

# Quarterly

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## Newsletter



### WSDC International Advisory Committee

The World Swing Dance Council Board is thrilled to announce the formation of our International Advisory Committee! Our stated goals for this committee are three-fold:

- Represent the voices of the dance community to the Board
- Help disseminate information / decisions of the Board to the rest of the dance community
- Act as a core team to weigh in on proposed rule changes

Our members are (in alphabetical order by country):

Australia	Emma Collier
Austria	Yuval Yaary
Brazil /Switzerland	Joao Parada
Canada	Sonya Dessureault - Co-Chair
France	Valentin Dhote
Germany	Christian Kaller
Hungary	Adam Balasy
Korea	Heejung Jung
Latvia	Renars Sirotins
Netherlands	Gordon MacDonald
New Zealand	Chris Pugmire
Poland	Marta Nita
Romania	Andrei Bereczki
Russia	Elena Kotelnikova
Singapore	Wee Tze Yi
Sweden.	Ibirocay Regueira
United Kingdom	Paul Warden
Ukraine - California	Nataliya Kane
USA	Chuck Brown
USA, Texas	Ruby Lair
USA, Texas & NY	John Lindo - Co-Chair

### Event Listings

Just a reminder that every year as an event director, you need to submit event details for your weekend dance event to be listed on our calendar. If you don't fill out this form, your event is not listed. Here is the link:

<https://www.worldsdc.com/submit-event-updates/>

Typically your event is posted 24-48 hours after receipt of the form.

### No New Trial Events will be approved in the first 6 months of 2022

As dancing and events slowly return, to support our current Registry Events, the WSDC Board is extending its moratorium on new Trial Events through the first 6 months of 2022. The Board will re-evaluate this topic in mid-2022.

### Lower Competitor Requirements for 2022

In early 2020, the WSDC Board announced the required number of competitors would increase to 80. To encourage the safe and slow re-entry of dance events, the WSDC Board is lowering that number for 2022.

- *For 2022*, WSDC will require 60 unique competitors. These can include both skill level and age-based competitors.
- Registry Events will need to submit their full roster of competitors with their reporting form.

**Be Safe! Be Healthy!**

- Registry Events **must** follow their local, state and federal /country health guidelines / regulations.
- Registry Events may cancel in 2022 due to Covid without jeopardizing their Registry Event status.
- Members are allowed to choose to hold a non-Registry Event in 2022 due to Covid and return as a Registry Event in 2023.

**Free Covid Rapid Antigen Test kits in the USA and a recap of Dr. Dorry Segev's Town Hall on WCS in the time of Covid**

Tracy Wang hosted a Town Hall on December 19, 2021, in which Dr. Dorry Segev, M.D, Ph.D. from John Hopkins School of Medicine (Dorry) gave his recommendations and thoughts on safe practices for Event Directors and for dancers attending events in 2022 given the Omicron wave. Dorry has since made some updates posted on January 31, 2022, which are included in this article.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, Dorry's recommendation is that the only safe way to gather in larger groups is through vaccinated only gatherings. Recently he stated that you could include unvaccinated people who have had Covid 19 within the past 3 months with certain criteria (*See bullet point 6 in the full article*). WSDC events must follow local, state, health and federal/country government guidelines, but it's an individual choice for event directors on whether events choose to hold open or restricted events.

Dorry's recommendations below are for events that choose vaccinated only for their weekend dance event format. Dorry's recommendations will change over time as we get to herd immunity and other benchmarks are met.

1. Require people to have "up to date vaccination" rather than to be "fully vaccinated". If you have an event March 1, 2022, for example, you will need attendees to have received their first two doses of vaccine within the past 6 months or to have had their booster on September 1, 2021, or later. Dorry feels that eventually the CDC will change its definition of what is considered "fully vaccinated" but thinks that they're very late to the game and so we need to change our definition as a responsible dance community. As of today's date, everyone in the USA, who wants a booster should have access to one. Attendees just getting vaccinated need to wait two weeks after their second dose to attend a vaccinated only dance event. There are apps that are being used at dance events now that are tracking the vaccine criteria for event directors. Dorry is recommending that the algorithms be updated to follow this protocol.
2. If you want a "probably very safe but not the safest possible" event, you need to either require masks or testing (in addition to #1). Right now, with the speed at which Omicron spreads, Dorry thinks "responsible testing" needs to be at-the-door rapid testing, with testing every night of a multi-day event. It's a pain, but if people don't want to test, they can just wear a mask. Dorry has been dancing in a mask (including fast lindy hop) for a year now, and performing surgery in a mask for many many years. Masks are cheap, easy for attendees to carry. Most attendees will bring their own.
3. If you want a "much safer" event, you need to require masks AND testing (in addition to #1). At least until the big Omicron wave attenuates.
4. The logistics of the rapid antigen tests seem a bit daunting, but there are events that are making it happen (testing every day of the event prior to admission into the ballroom). Events that test need to administer or watch the testing to verify the results. Some events are using Facetime, Zoom or other platforms to monitor the tests. You could potentially have a team that watches people test in their hotel room and then give them their arm band at the registration desk if they test negative or have them isolate if they test positive.
5. There will be some issues with the timing of Omicron and boosters. For example, if someone was doing their part, got their mRNA vaccines in July, was due for a booster in December, and got Omicron right before they had a chance to get their booster, then you have a bit of a dilemma. There's no good guidance for when, after you get Omicron, you should be getting a booster. Also, getting Covid \*IS\* a booster. So one thing you could do .....

**To see the full set of recommendations as well as 4 newspaper articles from Dorry's Facebook page, click on this link:**

<http://www.worldsdc.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Free-Covid-Rapid-Antigen-Test-kits-in-the-USA-and-a-recap-of-Dr.-Dorry-Segevs-Town-Hall-on-WCS-in-the-time-of-Covid-Full-Article.pdf>