA board
 - (a) Davy Brocatus (for re-election)
 - (b) Janina Dobberschütz (for re-election)
 - (c) Diana Vinke (for re-election)
 - (d) Armin Lohrmann (new candidate)
- ii. Approval for the EEDA Board to co-opt further Board Members

(5) Budget for 2025/2026 (Appendix 4)

(6) Vote on membership fees

As changes to the fees were approved in a referendum in December 2023, the Board proposes that the fees remain at the level determined in the referendum.

(7) Proposal for Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws (Appendices 5 to 8)

The Board proposes some changes to the Constitution (and Bylaws) to improve clarity and consistency following the amendments made at the 2024 AGM. One of the amendments proposes to change the definition of a "European Country" as discussed at the 2024 AGM.

(8) Feedback from conversations with member organisations (Appendix 9)

(9) Update on Competition Rules (Appendix 10)

(10) Any Other Business

Davy Brocatus, EEDA President

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APPENDIX 1 – Item (2)(a) – Annual report of the EEDA Board



Annual Report of the ESSDA Board presented at the AGM on 24 August 2025

EEDA Board

During the year to 24 August 2025 the EEDA Board comprised:

Name	Nationality	Role	Date (re)elected
Davy Brocatus	BE	President	20.08.2023
Tessa Cleaver	UK	Vice-President	20.08.2023
Tom Dane	UK	Membership Officer	18.08.2024
Janina Dobberschütz	DK	Treasurer	20.08.2023
Diana Vinke	NL	Secretary	20.08.2023

At the 2025 AGM, Davy Brocatus, Janina Dobberschütz and Diana Vinke will stand for re-election. Tessa Cleaver will not stand for re-election. The Board has received one nomination for a new candidate for election to the Board: Armin Lohrmann. The Board will request permission at the AGM to co-opt, at the Board's discretion, up to four Board Members during the year.

EEDA Board Meetings

The EEDA Board has held five online meetings since the ESSDA AGM 2024. These meetings took place on:

- 22 September 2024
- 1 December 2024
- 9 March 2025
- 11 May 2025
- 13 July 2025

Critical matters discussed:

Recurring topics at the board meetings included the discussion, preparation, organisation and evaluation of international competitions (EuroGames/EEDA European Championships, Gay Games and IFSSDA International Trophy), progress of the Competition Rules Working Group, minor amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws, and a consultation round we had with representatives of our member organisations. These topics are briefly discussed below.

Membership numbers

As of 3rd August 2025, there are 18 paid-up individual members and 9 paid-up extraordinary members. This compares to 19 individual members and 9 extraordinary members the previous year.

International Competitions

EuroGames / EEDA European Championships 2025 in Lyon

The EEDA European Championships took place in July 2025 in Lyon and we'd like to congratulate all the European Champions and thank Patrice Naudier and team for all the hard work that went into organising the event. It was great to see the French media there in force and to see some amazing dancing which was hugely appreciated by spectators and participants alike. The results are available [here](#).

We were also really pleased to be able to award the EEDA Open Equality Medals in the Open Equality categories, in line with our move from ESSDA to EEDA, so as to recognise the increased opportunities for diversity and inclusion that the open equality events present.

We know that there were some unforeseen challenges with the event. Most notably, the EuroGames as a whole was oversubscribed, with over 5,500 participants compared to 4,000 in Vienna. This led to the local police and city authorities insisting that the numbers be limited which meant that registration for the dance event had to be unexpectedly closed before it reached the number of competitors that had been planned for. This was however the largest EuroGames ever and the numbers took the local EuroGames organisation by surprise. At the time the early closing of registrations was first announced, we had only around 100 dancers registered and were given a maximum of 140. Thanks to Patrice's negotiations, this was extended to 167.

We are really sorry that some people missed out who would have liked to compete. We raised the matter instantly with one of the EGLSF Co-Chairs and with the Lyon EuroGames organisation. We will also be writing formally to EGLSF to complain and try to ensure this does not happen again. We suggested ways that more competitors could be accommodated but were not successful in the face of the demands from the local authorities to manage the numbers. We would not however want this to overshadow the overall success of the event, the achievements of the dancers, and the huge efforts of the dancesport organisers.

GayGames / IFSSDA World Championships 2026 in Valencia

Through IFSSDA, we are continuing to hold discussions with the Valencia GayGames team to help them put in place the dance sport event at the GayGames 2026.

Subject to agreeing the current budget discussions with Valencia, we are hoping to be able to run four days of competitions from Tuesday 30th June to Friday 3rd July. [Registration](#) is already open for the competition categories that will definitely run in Valencia, and we hope to be able to add some more subject to finalising the budget.

Tom Dane met several of the Valencia organising team in Lyon when they came to view the dance venue to make sure they understood what is needed to run an equality dance competition. The dance event in Valencia will be in one of two venues, both basketball arenas, which are next to each other and both of which we are assured have air conditioning. The possible venues are [L'Alqueria](#) and the [Pabellón Fuente de San Luis](#). Both look like great venues and will have a big dance floor!

As well as working directly with the central team in Valencia, we are also working with Isaac Rovira who is a Spanish adjudicator who judged at the Gay Games in Guadalajara and the Valencian Dancesport Federation. Isaac is really keen to support the event and has some great contacts in the Spanish dance scene.

We encourage you to register as early as you can for the GayGames – the more people we have registered, the more weight we have in our conversations with the team in Valencia.

We will provide you with more information as soon as we can. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with organising the dancesport event in Valencia, either in advance or during the Games, please let Tom know.

EuroGames / EEDA European Championships 2027 – Cardiff, 14 – 17 July

We are in discussions with the organising team in Cardiff and have had several discussions with the lead organiser, Lou Englefield. Lou is really supportive of dancesport and wants to ensure we have a great event. The dance competition will be organised by Peter Meager who many of you will know. He has organised equality dance competitions in the UK and MC'd at EuroGames Lyon and Gay Games Paris.

We will let you know as soon as we have more detailed information, but please put the date in your diary.

IFSSDA International Trophy 2025 – Los Angeles, 20 September 2025

Once again, the IFSSDA International Trophy will be awarded at Floorplay in LA in September. This annual competition also plays host to NAEDA's (formerly NASSPDA's) North American Championships. The International Trophy is open to everyone, regardless of nationality.

Competition Rules Working Group (CRWG)

The CRWG comprised Tom Dane, UK (Chair); Mark Hebell, DE; Kerstin Kallman, DE; Patrice Naudier, FR; Lori Pearce-Altendorff, UK and Thorsten Reulen, DE. The working group met virtually several times during the year to discuss a number of issues arising from the change from ESSDA to EEDA and points raised by members at the 2024 AGM.

The following topics were discussed:

Issue No	Topic
1	Inclusion of non same-sex couples in equality competitions
2	Inclusion of all genders in equality competitions
3	Minimum age of competitors
4	Review of senior age categories
5	Dress-code and safeguarding of minors
6	Dress-code and expression of political views
7	Definitions of classes A-D
8	Viennese Waltz syllabus and safety concerns
9	WADA rules and monitoring of Therapeutic Use Exemptions

A paper on all the above topics was presented to the Board on 9 March 2025.

A key area of discussion was how to make the rules more inclusive following the move from ESSDA to EEDA. This discussion had two aspects (topics 1 and 2 above) – how to make the competition categories more inclusive of all genders and how to define gender in an inclusive way for the purposes of the Rules. While the WG and the EEDA Board agreed on proposals in these two areas, the proposals may be affected by the ruling announced on 16th April 2025 by the UK's Supreme Court on the UK Equality Act. At a very high level, the ruling found that, within the context of the UK Equality Act, the term "woman" should be read as meaning biological woman, based on assigned sex at birth. The full implications of the ruling are not yet clear.

It was therefore decided to postpone the consultation with EEDA Members on how to make the Rules more inclusive until the impact of the UK Supreme Court ruling has become clearer. This is especially

important as the first European Championship to be run under the new rules will be at the EuroGames in Cardiff in 2027, which will be under UK law.

The Board remains committed to the EEDA Constitution's objectives of inclusivity and supports the rights of trans, intersex and non-binary individuals to dance with whomever they want and in whichever role. Our concern, however, was that at the present moment any responses to consultation on these issues could focus on how the proposals align with UK law rather than on the underlying principles. We also thought that if we are asking our members to comment on these proposals, it is only fair that we explain how we think the proposals would be viewed under UK law.

We therefore issued a consultation paper to members in May 2025 on topics 3 to 8. Thank you to everyone who responded. The outcome of the consultation will be presented at the AGM (see Appendix 10).

We will also present at the AGM and update on the topics on gender diversity which are also included in Appendix 10.

The other open topics currently being considered by the CRWG are the application of anti-doping rules, preparing papers to clarify the calculations of combined results and the assigning of couples to classes following classification rounds. We are also preparing a short paper on the differences between the different classification systems used in equality dancing in Europe.

In addition to the above, the CRWG also discussed and agreed the rules for the EEDA Grand Slam (see below)

Minor amendments to Constitution and Bylaws

Following the change from ESSDA to EEDA, Tom Dane and Tessa Cleaver reviewed EEDA's Constitution and Bylaws to ensure consistency and clarity with the changes adopted at the 2024 AGM. They also considered the request made at the 2024 AGM to review the definition in the Constitution of "European Countries". Following an initial review, the Board decided that a more detailed review was required to address a number of inconsistencies and areas of uncertainty within the Constitution and Bylaws. This detailed review was conducted by Tom and Tessa and reviewed and approved by the whole Board.

The proposed changes arising from this review were circulated to Members with the draft 2025 AGM agenda and are set out in Appendices 5 and 6 of the final agenda. A vote on the proposed changes will be held at the AGM. The vast majority of the changes are minor and are intended to improve clarity and consistency but not to change the underlying intent of the relevant provisions. A few more significant changes are highlighted in Appendices 5 and 6.

Feedback from individual conversations with member organisations

In May/June 2025 the EEDA board reached out to its member organisations to have informal discussions on a number of questions. This was prompted partly by the current political and social context, where we are facing huge challenges across Europe, and also in order to stay closer to the member organisations to make sure EEDA is fulfilling its proper role and is relevant and supportive.

The board discussed the outcomes of these informal conversations, on the basis of which Tessa and Diana composed a paper. The purpose of this paper is to report back to the AGM the key points and suggestions for action that emerged from those discussions. As a board we have considered and prioritised three actions that we think are immediately actionable taking into account available resources. The paper is included in Appendix 9.

Grand Slam

The EEDA Grand Slam was [launched in January 2025](#) comprising the following competitions:

- Pink Jukebox Trophy – 15th February 2025, London
- Rendez-Vous de Paris – 12th April 2025, Paris
- Berlin Open – 5th July 2025, Berlin
- Frankfurt Christmas Tournament – 6th December 2025, Frankfurt
- Nordic Open – 30th December 2025, Helsinki

A leaderboard of the couples who have taken part in the competitions to date will be posted on the EEDA website shortly and we encourage couples to register for the remaining Grand Slam competitions in Frankfurt and Helsinki.

The Grand Slam winners will be announced at the New Year's Eve ball in Helsinki on 31 December 2025.



Financial Report 2024/ 2025

Start Balance 06/08/2024	€ 4.061,37	
Membership fees 2024		€ 50,00
Membership fees 2025		€ 826,00
Licence fee EC2025 - LYON		€ 500,00
 TOTAL IN	 € 1.376,00	
 Bank Costs		-€ 44,52
Membership fee FGG 24/25+25/26		-€ 89,86
Membership fee EGLSF 2025		-€ 200,00
Travel Participation AGA EGLSF 2025		-€ 15,00
Medals EC 2025 - LYON		-€ 246,67
Hosting/Domain Website		-€ 149,66
 TOTAL OUT	 -€ 745,71	
 End Balance 05/08/2025	 € 4.691,66	



Candidates standing for re-election

Davy Brocatus – standing for re-election



Davy has been a Ballroom dancer since the age of 15, and Professional International Ballroom Dancer (1995-2000)
He has been an International Judge since 1996
He was part of the Organisation team EuroGames Antwerp 2007 and Founder of the World Outgames Antwerp 2013
He was the Former Official Advisor for Sport City of Antwerp Alderman Ludo Van Campenhout
Media:
He has participated in different programmes and has also been a judge on the Belgian Television Series of “Strictly Come Dancing” since 2006
Running for 15 years his own dancing school together with his husband Anatoly : Dansstudio 1-2-3 and also B&B Studios 1-2-3
Davy started ESSDA back in 2007 as one of the founding members and has been on the board ever since in different roles.

Janina Dobberschütz – standing for re-election



Janina is German and has been living in Denmark for over 10 years. Professionally, she is an accountant, but in her free time she loves to dance. she has been dancing Latin and Ballroom socially for 15 years and having fun experimenting with changing roles. When dancing on her own, she relies on the energy that HipHop has given her for over 10 years.

Attracted by the social activities and the inclusive approach, she became a member of the Danish PanDance Dance Association, of which she is Treasurer. In 2021, she joined the organisational team for the dancing competition of EuroGames 2021 which led to being responsible for Social Media and registration for the Nordic Open 2022 and 2023. In 2023 she joined the ESSDA (now EEDA) board as Treasurer.

Diana Vinke – standing for re-election



Dancing is and has been a connecting experience for Diana. Though she is more of a social than a competitive dancer, the Gay Games of 1998 introduced her to the excitement and inviting atmosphere of same-sex dance competitions. She explored various sides of same-sex dancing: being a member of the board of Equality danceE, being a volunteer at the European Championships in Budapest in 2012, joining the ESSDA Board in 2012, and supporting the organisation of various EuroGames. In December 2022 she rejoined the ESSDA board and took on the role of secretary in 2023.

The dance community has been evolving from same-sex to equality dance. The concept of inclusion has become much more comprehensive and invites us to be truly inclusive in what we do, write and say. Diana would like to stay on as a board member to contribute to shaping and supporting this transition, cherishing values such as inclusion, openness, trust and diversity at all levels. Open-minded when it comes to new ideas that are intended to move forward and to enhance what we already have; and still offering strong hands and a swift mind.

Armin Lohrman – nominated as new candidate for election



Dancesport has been part of my life since 1989: first with a female partner, and then from 1994 with a male partner. After retiring from competitions in 2006, I have held several board-positions including at the Federation of Gay Games and most recently at the German DVET.

I'm passionate about Dancesport and about supporting Equality Dancesport wherever I can. I'm proud that I was there at the very beginning of Equality Dancing, and ever prouder of what we have achieved so far.

I want to bring my skills to EEDA to support the development of Equality Dancing in Europe and especially to bring the perspective of German Equality dancers to EEDA.

Key experience:

Dancing experience:

- First Latin competition in 1989, ultimately achieving German A-Class (with a female partner)
- 1994 – 2006 active Equality dancer, competing in the EuroGames in Berlin and Munich; and in the GayGames in Amsterdam, Sydney, Chicago (and Outgames Montreal), as a finalist at A-Level in Latin American style
- 2014 invited to serve as a Dance Sport Judge at the GayGames Cleveland

Organizational experience:

- Since 2024: Board Member of the DVET (German Federation of Equality Dancesport)
- 2011-2024 Board of the Federation of Gay Games, supporting Dancesport for Paris 2018 and Guadalajara 2023 in my role as Officer Host Relations.
- 2010 was part of the organizing team for Dancesport at the Gay Games Cologne
- 2000-2011 Board Member of SC-Janus – Representative of SC-Janus for national and international federations (EGLSF, FGG ...)

APPENDIX 4 – Item (5) – Budget 2025/2026



Budget 2025/2026

Start Balance 2025	€ 4.691,66
Membership fees 2025/2026	€ 875,00
TOTAL IN	€ 875,00
Bank Costs	-€ 50,00
Membership fee FGG 25/26	-€ 50,00
Membership fee EGLSF 2026	-€ 200,00
Participation General Assembly EGLSF 2026	-€ 250,00
Travel GayGames 2026	-€ 200,00
Hosting/ Domain Website	-€ 150,00
Site visit/ Travel EC 2025 - LYON	-€ 400,00
TOTAL OUT	-€ 1.300,00
End Balance 2026	€ 4.266,66

APPENDIX 5 – Item (7) – Explanation of proposed changes to the EEDA Constitution

A number of changes to the EEDA constitution are being proposed by the Board. The more significant changes are outlined below and full list of the proposed changes is available [here](#).

Old Ref	Old Text	New Ref.	New Text	Change	Explanation
2.1	The headquarter is in London.	N/A	Deleted	Deletion	EEDA's legal form is an unincorporated membership association under the laws of England and Wales. The law does not require the location of the association to be included in the constitution. Furthermore, the association may not always have a board member in the UK, let alone London. It may therefore not always be possible for the headquarter location to be London and this is not required by law. We therefore suggest deleting this.
N/A	New	2.2	The Association is an unincorporated membership association formed under the laws of England and Wales	Addition	Explanation of the legal form of EEDA added for clarity
4.4.	Further details about these and other decisions (Participating, Quorum ...) are specified in other articles of the Constitution and the Bylaws.	N/A	Deleted	Deletion	The Paragraph is redundant as it is an explanation not a requirement and the other items that are referred to are included in the Constitution and Bylaws so it is not necessary to say they are included.

Old Ref	Old Text	New Ref.	New Text	Change	Explanation
N/A	Addition	7.5	<u>European Country</u> : – any country whose national sports teams, in any sport, participate in European competitions as defined by the regional or global governing bodies of those sports. Further details may be specified in the Bylaws.	Major change	A revised definition of European countries to move away from a geographic definition that was open to interpretation, to a more inclusive definition that aligns with EGLSF and the existing list of nationalities eligible for the European Championship titles. A specific list of countries that meets these criteria is included in the proposed amendments to the Bylaws and can be amended, provided it agrees with this definition, without requiring a change to the Constitution. Overall, it was felt that the primary reason for defining Europe was so as not to overlap with other continental organisations, and that this allowed us to be very inclusive. Anyone applying to be a member of EEDA still has to agree with EEDA's mission and goals, regardless of the country they come from.
13.1.2	<u>Extraordinary membership</u> is open to: all legal entities, clubs and groups located in Europe, whose main concern is equality dancing or LGBTQIA+ sports including equality dancing or are organizing an international equality dance competition, who accept, abide by and comply with the mission statement of the association.	12.1.2.	<u>Extraordinary Members</u> are legal entities, clubs and groups located in a <u>European Country</u> , who are committed to supporting Equality Dance or LGBTQIA+ sports including Equality Dance or are organizing an international Equality Dance competition, who accept, abide by and comply with the mission statement of the Association.	Major change Definition alignment	Previously organisations had to have equality dance as a main concern. We propose amending this to require only that organisations are committed to supporting equality dance. As the membership fee is based on the number of members of an organisation, we think that only clubs with a significant number of equality dancers are likely to want to join EEDA. Furthermore, members still have to agree to support the aims and goals of EEDA and can be excluded if they don't. We think this change will allow us to be more inclusive and we are unlikely to have significant interest from potential extraordinary members with only a minority of equality dancers.

Old Ref	Old Text	New Ref.	New Text	Change	Explanation
20.4	The Board for the following period should consist of at least 5 and no more than 9 members. The number shall be uneven. The number can be specified in the Bylaws.	19.4	The Board should consist of at least five (5) and no more than nine (9) members.	Major Change Clarity	The indication that the number can be specified in the Bylaws has been removed as the Constitution takes precedence and the Constitution states that the number must be between 5 and 9. The requirement for the number to be uneven has been removed as this may not be in the power of the Board depending on who wants to be on the Board. The preference for the number to be uneven is included in the Bylaws.
20.4.1	The General Assembly determines the number of Board Members.	N/A	Deleted	Deletion	Sentence has been deleted as it is not clear what the intent of this sentence is and it potentially conflicts with both the requirement for the Board to have between 5 and 9 members and the ability of the Board to co-opt members when there are fewer than nine board members
N/A	Addition	19.5.	Each Board member is elected for a two-year term by the General Assembly at an Annual General Meeting.	Addition	This has been added for clarity, so the Constitution reflects the current practice. 19.9 defines the elections are on a rolling basis (i.e. not all members elected in the same year) with further information in the Bylaws.
20.7	The Membership elects the Members of the Board per person.		Deleted	Deletion	Deleted as it is not clear what was intended by this sentence and 19.5 says that each Board Member is elected which implies the vote is per person
20.12.1.	Where the position of a Board Member becomes vacant for whatever reason, the Board may appoint a qualified individual to fill the vacancy until such time as a new Board Member is	19.13.1	Where there are fewer Board Members than the maximum permitted under Article 20.4, the Board may appoint a qualified individual to the Board on a temporary basis until the next Annual General Meeting.	Major change	The proposal is to change the provision to clarify that whenever there are fewer than 9 Board members, the Board may co-opt individuals. This allows the Board to co-opt when fewer than 9 members are elected at

Old Ref	Old Text	New Ref.	New Text	Change	Explanation
	nominated or elected at the next General Meeting.				the AGM. The co-option is only until the next AGM.
23.1	The Board shall keep such books of accounts as are necessary to exhibit and explain the transaction and financial position of the association regards to the sum of money received and expended by and on behalf of the association. Audited accounts of these transactions shall be made available at each and every Annual General Meeting.	22.1.	The Board shall keep such books of accounts as are necessary to exhibit and explain the transactions and financial position of the Association as regards the sums of money received and expended by and on behalf of the Association. Accounts of these transactions shall be made available at each and every Annual General Meeting.	Major change Clarity Definition alignment	The requirement to present audited accounts has been removed as this is not a legal requirement under English and Welsh law and EEDA's accounts have never been audited in practice. To have the accounts audited would also increase costs without delivering value to members.
N/A	Addition	22.2	The Association is a not-for-profit organization and all money raised by or on behalf of the Association is only to be used to further the aims of the Association, as specified in Article 10 of this Constitution	Addition	Added to specify that EEDA is a not-for-profit organisation and any money raised can only be used in pursuit of its aims.

Draft of revised EEDA Constitution – 20th July 2025

Agreed by the ESSDA Members in the General Assembly 12.07.2007, Antwerp.

Last amended by EEDA Members in the General Assembly held by video conference on **24.08.2025**

1	TITLE
1.1	The name of our association is the European Equality Dance Association, also to be known as EEDA.
2	FOUNDATION AND DURATION
2.1	The Association was founded on the 18th February 2007 in London, United Kingdom and established for an indefinite period.
2.2	The Association is an unincorporated membership association formed under the laws of England and Wales.
3	INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY
3.1	The General Membership is the highest decision-making body of the Association.
3.2	The General Membership makes its decisions by a vote at General Meetings or through Referendums initiated by the Board.
3.3	Unless the Constitution requires otherwise, decisions of the General Membership require an absolute majority (at least one vote more than 50%) of the General Membership participating at a General Meeting or in a Referendum.
4	LANGUAGE
4.1	The official language of the Association in correspondence, General Meetings and meetings is, in principle, English.
5	GEOGRAPHY
5.1	EEDA concentrates its efforts within European Countries, while also supporting other individuals and organisations with similar goals throughout the rest of the world.
6	MEMBERSHIP YEAR
6.1	The membership year of the Association starts on 1st January and ends on 31st December.
7	USED WORDS
7.1	<u>Association</u> : The European Equality Dance Association, also to be known as EEDA.
7.2	<u>Board</u> : The Board of the Association.
7.3	<u>Delegate</u> : A representative of an Extraordinary Member who is duly authorised by that Member to act on behalf of that Member and to cast its votes in General Meetings and Referendums.
7.4	<u>Equality Dance</u> : Partner dancing in which dancers can dance with whomever they like, and in whichever role (leader or follower) they like, regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.
7.5	<u>European Country</u> : Any country whose national sports teams, in any sport, participate in European competitions as defined by the regional or global governing bodies of those sports. Further details may be specified in the Bylaws.
7.6	<u>General Assembly</u> : The sum of the Members participating at a General Meeting of the General Membership; this may be an Annual General Meeting (AGM) or an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM).
7.7	<u>General Membership</u> : The sum of all Members. It is the highest decision-making body of the Association.
8	RESPECT DIFFERENCES
8.1	EEDA will treat everyone with the same courtesy and respect regardless of their actual or perceived sex, gender identity, skin colour, ethnic or national origins, sexual or political orientation, religion, nationality, language, disability, or any other characteristic.

- 8.2 EEDA will respect differences between organisations, concerning nationality, language, political orientation, liaisons with other dance (sport) or sport organisations or organisations for LGBTQIA+ emancipation.

9 LGBTQIA+ IDENTITIES

- 9.1 EEDA acknowledges that the base of Equality Dance and Equality dance sport is the expression of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, inter and asexual identities and relationships. This will be considered as part of any decisions, guidelines and developments.

10 THE MISSION AND GOALS OF EEDA ARE:

- 10.1 To encourage a thriving Equality ballroom and latin dance sport environment, including the grassroots dance community that supports competitive dance sport.
- 10.2 To work towards events and tournaments being a safe space for all, especially LGBTQIA+ people.
- 10.3 To develop and maintain a level of quality and attractiveness of competitions to dancers and audiences and to encourage the use of guidelines for Equality Dance competitions.
- 10.4 To encourage the use of these guidelines as standards, specifically at, but not limited to, the ballroom and latin dance events at the EuroGames.
- 10.5 To provide a forum for communication, support, coordination and development for our members and other people and organisations interested in Equality dance sport.
- 10.6 To work towards a climate in dancing and dance sport where people can express who they are, regardless of sexual orientation, skin colour, ethnic or national origins, religion, nationality, sex, gender identity, disability or any other characteristic.
- 10.7 To promote the use of inclusive language, in the context of Equality Dance.
- 10.8 To support other individuals and organisations with similar goals.

11 GENDER POLICY OF EEDA

- 11.1 EEDA affirms and supports, together with Federation of Gay Games and the European Gay and Lesbian Sport Federation, the rights of dancers to dance and compete as their true selves and to compete as a dancer in their self-identified gender or the gender with which they feel most comfortable.
- 11.2 EEDA also recognises that in order to safeguard fair play in a competitive scenario, the introduction of certain competition categories may be necessary.

12 CONSTITUENCY OF MEMBERSHIP

- 12.1 The Association consists of
- a. Ordinary Members,
 - b. Extraordinary Members,
 - c. Associate Members,
 - d. Honorary Members.
- 12.1.1 Ordinary Members are individuals who accept, abide by and comply with the mission statement of the association and who live in a European Country or elect to dance for a European club or country. (Details in the Bylaws)
- 12.1.2 Extraordinary Members are legal entities, clubs and groups located in a European Country, who are committed to supporting Equality Dance or LGBTQIA+ sports including Equality Dance or are organizing an international Equality Dance competition, who accept, abide by and comply with the mission statement of the Association.
- 12.1.3 Associate Members are:
- a. other individuals, who are interested in engaging with EEDA, including receiving communications and other information, and who accept, abide by and comply with the mission statement of the Association.
 - b. other legal entities, clubs or groups who support our mission and who are interested in engaging with EEDA and receiving communications and other information.
- 12.1.4 Honorary Members are individuals who have rendered outstanding services because of their extraordinary contribution to the equality dancing community at large.

13 MEMBERSHIP

- 13.1 One can become:
 - 13.1.1 An Ordinary, Extraordinary or Associate Member by submitting a completed application form to the Board for approval by the Board or a membership committee, and paying the appropriate membership fee.
 - 13.1.2 An Honorary Member by appointment of the General Assembly with a majority of two thirds of the votes cast, following a nomination by a Member or by the Board.
- 13.2 Refusal by the Board of a membership application
 - 13.2.1 If an application for membership is refused, the Board or a membership committee must inform the applicant, and the General Assembly at the next General Meeting, giving the reasons for the refusal.
 - 13.2.2 The General Assembly may still grant membership to the applicant by a majority vote (50% plus one vote of those participating).

14 ENDING OF MEMBERSHIP

- 14.1 Membership of the Association ends by:
 - 14.1.1 Death, if the Member is a natural person.
 - 14.1.2 Bankruptcy or dissolution of the legal body of the Member.
 - 14.1.3 Written withdrawal of membership.
 - 14.1.4 Exclusion of the Member by a written notice of the Board or a membership committee.
 - 14.1.5. Failure to pay the annual membership fee in time (Details in the Bylaws).
- 14.2 Withdrawal by a Member
 - 14.2.1 A Member may withdraw at any point by informing the General Secretary in writing.
- 14.3 Exclusion by the Association
 - 14.3.1 Exclusion of a Member by the Board occurs when a Member acts contrary to the Association's rules or decisions, or contrary to the Constitution, or when a Member harms the Association in an unreasonable way.
 - 14.3.2 The Board shall inform the Member in due course of this decision in writing.
 - 14.3.3 The excluded Member shall have the right to appeal this decision and address the General Membership at the following General Meeting.

15 OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

- 15.1 There is an obligation to pay an annual membership fee, should one be set in the Bylaws, for:
 - 15.1.1 Ordinary Members and
 - 15.1.2 Extraordinary Members.
- 15.2 There is no obligation to pay an annual membership fee for Associate and Honorary Members.
- 15.3 Associate Members pay a minimum fee covering the costs incurred on their behalf.
- 15.4 Members are not entitled in principle to a refund of their membership fee once their membership has ended.
- 15.5 The amount of the membership fee is set in the Bylaws.

16 RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

- 16.1 All Members are entitled to attend General Meetings
 - 16.1.1 All Members are entitled to express their opinions at General Meetings and other meetings.
- 16.2 Appointment of Members
 - 16.2.1 Voting by proxy, where possible, is described in the Bylaws.
 - 16.2.2 Each Extraordinary Member has the right to appoint Delegates for General Meetings as specified in the Bylaws.

- 16.3 Voting rights
- 16.3.1 An Ordinary Member has one vote.
- 16.3.2 An Extraordinary Member has at least one vote as specified in the Bylaws.
- 16.3.3 An Associate Member has no vote.
- 16.3.4 An Honorary Member has one vote.
- 16.3.5 The representation of Members and the casting of votes are specified in the Bylaws.

17 GENERAL MEETING

- 17.1 The Annual General Meeting must be held each year between 1st April and 31st August somewhere in Europe.
- 17.2 Convocation
- 17.2.1 Notice of an Annual General Meeting shall be given in writing by the Board to all Members no later than four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled date of that meeting.
- 17.2.2 The notice of the Annual General Meeting will include the agenda and any proposed amendments to the Constitution or the Bylaws.
- 17.3 The agenda for the Annual General Meeting must include as a minimum,
 - 17.3.1 The Board's Annual report.
 - 17.3.2 The Financial Report to be presented by the Treasurer or by his/her designee
 - 17.3.3 The budget for the forthcoming year.
 - 17.3.4 The determination of the annual membership fee.
 - 17.3.5 Election of Board members.
 - 17.3.6 Plans for the coming year.
- 17.4 Chair and minutes
- 17.4.1 The outgoing President or a chairperson to be appointed by the Board will chair the meeting.
- 17.4.2 The General Secretary or a person to be appointed by the Board will take the minutes of the meeting
- 17.5 The cash-controllers committee
- 17.5.1 The cash-controllers committee, if there is one, is elected by the General Assembly. It consists of at least two people.
- 17.5.2 The cash-controllers committee reports its findings to the General Assembly.
- 17.5.3 The cash-controllers committee has the right, upon request, to inspect any financial documents of the Association.
- 17.6 The General Assembly can discharge the outgoing Board after approval of the Annual Report and the Board's accounts for its management activities and expenditures.
- 17.7 Quorum
- 17.7.1 Members holding a minimum number of votes must participate at a General Meeting (Annual or Extraordinary) in order to conclude valid decisions as specified in Section 21 of the Constitution.

18 EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

- 18.1 The Board can convene an Extraordinary General Meeting at any time. Notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be given following the same requirements as for an Annual General Meeting.
- 18.2 The Board must convene an Extraordinary General Meeting if requested to do so by Members who hold at least 10 percent of the total number of votes held by the General Membership.
- 18.2.1 If the Board fails to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting within ninety days of receiving a valid request from the Membership, the requestors are entitled to convene the General Meeting themselves, following the usual procedures of the Board.

19 BOARD

- 19.1 The Board must include persons from at least two countries.
- 19.2 The Board should consist of persons representing more than one gender.
- 19.3 Board membership is only open to individuals who are Ordinary or Honorary Member, who accept, abide by and comply with the Association's Constitution and decisions, and who do not harm the Association in an unreasonable way. The General Membership has the final decision on whether Board members have acted in accordance with this requirement. (Details in the Bylaws).
- 19.4 The Board should consist of at least five (5) and no more than nine (9) members.
- 19.5 Each Board member is elected for a two-year term by the General Assembly at an Annual General Meeting.
- 19.6 The Office Bearers of the Board shall consist of:
- President
 - Vice-President
 - Treasurer
 - General Secretary
- 19.7 The additional Board members are called "General Board Members".
- 19.8 The Office Bearers of the Association; the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer and the General Secretary, are elected by the new Board from among its own members as soon as possible after each Annual General Meeting (Details in the Bylaws).
- 19.9 The members of the Board are elected on a rolling base (defined in the Bylaws) and are eligible for immediate re-election.
- 19.10 Rights and obligations of the Board
- 19.10.1 The Board is responsible for the management of the Association and to guide it into the direction of the Mission and Goals.
- 19.10.2 Specific responsibilities of the Board are:
- To hold a register of the Members,
 - To maintain a financial structure,
 - To maintain a communication structure,
 - To establish committees with tasks and control their progression.
- 19.10.3 The Board is entitled to decide to enter into agreements to obtain, dispose of or encumber immovables.
- 19.10.4 The Board is not entitled to enter into agreements in which the Association commits itself to guarantee for or to share other parties' debts, in which the Association supports third parties, or in which the Association vouches for the debt of a third party.
- 19.10.5 The Treasurer can represent the Association in all financial matters up to the sum specified in the Bylaws.
- 19.11 Rules of conduct for the Board, including procedures for internal decision-making, are defined by the Bylaws and other internal rules of the Board.
- 19.12 A Board member may resign from the Board at any time by presenting their notice of resignation to the Board. This resignation will become effective on the date on which the resignation is accepted by the Board.
- 19.13 Filling a Vacancy on the Board
- 19.13.1 Where there are fewer Board members than the maximum permitted under Article 20.4, the Board may appoint a qualified individual to the Board on a temporary basis until the next Annual General Meeting.

20	COMMITTEES WITH SPECIAL TASKS.
20.1	The General Assembly or the Board can appoint committees as may be considered appropriate, to perform a specific task such as membership administration or drawing up guidelines for competitions.
20.2	The Board shall determine the terms of reference, powers, duration and composition of any such committee.
20.3	All acts and proceedings of such committees shall be reported back to the Board as soon as possible. Committees shall report on a regular basis to General Meetings or the Board.
20.4	Recommendations of committees to the Board or the General Assembly should be treated as advisory in nature.
21	VOTING
21.1	Ways of participating, majority and quorum are defined in the Bylaws except for decisions to change the Constitution or to dissolve the Association.
21.2	Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, votes on personal issues such as elections to the Board or regarding the exclusion of Members, will be confidential.
21.3	Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, votes at a General Meeting on non-personal issues will be conducted by non-confidential means such as a show of hands.
22	ACCOUNTS & FINANCE
22.1	The Board shall keep such books of accounts as are necessary to exhibit and explain the transactions and financial position of the Association as regards the sums of money received and expended by and on behalf of the Association. Accounts of these transactions shall be made available at each and every Annual General Meeting.
22.2	The Association is a not-for-profit organization and all money raised by or on behalf of the Association is only to be used to further the aims of the Association, as specified in Article 10 of this Constitution
23	REPRESENTATION
23.1	The General Assembly or the Board may grant persons the right to act as proxy of the Association.
24	BYLAWS
24.1	The General Membership or the Board determines the Bylaws of the Association, which may not include regulations that contradict the Law or this Constitution.
24.2	The Bylaws regulate all matters that the Constitution requires to be regulated by the Bylaws, and any other matter for which there is a desire for it to be covered by the Bylaws.
24.3	Proposed amendments to the Bylaws must be provided to Members at least four weeks in advance of a General Meeting, or to Board members at least one week in advance of a Board Meeting, at which the amendments are to be voted on.
24.4	Decisions regarding amendments to the Bylaws are made by a majority (50% plus one vote) of participating votes.
24.5	After proposed amendments to the Bylaws have been sent to Members or Board members, the proposed wording to be voted on can only be changed according to the rules set forth in the Bylaws.
25	CHANGING OF THE ARTICLES
25.1	A decision to change the Constitution or to dissolve the Association can only be taken by the General Membership in a General Meeting if there is a quorum of 25% of the total numbers of votes held by the General Membership and with a majority of at least two thirds of the votes participating (details about participation in Bylaws).
25.2	If the quorum mentioned in paragraph 25.1. is not present, a new General Meeting can be convened to be held within six months after the first General Meeting. For this meeting no quorum is necessary. The decisions must be reached by a majority of two thirds of votes cast at that meeting.
25.3	Proposed amendments to the Constitution must be sent to Members four weeks in advance of the General Meeting at which they are to be voted on.
25.4	After proposed amendments to the Constitution have been sent to Members, the proposed wording to be voted on can only be changed according to the rules set forth in the Bylaws.

26 SURPLUS

- 26.1 A possible financial surplus of the dissolved Association is spent according to the decisions of the General Membership, taking into account the Mission and Goals of the Association as far as possible.

27 REFERENDUM

- 27.1 The Board may ask for a Referendum of the General Membership if there is a topic that requires an immediate decision and cannot wait for a General Meeting. The rules for holding Referendums will be set out in the Bylaws.

28 OTHER BUSINESS

- 28.1 In all situations that are not covered by the Constitution, the Bylaws or the Law, the Board is entitled to decide.
- 28.2 Members are entitled to appeal against the decisions mentioned in paragraph 28.1 at a General Meeting.

- 29 THIS CONSTITUTION** is in force and becomes valid after its adoption by the General Assembly. Where required by the relevant national law, the Constitution must be presented to the appropriate authority or government office as soon as possible after its adoption.

APPENDIX 7 – Item (7)- Explanation of proposed changes to the EEDA Bylaws

A number of changes to the EEDA Bylaws are being proposed by the Board. The more significant changes are outlined below and full list of the proposed changes is available [here](#).

Old Ref	Old Text	New Ref	New Text	Reference to Constitution	Change	Explanation
Intro	Each Bylaw number refers to the same number in the constitution, for example B12 is a more detailed explanation of section 12 in the Constitution. The numbering system is not sequential.	Intro	Where relevant, each section of these Bylaws indicates the sections of the Constitution to which it relates.		Minor change	The numbering system of the previous Bylaws was felt to be confusing and has therefore been changed to one with sequential numbering and cross references to the Constitution where relevant.
N/A	Addition	1.2	A list of countries currently recognised as European Countries according to the definition in Article 7.5 of the Constitution is included in Appendix 1 to the Bylaws. Members who wish to amend the countries included in the list should write to the Board setting out their reasons, in line with Article 7.5, for their proposed change.	7.5	Addition	New provision to recognise the change to the definition of Europe in the Constitution.
N/A	Addition	2.2	The election of Board Members and Referendums may be conducted through confidential online voting. Votes on other personal matters may also be conducted through confidential online voting, where appropriate.	21.1 21.2 27.1	Addition	Updating of the Bylaws to reflect the current use of online voting for Board Elections and Referendums and to explicitly permit the use of online voting for votes on personal matters.
N/A	Addition	2.3	A vote will be considered confidential if it is not possible for any Member to determine how another Member has voted. This includes the use of appropriate online voting systems or an independent election administrator.	21.2	Addition	Clarification of what is meant by a confidential vote

Old Ref	Old Text	New Ref	New Text	Reference to Constitution	Change	Explanation
N/A	Addition	3.1	A General Meeting may be held physically or virtually. Where a General Meeting is held virtually, it will be deemed to be held in Europe provided that the majority of participating Members are physically located in a European Country for the duration of the meeting.	17.1	Addition	Amendment to cover online General Meetings and to determine when an online meeting will be deemed to be held in Europe, as required by the Constitution
N/A	Addition	4.4	In line with other decisions of the General Assembly, a Member is elected to the Board if they receive an absolute majority (50% plus one vote) of those participating in the vote for that Member.	17.3.5	Addition	Added clarity around the voting threshold that nominees have to meet to be elected as Board members. This is not a change to the threshold as votes the AGM need 50% plus one to pass. This simply makes it explicit that this threshold applies to election votes as well.
B.19.4.	The Board shall consist of up to nine members.	N/A	Deleted		Deleted	This is not required as the Constitution says the Board may consist of between 5 and 9 members
B.19.7.1.	The Office Bearers of the association, (the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer and the General Secretary), are elected by office title by the new Board from among its own members within the following three weeks .	5.2	The Office Bearers of the Association, (the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer and the General Secretary), are appointed annually by the Board from among the Board members at the first Board meeting following an AGM. This should be held as soon as possible after the AGM and within four weeks of the AGM at the latest.	19.8	Minor change	The timing of the appointing of the Office Bearers has been made a little more flexible to reflect recent experience.
B.19.8.a.	Board elections on a rolling base: In order to enable continuity of Board decision making, ideally at least three existing members must stay on the Board for the following year of office. This will be decided by the outgoing Board, before the election.	5.3	The Board should take reasonable steps to ensure continuity of the Board including, where possible, ensuring that not all Board Members are on the same two-year election cycle.	19.9	Minor change	Change to reflect the fact that the Board cannot require its members to stay on the Board and the Constitution permits Board members to resign at any time. The new wording seeks to encourage continuity, but recognises it cannot be required

Old Ref	Old Text	New Ref	New Text	Reference to Constitution	Change	Explanation
B19.8.b.	Board members cannot serve more than two years without being re-elected.	N/A	Deleted		Deleted	This is not required as it is covered in 19.5 of the Constitution
B.19.10.e.	A Board meeting is convened through an agreed proposal made by the President and Vice-President. The date, city or method of meeting and agenda should be notified at least two weeks before, but preferably one month before the proposed date. Those who are not able to attend are invited to send comments. Convened meetings can be postponed and/or continued within a period of two weeks from the original meeting date by agreement of all those Board Members who agreed to attend. This has to be published to the rest of the Board on the same or next day together with the planned agenda.	5.9	A Board meeting is convened by the President or Vice-President with a minimum of two weeks notice. Reasonable steps should be taken to ensure as many Board members can attend as possible.	19.11	Minor change	Amended to reflect current practice and allow reasonable flexibility.
B.19.10.f.	Decisions by other tools for Internet voting like video conference shall only be used when all Board Members can organize the access to it.	N/A	Deleted		Deleted	This is covered in 5.6
B.19.10.g.	<u>Email decision procedure of the Board:</u>		Deleted		Deleted	These sections are deleted as being too detailed for inclusion in the Bylaws. Instead, an internal document governing Board processes should be used which can be agreed by each incoming Board and adapted as necessary to reflect the circumstances of the Board members.
	a) Commitment: Everybody on the Board has to commit to checking emails and responding within an agreed timeframe or indicate otherwise a period where they cannot check emails.		Deleted		Deleted	
	b) Timeframe: Generally, a week to check and respond for every proposal made. The date of the proposal and time limit should be included in the proposal! Anyone who has not answered within the fixed period is assumed to have abstained from voting.		Deleted		Deleted	
	c) Majority: An absolute majority (more than the half of the whole Board).		Deleted		Deleted	

Old Ref	Old Text	New Ref	New Text	Reference to Constitution	Change	Explanation
	d) Definition and Identification: Any proposal that requires a vote should be named as such, and the wording clear in the body of the email. It MUST have the word "PROP" followed by the keyword in the subject of the email. The email must be high priority. General discussion and ideas should not follow this format.		Deleted		Deleted	
	e) Time for discussion: The suggestion is to give time for discussion, gathering of information and forming or changing an opinion when possible BEFORE a proposal is made.		Deleted		Deleted	
	f) The decisions of the Board should be announced quarterly to the Membership.		Deleted		Deleted	
	g) The results of the voting and the details on all proposals are to be recorded by a member of the Board for a period of five years.		Deleted		Deleted	
B.21.1.	Ways of participating, Majority and Quorum: With the exception of changing the constitution or dissolving the association, this is covered by section 16 and 17 of the Bylaws.		Deleted	21.1	Deleted	This is deleted as the ways of participating, majorities and quorums are included in the relevant sections of the Bylaws and where they relate to 21.1. of the Constitution, this is indicated in the cross references.

Old Ref	Old Text	New Ref	New Text	Reference to Constitution	Change	Explanation
B.24.5	is defined in section 17.3 of the Bylaws.	6.1	Once proposed amendments to the Bylaws have been issued to a General Meeting or a Board Meeting in accordance with 24.3., no substantive changes are permitted. Minor changes for clarity, ease of understanding, matters of fact and alignment with the Constitution or Bylaws may be permitted at the discretion of the chair of the relevant meeting, provided they do not affect the underlying intention of the proposed amendment.	24.5	Change	This has been amended to allow for minor changes to amendments to the Bylaws prior to voting. This better reflects reality where minor errors, inconsistencies and improvements in the wording may be picked up by Members between them receiving the proposed amendments and a vote on the amendments
B.25.4.	is defined in section 17 of the Bylaws.	7.3	Once proposed amendments to the Constitution have been issued to a General Meeting in accordance with Article 24.3 of the Constitution, no substantive changes are permitted prior to the vote. Minor changes for clarity, ease of understanding, matters of fact and alignment with other aspects of the Constitution may be permitted at the discretion of the chair of the General Meeting provided they do not affect the underlying intention of the proposed amendment.	25.4	Change	This has been amended to allow for minor changes to amendments to the Constitution prior to voting. This better reflects reality where minor errors, inconsistencies and improvements in the wording may be picked up by Members between them receiving the proposed amendments and a vote on the amendments

APPENDIX 8 – Item (7)- Revised text of the EEDA Bylaws

These Bylaws were last amended on **[24 August 2025]** to reflect the changes agreed at the 2025 AGM held on the same date.

These Bylaws should be read in conjunction with the EEDA Constitution and provide the detail by which the Constitution can be put into practice.

Where relevant, each section of these Bylaws indicates the sections of the Constitution to which it relates.

Ref.		Cross ref to Constitution												
1	MEMBERSHIP													
1.1	The Constitutional requirement for Ordinary Members to live in a European Country or dance for a European club or country is fulfilled by individuals who have lived in Europe for at least three months or who have elected to dance for a European club or country for at least one year. EEDA reserves the right to check this information.	12.1.1												
1.2	A list of countries currently recognised as European Countries according to the definition in Article 7.5 of the Constitution is included in Appendix 1 to the Bylaws. Members who wish to amend the countries included in the list should write to the Board setting out their reasons, in line with Article 7.5, for their proposed change.	7.5												
1.3	Applicants for membership should allow two weeks for their application to be processed and granted by the Board or a membership committee.	13.1.1 13.2.1												
1.4	An applicant for membership will only be considered to be a fully paid-up member after they receive an acceptance acknowledgement from the Board or membership committee and have paid the relevant membership fee.	13.1.1 13.2.1												
1.5	If a new applicant fails to pay the annual membership fee within three months of their application for Membership, their application will be deemed to have lapsed and they will need to submit a fresh application.	14.1.5												
1.6	If an existing Member fails to pay the annual membership fee within nine months of the start of the Membership Year their membership will be deemed to have ended and they will need to reapply to join the Association.	14.1.5												
1.7	As decided by the EEDA members in the online referendum held on 17-27th December 2023, there is an obligation from 1 January 2024 to pay an annual membership fee as follows:	15.1												
1.7.1	For Ordinary Members the annual membership fee is EUR 12.50.	15.1.1												
1.7.2	For Extraordinary Members, the following annual fees apply based on the size of the organization:	15.1.2												
	<table><tr><td>No. of members.</td><td>Membership fee</td></tr><tr><td>0 – 50</td><td>EUR 30</td></tr><tr><td>51 – 100</td><td>EUR 60</td></tr><tr><td>101 – 150</td><td>EUR 90</td></tr><tr><td>151 – 200</td><td>EUR 120</td></tr><tr><td>201 or more</td><td>EUR 150</td></tr></table>	No. of members.	Membership fee	0 – 50	EUR 30	51 – 100	EUR 60	101 – 150	EUR 90	151 – 200	EUR 120	201 or more	EUR 150	15.1.2
No. of members.	Membership fee													
0 – 50	EUR 30													
51 – 100	EUR 60													
101 – 150	EUR 90													
151 – 200	EUR 120													
201 or more	EUR 150													
2	VOTING RIGHTS AND PROCEDURES	16.3.5												
2.1	For Members to whom a membership fee applies, only paid-up Members can vote at a General Meeting or in a Referendum.	16.3												
2.2	The election of Board Members and Referendums may be conducted through confidential online voting. Votes on other personal matters may also be conducted through confidential online voting, where appropriate.	21.1 21.2 27.1												
2.3	A vote will be considered confidential if it is not possible for any Member to determine how another Member has voted. This includes the use of appropriate online voting systems or an independent election administrator.	21.2												
2.4	Except for the Election of Board Members, Ordinary and Honorary Members (with voting rights) can vote at General Meetings in person or by proxy while Extraordinary Members can vote through their Delegates who should be present in person.	16.2.1 16.2.2 16.3.5												

Ref.		Cross ref to Constitution
2.5	Where a General Meeting is held online, Members and Delegates will be deemed to be attending in person provided they are present in the online meeting.	16.2.1 16.2.2 16.3.5
2.6	A vote on a personal matter during a General Meeting may be conducted via a suitable online voting platform to ensure confidentiality.	21.1 21.2
2.7	An Ordinary or Honorary Member present at a General Meeting is entitled to cast their own vote and may also cast a proxy vote on behalf of one other Ordinary or Honorary Member. Where an Ordinary or Honorary Member wishes to appoint another Member to act as their proxy, this should be confirmed in writing to the General Secretary before the start of the General Meeting.	16.2.1 16.3.5 21.1
2.8	An Extraordinary Member has the following number of votes which they may exercise through their Delegate(s): No. of members. Number of votes 0 – 50 2 51 – 100 3 101 – 150 4 151 – 200 5 201 or more 6	16.3.2 16.3.5
2.9	Each Extraordinary Member has to report the actual number of its members to the General Secretary at least three weeks before the relevant General Meeting.	16.3.2
2.10	Each Extraordinary Member has the right to appoint at least one Delegate. Further Delegates can be appointed by an Extraordinary Member up to the number of votes held by that Extraordinary Member.	16.2.2 16.3.5
2.11	Extraordinary Members vote through their Delegate(s) who must be present, virtually or physically, and may also be an Ordinary or Honorary Member in their own right. Votes cast by a person acting as the Delegate of an Extraordinary Member are in addition to any votes cast in their own right or as a proxy	16.2.1 16.3.5 21.1
2.12	Each Extraordinary Member should determine how many of their votes are held by each of their Delegates and should confirm this in writing along with the names of the Delegates. This confirmation should be sent to the General Secretary at least three weeks before a General Meeting and prior to the launch of any Referendum vote.	16.3.5
2.13	Each Extraordinary Member has to report the actual number of its members to the General Secretary at least three weeks before the relevant General Meeting and prior to the launch of any Referendum vote.	16.3.2
3	GENERAL MEETING	17
3.1	A General Meeting may be held physically or virtually. Where a General Meeting is held virtually, it will be deemed to be held in Europe provided that the majority of participating Members are physically located in a European Country for the duration of the meeting.	17.1
3.2	Any Member may submit an additional agenda item, to be sent to the General Secretary at least 10 days before a General Meeting.	17.3
3.3	The Board may direct that any agenda item may not be included in a General Meeting if it appears that such an item is irrelevant to the Missions and Goals of the Association.	17.3
3.4	A minimum number of 5% of the total number of votes held by the Members, whether in person, by proxy or through a Delegate at a General Meeting (Annual and Extraordinary) is required for a decision to be valid. To amend the Constitution or dissolve the Association, a 25% quorum is required as defined in section 25.1 of the Constitution.	17.7.1 21.1 25.1
3.5	For the online election of Board Members to be valid, a 5% quorum of the total votes held by the Members is required.	17.7.1 21.1
4	ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS	17.3.5
4.1	The election of the Board will be conducted through a secure and confidential online voting platform. Details of how to vote through the platform will be sent to Members by email at least two weeks before the AGM. The vote will close 24 hours before the AGM.	17.3.5 21.2
4.2	Members who are not currently on the Board are able to be nominated to stand for election as long as they have agreed to it. Any Member who is nominated needs to be proposed and seconded (a second person to support the nomination), by paid-up Members (if a membership fee applies) before being able to stand for election. Nominations, containing the name and contact details of the	17.3.5

Ref.		Cross ref to Constitution
	candidate, proposer and seconder, must be received by the General Secretary at least four weeks in advance of the AGM. Members cannot be nominated on the day. Details of candidates who have been nominated will be sent by the Board to the Members along with the online voting instructions.	
4.3	Each voting form will have the names of the Members who have been nominated for the election along with the current members of the Board, who will automatically stand for re-election unless they have declined. Members with the right to vote will be asked to elect up to the maximum of nine people.	17.3.5
4.4	In line with other decisions of the General Assembly, a Member is elected to the Board if they receive an absolute majority (50% plus one vote) of those participating in the vote for that Member.	17.3.5
5	BOARD PROCEDURES	19.3
5.1	If a Board Member is perceived to have acted in a manner contrary to Article 19.3 of the Constitution, the Board will take a vote to ask the Board Member to step down. The excluded Board Member shall have the right to appeal this decision at the following General Meeting, but a two thirds majority is required to overturn the Board' decision	19.3
5.2	The Office Bearers of the Association, (the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer and the General Secretary), are appointed annually by the Board from among the Board members at the first Board meeting following an AGM. This should be held as soon as possible after the AGM and within four weeks of the AGM at the latest.	19.8
5.3	The Board should take reasonable steps to ensure continuity of the Board including, where possible, ensuring that not all Board Members are on the same two year election cycle.	19.9
5.4	The Treasurer can represent the Association in all financial matters up to a sum of 300 Euros. Financial amounts over 300 Euros must be agreed by a majority of the Board.	19.10.5
5.5	Board decisions are made in Board meetings held in-person or online	19.11
5.6	Decisions can also be made outside of Board meetings through other virtual means such as email to which all Board members have access. The outcome of such votes should be summarized in the minutes of the next Board meeting,	19.11
5.7	Board decisions are made with an absolute majority (At least 50% plus one of the Board members voting).	19.11
5.8	The quorum for a valid Board decision is a minimum of half the Board members.	19.11
5.9	A Board meeting is convened by the President or Vice-President with a minimum of two weeks notice. Reasonable steps should be taken to ensure as many Board members can attend as possible.	19.11
6	AMENDING THE BYLAWS	
6.1	Once proposed amendments to the Bylaws have been issued to a General Meeting or a Board Meeting in accordance with 24.3., no substantive changes are permitted. Minor changes for clarity, ease of understanding, matters of fact and alignment with the Constitution or Bylaws may be permitted at the discretion of the chair of the relevant meeting, provided they do not affect the underlying intention of the proposed amendment.	24.5
7	AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION	
7.1	The decision to change the Constitution or to dissolve the Association can only be taken by the General Membership in a General Meeting, not in a Referendum.	25.1
7.3	Once proposed amendments to the Constitution have been issued to a General Meeting in accordance with Article 24.3 of the Constitution, no substantive changes are permitted prior to the vote. Minor changes for clarity, ease of understanding, matters of fact and alignment with other aspects of the Constitution may be permitted at the discretion of the chair of the General Meeting provided they do not affect the underlying intention of the proposed amendment.	25.4
8	REFERENDUM PROCESS	27.1
8.1	A topic that requires an immediate decision which cannot wait for a General Meeting can be decided by a Referendum initiated by the Board or by the membership.	27.1
8.2	If a Referendum is requested by a Member without the agreement of the Board, the Referendum will only be granted if it is supported by a group of Members representing a minimum of 25 % of the total votes held by Member with voting rights.	27.1

Ref.		Cross ref to Constitution
8.3	A Referendum is carried out by a voting committee consisting of two persons of different nationalities who are appointed by the Board or by a General Meeting.	27.1
8.4	A Referendum is carried out by the Board publishing a motion and asking for votes to be received by the voting committee within a specific period through an online voting platform. The voting committee is responsible for ensuring that only Members who are eligible to vote are able to do so.	27.1

Sources for the Bylaws:

- Founding Notes EEDA (prepared by the committee of five people for the founding meeting in London, 18th February 2007),
- Bylaws EGLSF
- Bylaws UKEDC

APPENDIX 1

The following countries, including their overseas territories and dependencies, are viewed as meeting the definition of a European Country as per the EEDA Constitution:

1. Albania
2. Andorra
3. Armenia
4. Austria
5. Azerbaijan
6. Belarus
7. Belgium
8. Bosnia & Herzegovina
9. Bulgaria
10. Croatia
11. Cyprus
12. Czechia
13. Denmark (incl. Faeroe Islands and Greenland)
14. Estonia
15. Finland (incl. Åland)
16. France (incl. Overseas France/France d'outre-mer)
17. Georgia
18. Germany
19. Greece
20. Hungary
21. Iceland
22. Israel
23. Italy
24. Kazakhstan
25. Kosovo
26. Latvia
27. Liechtenstein
28. Lithuania
29. Luxembourg
30. Malta
31. Moldova
32. Monaco
33. Montenegro
34. Netherlands (incl. the Caribbean Netherlands and ABC Islands)
35. North Macedonia
36. Norway
37. Poland
38. Portugal
39. Republic of Ireland
40. Romania
41. Russia
42. San Marino
43. Serbia
44. Slovakia
45. Slovenia
46. Spain (incl. Ceuta, Melilla, and Canary Islands)
47. Sweden
48. Switzerland
49. Turkey
50. Ukraine
51. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (incl. British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies)
52. Vatican City State.

The above list is not exhaustive and other countries may be eligible to be treated as European Countries, provided they meet the definition in the EEDA Constitution

APPENDIX 9 – Item (8) – Feedback from Member Organisations

Feedback from Conversations with Member Organisations, July 2025

In May/June 2025 the EEDA board reached out to its member organisations to have informal discussions on a number of questions. This was prompted partly by the current political and social context, where we are facing huge challenges across Europe, and also in order to stay closer to the member organisations to make sure EEDA is fulfilling its proper role and is relevant and supportive.

The purpose of this paper is to report back to the AGM the key points and suggestions for action that emerged from those discussions.

As a board we have considered and prioritised three actions that we think are immediately actionable taking into account available resources. These three are actions 1 (incorporating 2), 4 (incorporating 5 and elements of 3), and 7.

In total, conversations took place with representatives from 7 member organisations*

From the individual conversations the following conclusions and suggestions for action emerged:

- The changing political context is recognised, in some cases, particularly Hungary, causing pressure and fear, but by the majority more as a potential future threat.
- This led some to consider of how to ensure that competitions and venues are safe spaces.
- The key role of EEDA was generally thought to be setting regulations for European competitions and championships, and publishing competitions and events. Beyond that, there were a number of other suggestions:
 1. Host one or more meetings for member organisation representatives to foster greater collaboration and communication between members, and to provide opportunities for support and coordination between member organisations. An online meeting seems most practical. Some of the topics that would be useful to discuss: coordination of the competitions calendar, how to encourage more dancers and competitors; how to support each other when member organisations come under pressure; how to nourish our community vs conformity to mainstream.
 2. Be proactive in coordinating the competitions calendar, for example facilitating advance planning of the competitions calendar, so that there is no overlap of dates between country organisations. This could be done as part of item 1.
 3. Assist in promotion of equality competitions, not just via the website, but via mail shots/social media. This might include proactive encouragement to attend and support events in countries which might be deemed unsafe (e.g. EuroGames Budapest).
 4. Communicate better e.g. on the purpose of EEDA, what it is and what it stands for (and in turn EEDA's membership of EGLSF etc). Better to publish in small bite-size pieces that member organisations can include in their newsletters.
 5. Communicate and explain the reasons for the 'equality' categories.
 6. Support competition organisers by enabling reference to EEDA as a formal organisation and member of EGLSF and FGG. (not clear what this would look like but to be considered)
 7. In order to attract more EEDA board members: make clear what EEDA stands for and what we do, provide a simple 'job description' highlighting time requirements and any specific skills needed at the time. Target people close to national or local federations.

* Member organisations represented in discussion

Charme Hungary

DVET/Pink Ballroom, Germany

Pandans, Denmark

Rainbow Dancers, Finland

Rainbow Evidanse, France

Equality Dance, Switzerland

UKEDC, UK

APPENDIX 10 – Item (8) – Competition Rules

Results of member consultation on competition rule changes

Thank you to all the members and member organisations who responded to our consultation on proposed changes to the competition rules. Seven extraordinary members responded to some or all of the proposals and a couple of individual members also provided some input. On most points, there was a good level of agreement.

The key points from the consultation responses are summarised below, along with the actions to be taken.

Raising of the minimum age to 18

All respondents were in favour of raising the minimum age. Some respondents noted that, with the exception of the European Championships, organisers are free to have a different minimum age and this should be explicitly mentioned. Another respondent noted that any local legal requirements must be followed where they exist.

Action: The competition rules will be amended to raise the minimum age to 18, noting the requirement to abide by local legislation and the ability of organisers to have lower ages, where appropriate, other than for the European Championships.

Review of senior age categories

A strong majority of respondents were in favour of adding a second senior age category. There was also a preference for collapsing the two age categories into one where numbers were low or where there was need to do so for practical reasons. A number of respondents favoured awarding the senior categories separately, even if they were danced together. In general, reducing the number of classes was preferred to combining gender categories if required for logistical reasons. Only one respondent stated a preferred age range for senior two being a combined age of 120, with individual ages of 55.

Action: Competition rules will be amended to include a second senior category, but allowing organisers to combine categories where required for logistical reasons or due to low numbers. When combining categories, the preference should be to combine age categories, then classes, then genders. Senior prizes may be awarded separately even when danced together. The age limit will also be defined.

Review of dress rules for safeguarding purposes

All respondents felt that the current rule was sufficient, but many appreciated the concern. Some commented on the importance of allowing freedom of self-expression.

Action: The rule will remain unchanged, but the CRWG will monitor the situation by asking competition chairs to highlight to the WG chair any costumes they see that they feel may breach the rules.

Review of dress rules regarding political messages

Responses to this question were mixed, with many noting the difficulty of defining what would constitute political expression – a minority, for example, are opposed to the use of the rainbow pride flag. Others noted that equality dancing is inherently political in some ways.

Action: Given there was no strong desire the change the rules in this regard, the current rules will not be changed but the WG will continue to monitor the situation.

Descriptions of Classes A-D

The consensus from the responses was that the classes should be defined based on what judges can observe on the floor on the day of the competition and not based on dancers' prior experience or prior performances. It was also noted that definitions could refer to levels within mainstream dancing,

The DVET and Pink Ballroom proposed aligning the definitions with those used by the DVET:

- A-Class – Couples with extensive dance experience at the highest level, i.e., they demonstrate the ability to dance also difficult routines with high dynamics and quality;
- B-Class - Couples with high-level dancing experience, meaning they demonstrate a certain level of confidence in their movements and dance fundamentals in difficult figures/sequences, but they cannot yet be performed with high dynamics and dance quality;
- C-Class – Couples who dance at a mid-level, meaning they show a certain degree of confidence in their fundamental movements in simple figures/sequences, but still show considerable uncertainties (also timing issues) with difficult figures/sequences;
- D-Class - Couples who dance at a basic level, i.e., they still show significant uncertainty in their dance fundamentals (including timing issues) even with simple figures/sequences;

Action: The definitions of Classes A-D will be amended to refer to level of dance demonstrated on the day by dancers and not referring to their dance experience. The definitions will draw on the DVET rules and include references to other systems that adjudicators may be familiar with.

Viennese Waltz step restrictions

Only the UKEDC expressed a desire to restrict the steps within the Viennese Waltz, reflecting the fact that most UK dancers follow the WDC style which has restricted Viennese Waltz choreography. Concerns were noted by the UKEDC that dancers with restricted steps may be marked less well by adjudicators and also the flow of their dancing is impeded by couples dancing unrestricted choreography.

Action: As only one respondent was in favour of restricting Viennese Waltz steps, the steps will not be restricted. A reminder to dancers on the importance of floorcraft will however be prepared, including a reminder of the differences between WDC and WDSF styles and asking dancers to be aware that some competitors may be dancing restricted choreography.

Proposals in relation to gender diversity issues

As well as the issues above that we consulted on with members, the CRWG and the Board prepared papers on two issues around increasing gender diversity within equality dancing, following the move from ESSDA to EEDA.

These papers were not included in the member consultation due to the increased uncertainty following the UK Supreme Court's ruling on the definition of "woman" in the UK Equality Act. We wanted to have a better understanding of how our proposals would be viewed in the light of the court ruling before sharing with members.

The debate in the UK is still ongoing with various pieces of guidance expected from various regulators over the next few months. While this leaves the position still unclear, we wanted to share the proposals with members for discussion at the AGM to at least indicate the proposed direction of travel.

We have also been in discussion with EGLSF and EuroGames Cardiff who are seeking formal legal advice on the topic. We await the legal advice, but from preliminary discussions it appears that CRWG proposals are likely to be compatible with the UK legal position, provided care is taken on their implementation.

The two proposals on gender diversity are set out below for reference.

Issue 1: Following the changes to EEDA's name and constitution at the 2024 AGM, there is a need to amend the EEDA Competition Rules to accommodate couples other than same-sex couples

Summary of WG discussion:

1. It was noted that the EEDA Competition Rules only apply in full to the European Championships licensed by EEDA. Other organisers of equality competitions are encouraged to use the Rules, but are free to deviate from them, so long as this is clearly communicated. In addition, some countries such as Germany and the UK have their own rules for equality competitions held in those countries. For various reasons, not all countries may be able to follow the Rules in full, but they should align as far as possible subject to local legal and regulatory constraints.
2. It was agreed that to allow for the wide range of possibilities covered by equality dancing, the Rules should allow for couples consisting of two people of the same gender and of two people of different genders, regardless of who leads and who follows.
3. The majority of the WG felt that while equality dancing is a very inclusive concept, EEDA should focus on those competing in non-traditional roles as traditional-role couples are already afforded a lot of competitive opportunities outside of equality competitions. This is also in line with the LGBTQIA+ history and remit of EEDA. To fully embrace the concept of equality dancing, EEDA must include traditional-role couples, but this should not be our focus.
4. The WG considered three options:
 - i. i) a single open-role category,
 - ii. ii) three categories (male, female and open-role)
 - iii. iii) more specific gender-based categories (male, female, non-binary, traditional role, reverse role etc).
5. It was acknowledged that adjudicators have different views as to whether it is possible to fairly adjudicate between couples of different gender compositions. Some adjudicators are of the view that, for example, all-male couples demonstrate different dance characteristics from all-female couples and from reverse- and traditional-role couples and therefore they cannot be judged fairly against each other and should thus have different categories. Other adjudicators however are of the view that they can compare couples fairly, regardless of gender composition and so it is appropriate to include them all in a single category.
6. It was also noted that some members have previously expressed concerns that all female couples tend to be classified lower within classes A-D than male couples of an arguably comparable standard. It was generally felt that if there are differences in dance characteristics between couples of differing gender compositions, these differences are greater at higher levels, particularly in A class.
7. It was acknowledged that one of the aims of EEDA is to create a dance environment where everyone feels comfortable. Some dancers have expressed the view that they feel most comfortable competing against people of their own gender.
8. It was noted that various countries (UK, France, Denmark) have run equality competitions with open-role categories. To date, most competitors in the open-role categories have also competed in the same-gender categories at the same event. In some cases, dancers have competed with different partners in the same-gender and the open-role categories.
9. A view strongly held by some members of the WG, was that if a competition offers three categories (male-, female- and open-role categories), this provides more opportunities for people who compete in a same-gender couple than those who compete in a mixed-gender couple and they viewed this as discriminatory.
10. The WG did not perform a legal analysis as to which anti-discrimination legislation could be relevant. It was noted, however, that anti-discrimination rules apply to individuals and not to dance couples. Furthermore, protected characteristics usually include gender, sex and sexuality, they do not include whom one chooses to dance with. Under the three-category system, while a mixed male/female couple would only be able to compete in one category,

any individual could compete in two of the three categories provided. After all, one does not need to identify as LGBTQ+ to dance with someone of the same gender.

11. Furthermore, it is common for competitions to have categories that not everyone can enter due to, for example, the choices that they make about the dance styles they pursue (standard ballroom, Latin American, 10-dance etc) or their level of proficiency/experience. Different couples therefore already have different opportunities to dance in a single competition.
12. It was noted that couples would have equal opportunities to dance if couples were allowed to enter the open-role category only if they did not enter one of the single-gender categories. It was however felt it would be contrary to EEDA's aims of encouraging dancing to restrict couples from entering categories unless it was necessitated by practical limitations such as timetabling considerations. This option is always open to equality competition organisers.
13. It was noted that the DVET is unable to provide competitions for traditional-role couples as this not permitted by their governing body, the DVT. It was also noted that the DVET has its own rules and is not compelled to follow the EEDA Competition Rules. A difficulty could arise if an EEDA Championship were to be held in Germany, for example, following the awarding of the EuroGames to a German city. In such a case, it may be possible for the DVET to apply to DTV for special permission to host an equality competition including traditional-role couples.
14. While the term open-role has been used throughout this paper, it was noted that this could be seen as placing emphasis on the choice of a dancer to lead or follow and not on the fact that category is open to people of all genders. Some competitions refer to the open-role category as equality, but as equality dancing is the overall term it could be seen as inappropriate to use it for just one category within an equality competition. Further thought may need to be given as to the best name for the open-role category.

Conclusion:

None of the three options was unanimously preferred by members of the WG. It was felt that a single open-role category, although being the least discriminatory, could make competitions less welcoming for some dancers and could present challenges to some adjudicators.

The current numbers of competitors make it impractical to offer more than three gender-based categories as some would have very few couples which would reduce the level of competition.

Having only three categories was viewed by a minority of the WG as being discriminatory (see point 9 above), but the majority were not convinced of the strength of the argument and felt that this was the best compromise option.

Proposal:

That the EEDA Competition Rules be amended to include male-, female-, and open-role categories. Furthermore, that guidance to the Rules should underline that the Rules only apply in full to the EEDA European Championships and that organisers of other competitions are free to deviate from the Rules as long as this is clearly stated in advance. Ideas for other names for the open-role category would be welcomed.

Issue 2: Following the changes to EEDA's name and constitution at the 2024 AGM, there is a need to amend the EEDA Competition Rules to accommodate people of all genders.

Summary of WG discussion:

1. It was agreed that the changes to the EEDA constitution meant that the EEDA Competition Rules should be amended to explicitly include individuals of all genders, including non-binary and transgender individuals.
2. It was felt that people should self-identify their gender as being the most practical approach. This is also in line with the [Federation of Gay Games gender inclusion policy](#). It was noted that this may lead to some disagreement as to which category people dance in, for example, based on self-identification, someone whose birth gender was female, but who now self-identifies as male, could compete in the male category. Given EEDA's aims and resources, we do not want to be in a position of policing individuals' identities or determining whether people meet certain gender definitions based on biological criteria and medical evidence. A self-identification approach was therefore felt to be the most practicable option.
3. Reference was also made to the [British Dancesport Association's trans inclusion policy](#) which advocates the view that gender is not a significant factor in success in ballroom dance competitions.
4. We were not able to find a gender policy on the EGLSF website, but the terms and conditions for competitors in the 2025 EuroGames in Lyon state that the "[EuroGames] affirms and supports the rights of athletes to compete as their true selves and to compete in the gender category that accords with their gender identity or that they feel most comfortable with. We use the terms "male* identified" and "female* identified" to emphasize the self-identification of gender. The asterisk after "male" and "female" is to make clear that the categories refer to all participants who define themselves as "male" or "female" in the respective sports competitions and has no relation to their birth-assigned sex."
5. In terms of defining which dance gender category people should compete in (male/female/open-role), the proposal was to mirror the provisions of the UKEDC rules:

"A [same-gender] dance couple must be comprised of two partners of the same dance category gender.

 - a. 'Female' gender refers to people living as and identifying as female, on a full-time basis.
'Male' gender refers to people living as and identifying as male, on a full-time basis.

'Non-binary' gender refers to people living and identifying with no gender or as a gender other than male or female, on a full-time basis.
 - b. Same-sex dance couples shall consist of two partners of the same dance category gender. Males and females shall dance in the category corresponding to their gender. Non- binary individuals may choose the category in which they feel most comfortable to be seen dancing.
 - c. Non-binary individuals may only dance in one dance category gender in a competition. They may dance in different dance category genders in different competitions. [Note – this is the UKEDC wording and the UKEDC does not have open-role categories. Under the proposed three gender categories for EEDA, non-binary individuals could compete in the open-role category and either the male or female category].
6. Where non-binary individuals feel comfortable identifying with a gender for a particular competition, they could enter the male or female identifying category as appropriate, taking into account the dance category gender of their dance partner. If they do not feel comfortable identifying with either gender, then they could still enter the open-role category.
7. The definition of "on a full-time basis" was felt by one WG member to be too strict. The idea of using this definition is to prevent people selecting their dance category gender purely for competitive advantage, but may exclude some people who do not feel able to express their preferred gender identity on a full-time basis.
8. It was noted that this rule has been in place in the UK for several years and to date has not led to any issues, but it would be helpful to seek views from people likely to be affected.

Conclusion:

The consensus view of the WG was to allow individuals to self-identify their gender and to adopt wording along the lines of that used by the UKEDC. It was noted that this may give rise to some objections as to the dance category gender in which some dancers choose to compete, but on balance this was viewed as acceptable in order to balance practical considerations with the aims of EEDA.

Proposal:

That the EEDA Competition Rules be amended to include dance category gender definitions in-line with those used by the UKEDC. In addition, we would welcome views of those who might be particularly affected, such as transgender and non-binary dancers, of the requirement to identify as a gender on a full-time basis.