



Canada DanceSport

DanseSport Canada

CDS PRESIDENT'S 2025/26 ANNUAL REPORT

April, 2026

Dear Board members

The past year has once again been a busy and eventful one for Canada DanceSport.

A review of the 2026 qualifier results suggests that participation levels in some regions have declined compared to previous years. This is an important issue that requires thoughtful discussion. I encourage all Board members to reflect on potential solutions in advance of the AGM, where we will dedicate time under New Business to address this concern.

CDS President's jobs

I know I write this every year but this year I have been kept busy doing the following tasks for CDS:

- Updating CDS Bylaws, Rules, and Policies following motions passed at the 2025 AGM. This process continues to grow in complexity, particularly with evolving Sport Canada and NSO requirements. All updates must be completed in English before being translated and incorporated into the French Rulebook.
- Supporting the Recording Secretary with the preparation of the 2025 CDS AGM minutes.
- Continuing collaboration with the CDS Breaking Committee, Breaking Canada, and Breaking officials.
- Registering Breaking officials online for many different WDSF Breaking Adjudicators Congresses and licenses.
- Registering all athletes wishing to compete in the WDSF World Championships by using the new WDSF online registration system. I need to know their travel plans and who else will be accompanying them. For the Breaking athletes I need photos of all their clothing including shoes & socks both front & back for the WDSF to approve their competition attire.
- Communicating with CDS professionals regarding WDSF adjudicator congresses and license renewals.
- Answering numerous emails, submitting applications, and attending Microsoft Teams or zoom meetings with different people from **Sport Canada** regarding funding framework, and CDS's obligations in order to receive funding from Heritage Canada and the future since Breaking is not scheduled to be in the 2028 Summer Olympics in USA.
- CDS has been working closely with CSSP on Safety in Sport to get Breaking athletes, officials, coaches, volunteers that work with the National level Breaking program plus the CDS Board enrolled and completing the CSSP Safe Sport digital education course and sign the agreement. Periodically I have to go online and update the participants lists and make sure new athletes have completed the course.
- Maintaining the CDS Face Book Account. Regions are encouraged to send me photos, competition flyers, and any upcoming events that they want advertised on the CDS Face Book page. Please send in any additional wording in English & French.
- Although all WDSF World Championships & World Cups were held in 2025 only a few CDS athletes decided to compete in the WDSF World Championships. Many declined some worlds because they did not feel safe travelling to the country where the WDSF World Championship was located. A complete list of 2025 of World results is found later in this report.
- Answering emails and telephone calls from CDS Registered Athletes and coaches.

- Keeping the CDS website up to date by constantly having the webmaster change different items and having major sections, especially Policies, translated into both official languages.
- Working with the translator to update CDS Rule Book, CDS Policies, and parts of CDS Website.
- Sending out the Notice of CDS AGM by February 15 to all Board members which included Delegate's form, past AGM minutes, Draft Agenda, updated CDS Rule Book and all Motions that were submitted by January 31, 2026.
- Writing and circulating the final Agenda with time allowances for the 2026 CDS AGM.
- Having telephone calls, numerous emails, & texts with CDS Breaking Sport Director, Geoff Reyes.
- Having telephone calls, emails, & texts with CDS VP & DSBC President, Pinky Wong, on many different topics relating to CDS
- Completing any government forms that are required for CDS.
- Receiving and answering emails from **WDSF** member countries on topics affecting many countries.
- Answering emails from WDSF and forwarding any important Press Releases, competition news, WDSF meeting minutes, and WDSF AGM information to all CDS Board members.
- Corresponding with the CDS Board on many matters throughout the year on situations arising, forms, and letters sent out.

In addition, numerous operational and administrative tasks were handled throughout the year.

While the workload has slightly decreased due to Breaking's absence from the next Olympic cycle, I have maintained structured working hours, addressing CDS matters primarily during weekdays unless urgent issues arise.

Important Reminder: WDSF Communication Protocol

Athletes are reminded that all communication with the World DanceSport Federation (WDSF) must go through CDS. WDSF policy does not permit direct responses to individual athletes; all inquiries are redirected to the National Federation.

Athletes are encouraged to first consult their Regional Association or CDS to avoid unnecessary delays.

CDS Business

Key topics addressed by the CDS Board this year included:

1. Dissolution of the CDS Professional Division (PD) and establishment of a new CDS Professional Committee
2. Ongoing Safe Sport compliance and education initiatives

CDS Professionals and the CDS professional Committee

With the dissolving of the CDS PD, CDS registered all CDS Professionals under a new CDS Professional Registration form. We created new forms in both English & French:

- Professional International Standard, Latin, Smooth & Rhythm application
- Professional Breaking application
- Professional Athlete application.

For 2025 – end of 2026 CDS has 24 Adjudicators, 3 Professional athletes, 1 DJ, & 1 Scrutineer for a total of 29 professionals. The list is found on the Canada DanceSport website <https://www.dancesport.ca/page21.php> & under 4c at <https://www.dancesport.ca/page31.php>

Each Region's professionals elected 1 Professional to be on the CDS Professional Committee to deal with Professional matters. Items that were agreed upon by all CDS Board members in July and August will be officially voted at the upcoming CDS AGM and then added to the CDS Rule Book in both English & French. The nomination process finished in the new year and the new CDS Professional Committee consists of:

DSBC- Nelson Wong (ballroomdance@shaw.ca) - is a big studio owner in Vancouver of BC's top competitive athletes, teaches dancers, has judged CCC & other top events.

DSAB- Petre Samoila (petersamoila@yahoo.com) - National Adjudicator but in 2026 it will be his first time judging CCC. Is only eligible Professional residing in Alberta. Is originally from Europe so is European trained, teaches athletes of all levels

ODS- Phil Lee (philbd77@gmail.com) - teaches social & some competitors, has judged /chairman of numerous past CCC, has WDSF adjudicator qualifications & has judged numerous WDSF competitions & Worlds

DSQ- Benoit Papineau (bntppn1@gmail.com) - a past CCC Champion, plus winner of other big events, taught numerous athletes, past WDSF Adjudicator

This new Professional committee brings diverse expertise with representation from each Regional Association. Nobody would be the chair unless the 4 men decide differently. CDS Professional Committee Representation at the CDS AGM will rotate based on the host CCC region, minimizing travel requirements.

Safe Sport

There are quarterly meetings from CSSP & reports published. CDS must continue to educate our coaches, teachers, & athletes about Safe Sport.

In March 2026 the CCES (Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport) was rebranded to become **Sport Integrity Canada**.

In the late fall we had a complaint from a group of students from a studio complaining about the coaching behaviour of their coach/studio owner. We reached out to CSSP & our Sport lawyer who is our Third-Party consultant but because (a) they were not breaking athletes or officials, (b) this professional who the complaint was about was not a CSSP participant, (c) CDS does not register dance studios, the CSSP replied that they did not qualify under the Safe Sport Agreement so we must deal with it internally. Our lawyer sent a letter to the group of complainers. CDS asked the Regional President involved to therefore handle the matter. This demonstrates though that our Standard & Latin coaches/teachers need to take a similar course that is offered by CSSP since this is not the first time, I have heard that teaching practices of some teachers is unprofessional. This is a matter our new Professional Committee can deal with.

CDS Recognized competitions.

There have been 7 CDS Recognized competitions (including 2026 CCC) in Canada since the 2025 CCC for International Style Standard & Latin and some Breaking events but so far we have not received the dates of Breaking events scheduled for 2026 due to waiting to see how much funding they receive from Sport Canada for the next year.

November 8 & 9, 2025, - 34th Annual Snowball Classic, Vancouver B.C.

November 15, 2025, La Relance, Beloeil, QC,

February 28, 2026, -La Super-Am, Québec Open Championships, Beloeil, QC

March 7, 2026, -The 37th Annual Alberta Winter Classic, Calgary, Alberta

March 13 & 14, 2026, - 61st Annual UBC Gala, Vancouver B.C

March 22nd, 2026- Ontario Championships, Toronto, Ontario

April 17 & 18, 2026, 68th Canadian Closed Championships, Laval, Quebec

Each Region will report more on the competitions held in their Region.

This past year we have unfortunately seen less CDS Recognized competitions due to Adjudicators with their students changing to CDF/ NDCC competitions or Dancesport Heritage and a definite action by CDF/NDCC in Ontario to run more events using not only our titles but also annual dates & venues where we run some of our events. The CDF/NDCC promoters in Ontario are running approximately 2 competitions or galas a month usually in hotel venues. The new CDF/NDCC Rule has made it more expensive for our CDS promoters to run

competitions due to hiring out of province scrutineers & judges. I was informed though that CDF/NDCC used the same scrutineer that works at all our competitions but gave it a different title to get around their own rule! CDS needs to encourage more people to become licensed scrutineers since it adds a lot to the expenses of a local competition if you must bring in out of province scrutineers.

I feel that more frequent smaller competitions might be the way to justify to athletes why they need Regional membership. Hopefully we can discuss later today how to increase the number of events offered in 2025/26.

CDS Amateur Teachers

In 2025 again no Amateur Teachers have paid their Annual fee but I personally know that others are teaching. Others have retired from competing or have stopped teaching.

Breaking

Geoff Reyes, the CDS Breaking Sport Director will address everything in his report

Geoff Reyes is taking the lead on working with **Canada DanceSport, Canadian Olympic Committee, and Sport Canada.**

Veronique Labrosse is looking after membership for Breaking athletes and looking after informing all National Breaking athletes & Support team of completing the CSSP Education & sign the latest consent forms.

Canadian Olympic Committee (COC)

Since Canada DanceSport was made a Session Class A member in the beginning of 2022 we receive an invitation to their AGM and were allowed to vote.

In October 2025 Geoff & I received the following email:

This email is to inform you of an update regarding your organization's status the Canadian Olympic Committee. With the sport of breaking is not on the official programme of the 2027 Pan American Games or the 2028 LA Olympic Games, and pursuant to section 8.11 (b) and 8.4 (h) of the [COC General By-Law](#), Canada DanceSport's status as an Olympic NSO will be terminated and will be changed to "Recognized Organization". This also means that you will no longer be considered a Class A Member of the COC. While Canada DanceSport would still be allowed to send a representative to attend the COC Session, with the next one being held on May 29-31st in Montreal, your attendance would be at your own costs and without voting rights.

As a Recognized Organization, your access to NSO programs and shared services available to all NSOs will remain the same but the COC Games Team will remove your access to the NSO Shared Google drive as it only contains information relevant to sports on the Games programme. Please be assured that you would still have access to your NSO specific drive for all of your relevant documents and information. Finally, please note that you would also no longer receive any communications relating to the 2027 Pan American Games and 2028 Olympic Games.

While not on the upcoming program of the Olympic and Pan American Games, you remain a valued stakeholder of the Canadian Olympic Committee and of the Canadian sport community and we look forward to continuing to work with you on different projects in the future.

Therefore, CDS is not sending a representative to their upcoming AGM in Montreal. Hopefully the 2032 Olympics in Australia will include Breaking again. WDSF was never informed why the USA Olympic Committee decided not to include Breaking in 2028.

Sport Canada

In 2025 CDS Breaking Division received no funding but new application was submitted to Sport Canada for funding from Heritage Canada Sport Support. In 2026 Breaking received a grant of \$16,000 for developing programs in Breaking especially on diversity.

WDSF E Cards

A REPEAT MESSAGE

Most CDS WDSF athletes have not renewed their WDSF E-cards since many have not competed in WDSF competitions since COVID in early 2020.

Athletes now must renew online but if once WDSF sends the email warning there is only 3 months to renew, the athlete will then receive a final warning after which the WDSF will retire the athlete. Once an athlete's card is marked expired the athlete can only renew by contacting the CDS WDSF Administrator, Gord, first, and he

will then send them a link with a renewal notice from WDSF. Before sending the athlete the link he checks with the Regional Association that they are a current paid member. A problem that athletes have encountered is that their renewal notices often go to their junk mail box or they change their email address but don't update on their WDSF profile so they never receive the renewal notice. Inform any athletes when they do renew to check that none of their information has changed- email address, partner, etc.

If a Canadian Athlete is looking for a new partner outside of Canada remember that there are WDSF Rules governing when they can represent another country. If eligible then they must be transferred in the WDSF Registration System by their country's Administrator to Canada's WDSF Administrator (Gord). Gord will not accept any transfers from another country until he has been assured that they have a CDS Regional membership. It can take up to 30 days for another country to approve a transfer so inform him well in advance of the athletes wanting to compete for CDS.

2025 WDSF CHAMPIONSHIPS/CUPS Results

Only a handful of CDS athletes competed in WDSF World events in 2025. Here are their results. Although official invitations were sent to the CDS Board & qualified athletes many elected not to participate in certain WDSF World events due to location of the event.

Junior

WDSF World Junior II Latin Championship in Sibiu - Romania on 2 November 2025.

53/54 Mark Kravtsov - Polina Kazantseva

Youth

WDSF World Youth Breaking B-Boys in Porto - Portugal on 28 August 2025.

73/190 B-Boy Nightmare - Alexis Gagné
123/190 B-Boy Ash1 - Asher Chase Melanson
138/190 B-Boy Sparrow - Laurent Louis Gagné
142/190 B-Boy Lakut - Paul Atanas Lazarov

WDSF World Youth 10 Dance Championship in Bremen - Germany on 8 June 2025.

30/36 Patrick Vasile Buscu - Sophia Moangher

Under 21

WDSF U21 Latin in Bremen - Germany on 7 June 2025.

54/54 Patrick Vasile Buscu - Sophia Moangher

WDSF World U21 10 Dance Championship in Vila Nova de Famalicão - Portugal on 8 November

19/32. Patrick Vasile Buscu - Sophia Moangher

Adult

WDSF World Championships taken place in Fukuoka Kurume City - Japan on 12 - 13 December 2025.

Adult Breaking 1 vs 1 B-Boys

70/96 B-Boy Salty Vibz - Romain Gailhaguet

Adult Breaking 1 vs 1 B-Girls

76/77 B-Girl Grinz - Kelley Korf-Uzan

Senior III

WDSF World Senior III Latin in Vienna - Austria on 18 July 2025.

34/110 So Heung Sub - Jessie Du
46. – 47/110 Victor Tsemko - Sylvie Bourguignon
82. – 84/110 Hugh Zhu - Lan Wang

WDSF/CDS Officials

Currently in 2026 we have:

2 WDSF General "A" Adjudicators, 2 WDSF Chairmen

4 WDSF Breaking Judge "A", & 2 Breaking Head Judges/Chairman

Some CDS officials chose not to renew since:

- (a) No WDSF competition in Canada this past year and they were not asked to judge in another country
- (b) WDSF Adjudicators are required to attend a WDSF Congress once every 2 years and a couple of adjudicators have not attended a Congress since 2019 and no longer are Congresses held virtually. CDS cannot afford to hold an in-person Congress for only a couple of people.

WDSF AGM

The 2025 WDSF AGM with the Forum & the General AGM was held on June 14/15, 2025 in Bucharest, Romania. It was well attended with Pinky & myself as delegates for CDS

The 2026 WDSF AGM will be held back in June in Rome, Italy.

Wheel Dance of Canada

Dr Iris Kulbatski has been successful as an Associate Member of CDS.

Future Plans

We need to:

- a) Develop a plan to encourage promoters to run CDS Recognized competitions across Canada & entice DanceSport athletes to attend CDS Recognized competitions.
- b) Discuss how we can make competitions more economically feasible.
- c) Brainstorm in our CDS AGM how to attract board members & athletes to join our Regional Associations
- d) Develop a CCC schedule for next few years

Acknowledgements

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to:

- **Geoff Reyes**, for his leadership in the Breaking program and extensive collaboration with COC, Sport Canada, & CCES.
- **Pinky Wong**, CDS VP, for her continued support across multiple operational areas such as WDSF, Breaking, Sport Canada, Safe Sport, CDS forms & policies, and CDS discussions to name.
- All CDS Board members and CDS Regional Associations for their dedication and volunteer efforts

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Brittain,
President, Canada DanceSport