British Dance Council

Limited by Guarantee Registered in England No. 502695 - Established 1929

Registered Office: Terpsichore House 240 Merton Road South Wimbledon, LONDON SW19 1EQ

President: Bryan Allen - Vice President: Robert Bellinger Life President: Freddie Boultwood - Honorary President: Len Armstrong Company Secretary: Margaret Harris

e-mail: secretary@british-dance-council.org
www.british-dance-council.org

Member of the World Dance Council – Member of Sport and Recreation Alliance (formally CCPR) – Member of the Music Users' Council

Corporate Members of the Council: Allied Dancing Association, Associated Board of Dance, Association of Dance & Freestyle Professionals, Ballroom Dancers' Federation, British Association of Teachers of Dancing, British Competitors' Dancesport Corporation, Crown Entertainment Centres Ltd, Dance Promoters' Association, Dancesport Scotland, Dancesport Wales, Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing, International Dance Teachers' Association, National Association of Teachers of Dancing, Northern Counties Dance Teachers' Association, Scottish Dance Teachers' Alliance, United Kingdom Alliance, Welsh Alliance of Professional Teachers of Dancing

2nd April 2014

To: All Secretary's of all Corporate Members

Dear Colleague,

You will have received a copy of the letter from the BDC solicitor TWM regarding Equality Legislation sent to you with the 2nd March 2014 Board of Directors agenda *Appendix 2*.

The letter has been considered by both the Board of Directors and by the Rules Committee.

There will be proposals laid before the Change of Rules meeting in July but it was felt that some guidance should be given by the BDC in this matter.

The solicitor's advice suggests that it is possible for promoters to have combinations for all possible sex partnership or to limit entry to just one or more combinations. It is purely a matter for the individual promoter but they will no doubt take into consideration the feelings of the competitors, the physical strength and stamina of a same sex couple who might be included in a competition.

At the Rules Committee meeting the following was recorded:

There was some discussion on the letter from the Solicitor expressing his opinion that it was legal to run events specifically for male/female couples, all-girl couples, same-sex couples or any mix of the foregoing. His letter clearly stated that it was legal to run whatever sections one wished to include. Other sporting organizations already specified that events were for a specific gender, or a mixed gender. Some promoters had previously expressed concern that it should be up to the promoter's discretion as to which events were run and it was felt that guidance should be given from the BDC, as the governing body.



The following is a proposal for the July Change of Rules meeting.

THAT Rule 52 be titled: "Approved Competitions and Championships" and that 52 (a) should read: "This Council recognizes a partnership to be one man and one lady in all adult amateur and professional competitions and championships unless otherwise stated." CARRIED unanimously.

I trust you will consider all of the above and contact me in writing should you have comments on the matter.

Yours sincerely,

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BRYAN ALLEN

President