

2018 Membership Dancer Survey - August 6, 2018

Q1 - When you first tried Scottish Country Dance (SCD) classes, what motivated you to come back again?

When you first tried Scottish Country Dance (SCD) classes, what motivated y...

i enjoyed it and the people and it was affordable

Friendly folks.

enjoyment of the dances and community

Sense of community and the music

Liked the music and other people in class were welcoming

Intriguing type of dancing; encouragement of other dancers

enjoyed learning how to do the dances

Remember a dance's figures, Scottish dance has easy footwork with high-energy fast skipping + setting with practice, the man doesn't need to lead.

To do a social activity with my wife

People and music

The kind teacher, other dancers and the need to have a scheduled activity.

Having fun!

Friendly people and an enthusiastic significant other.

The music, the idea of learning the dances, and seeing the fun everybody was having.

The music!

The dancing was fun, and the dancers made me feel welcome.

joy of the dance

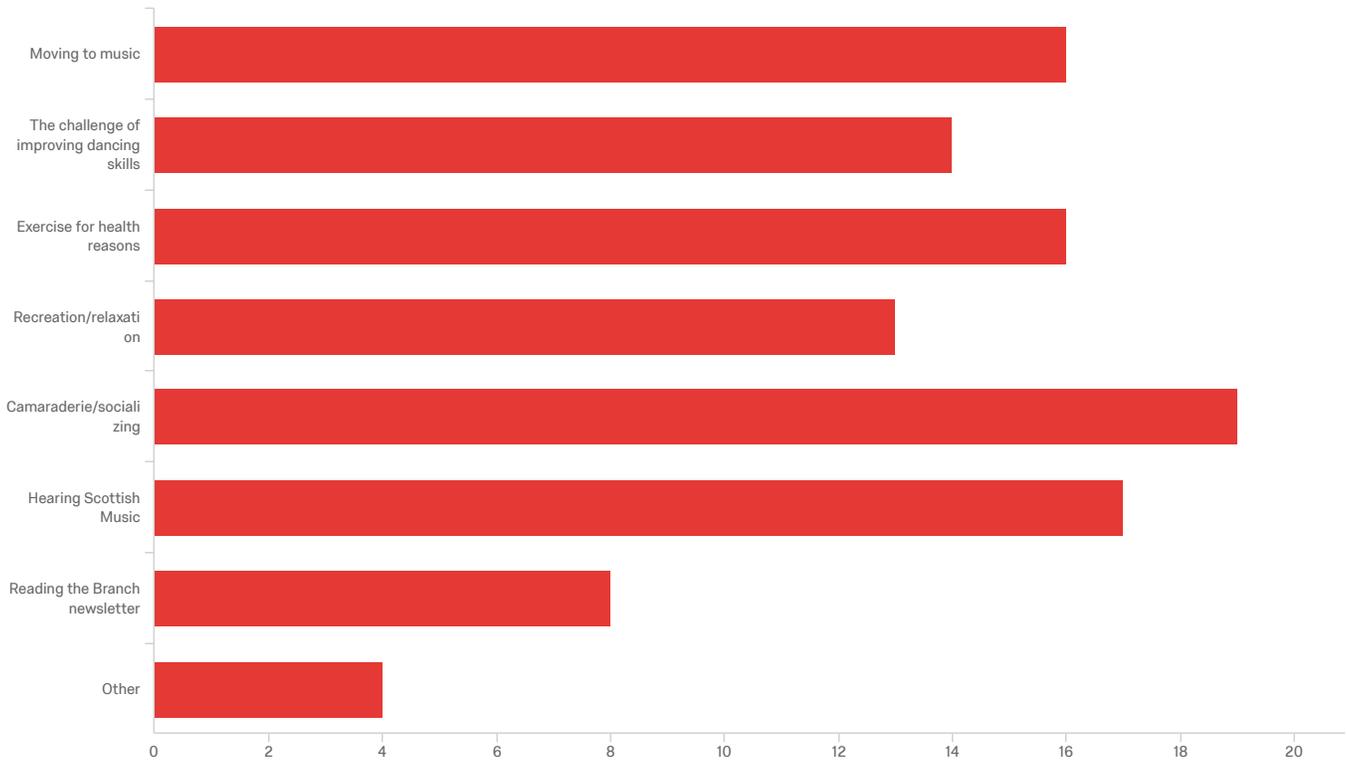
The challenge of seeing if I could catch on to it.

It was fun and the price was right.

Showing Records: 1 - 19 Of 19

When you first tried Scottish Country Dance (SCD) classes, what motivated y...

Q2 - What motivates you now to continue participating in SCD activities? (Choose as many as apply.)



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Moving to music	14.95% 16
2	The challenge of improving dancing skills	13.08% 14
3	Exercise for health reasons	14.95% 16
4	Recreation/relaxation	12.15% 13
5	Camaraderie/socializing	17.76% 19
6	Hearing Scottish Music	15.89% 17
7	Reading the Branch newsletter	7.48% 8
8	Other	3.74% 4

107

Showing Rows: 1 - 9 Of 9

Other

Other

learning interesting or challenging dances

Variety with my other folk dance forms.

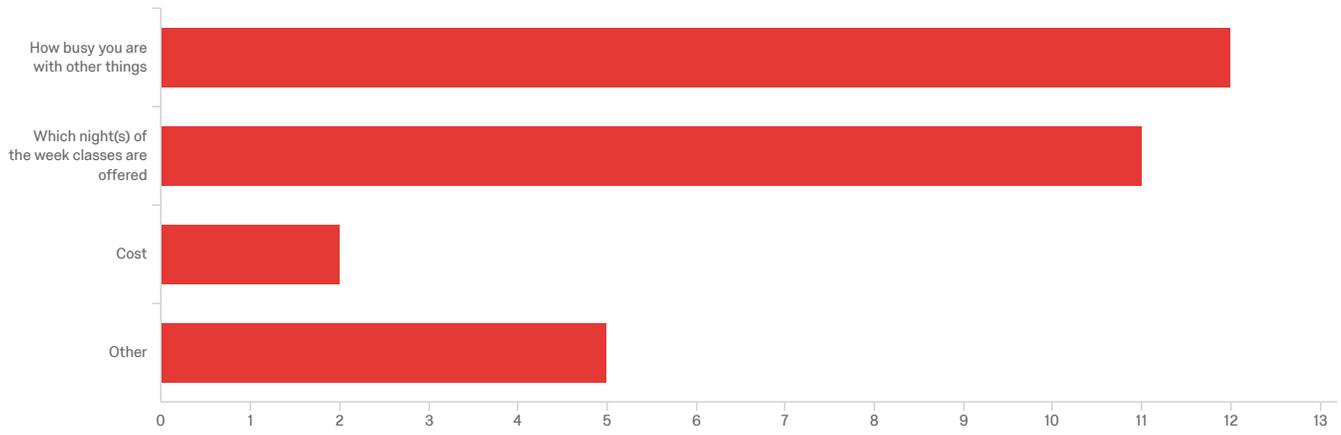
brain health and physical coordination

challenge of remembering patterns

Showing Records: 1 - 4 Of 4

Q3 - What are the main factors that determine how often you attend SCD classes?

(Choose as many as apply.)



#	Field	Choice Count
1	How busy you are with other things	40.00% 12
2	Which night(s) of the week classes are offered	36.67% 11
3	Cost	6.67% 2
4	Other	16.67% 5
		30

Showing Rows: 1 - 5 Of 5

Other

Other

location of class; how frequently I want to attend dance class

I like to dance several days a week for health. I attend all the classes.

Work commitment

Quality of the teaching

age and location

Showing Records: 1 - 5 Of 5

Q4 - If you attend classes much less frequently now than in the past, why?

work schedule, distance to classes, class times

Medical problems with a family member.

joint issues and other obligations

can be boring for an experienced dancer if each session heavily caters to beginners; while having beginners in class is encouraging, it also strongly limits the range of dances that may be taught

cost

N/A

No, the opposite - I attend as many classes as possible

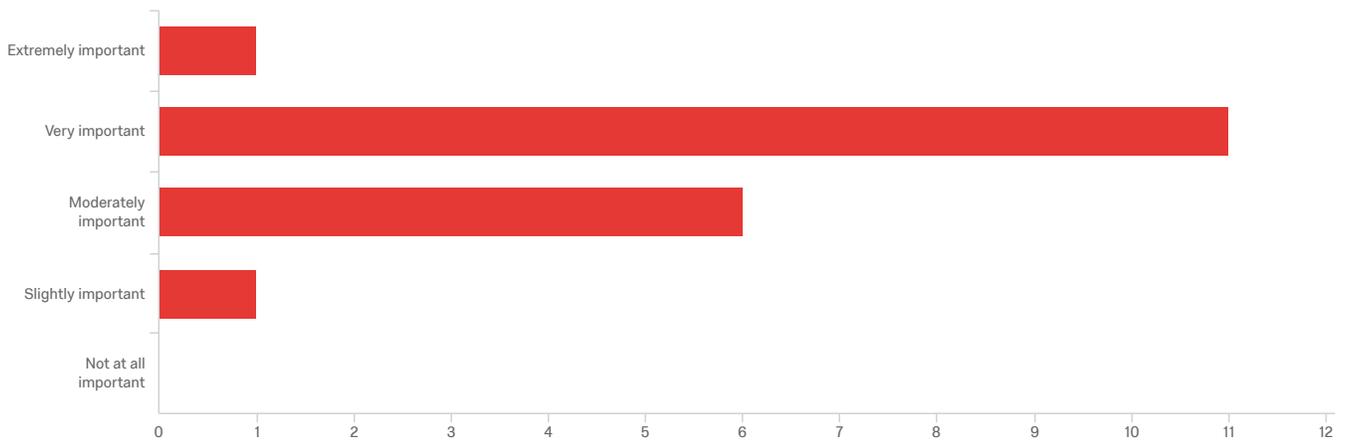
Not sure this applies to me as I am an affiliate member and don't attend classes, but work schedule is generally what prevents me from attending things

N/A

aging feet

N/A

Q5 - How important is encouraging social friendships with activities beyond classes?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How important is encouraging social friendships with activities beyond classes?	18.00	21.00	19.37	0.67	0.44	19

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Extremely important	5.26% 1
2	Very important	57.89% 11
3	Moderately important	31.58% 6
4	Slightly important	5.26% 1
5	Not at all important	0.00% 0

19

Showing Rows: 1 - 6 Of 6

Q6 - What can the Branch provide that would help you invite friends to dance classes?

What can the Branch provide that would help you invite friends to dance cla...

I don't know at the moment. Will think on that.

Small flyers with details on where to dance

Can't think of anything

Cards with website and class information.

Specific mentor who would greet first time attendees and check in with them before they leave to encourage them to come back; ask and answer questions etc and be welcoming, supportive, and encouraging.

Not sure

NA

It would be easier to invite friends if the group already had a diversity of ages (chicken/egg)

Something portable, like a business card, with the Branch's basic contact info and a link to the Branch's website

classes specifically for beginners

Be more willing to ask new people to dance.

Teacher reminder to do so. Flyers to hand out about 5th Tuesday. Coupons for one free dance class.

Showing Records: 1 - 12 Of 12

Q7 - What suggestions do you have for recruiting new dancers?

What suggestions do you have for recruiting new dancers?

None at the moment.

Demos at community events, homeschooling parents and children

wish I had some new ideas

Show videos of what Scottish dance is like. Dance in public to increase awareness for SCD.

1) Video on SW branch and PDX websites specifically addressing the reservations that someone new to SCD and dancing in general would have; 2) video by young people for young people encouraging them to try dancing and SCD in particular; 3) photos on websites with mixed race dancers 4) get the contact info for every new dancer and follow up with emails with attachments or embedded content to encourage them to come back and remind them of the class schedule 5) remind new dancers of the reasons above why we already think SCD is fun and encourage them to give dancing enough of a chance for them to make friends, discover the mental, social, and physical benefits 6) hold classes at semi-public school venues where people can watch 7) send the survey to a target audience that we want to attract as dancers, rather than to the small number of us who already are SCDancers 8) give demonstrations at Renaissance fairs and Celtic fairs rather than the Highland Games 9) offer a SCD class at a dance school or community college where there are other dance classes for adults; 10) don't focus on young people, focus on getting ages 50 and above to learn about and try SCD

With so many people moving to this area and not knowing anyone, I wonder if there's a way to advertise specifically to them. Not sure how that would be done but folks who have no contacts when they move to a place are usually looking for a way to meet people.

Put ad in the free ad section of the local newspapers; start a Meetup group; keep the fifth Tuesday and advertise it. Have a beginning class (45 minutes) followed by an intermediate class so beginners can see the evolution of a dancer and possibly begin to challenge themselves after a couple of months.

NA

Hold a contest for new dancers---attendance-related---and award a prize of free classes for a designated period of time. It would need to be promoted by CURRENTdancers, of course.

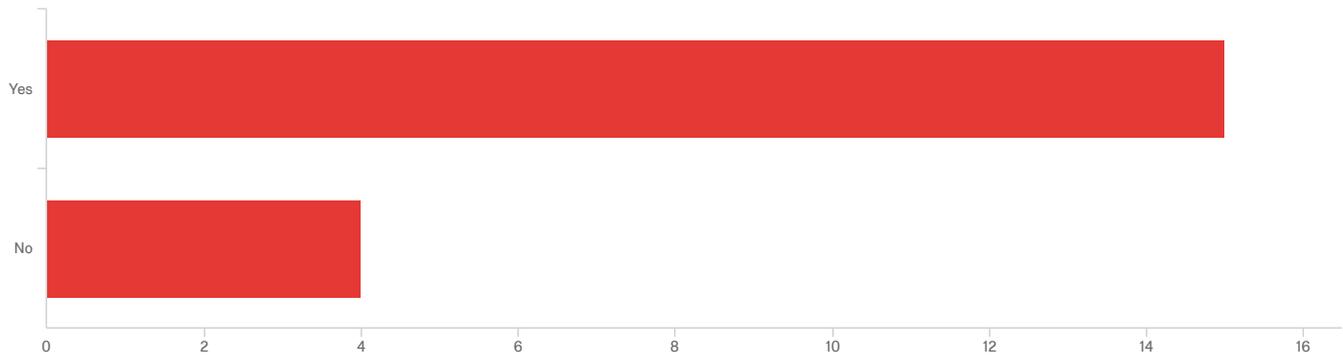
classes specifically for beginners. branch demonstrations including audience participation at all area highland games and related Scottish activities and other community events. improved local news and tv coverage of events and dances. cross pollination with other local dance forms - particularly english and contra is they exist locally.

Posting classes on Meetup. An article in Senior Messenger

give out coupons for free first class - maybe through Facebook and Groupon

Showing Records: 1 - 12 Of 12

Q8b - Do you prefer to attend more than one class a week?



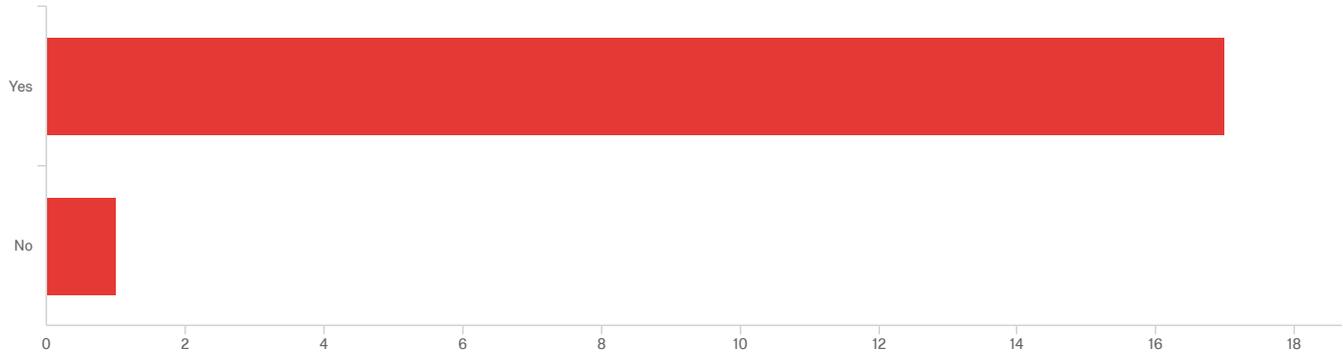
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you prefer to attend more than one class a week?	23.00	24.00	23.21	0.41	0.17	19

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	78.95% 15
2	No	21.05% 4
		19

Showing Rows: 1 - 3 Of 3

Q9a - The Branch offers classes for specific abilities (e.g. low impact, intermediate) as

well as general classes for any level. Do you like this kind of arrangement?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	The Branch offers classes for specific abilities (e.g. low impact, intermediate) as well as general classes for any level. Do you like this kind of arrangement?	23.00	24.00	23.06	0.23	0.05	18

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	94.44% 17
2	No	5.56% 1

18

Showing Rows: 1 - 3 Of 3

Q9b - If not, what would best meet your needs?

If not, what would best meet your needs?

I am curious how much the classes content are coordinated with one another? How do the teachers' specific content fit together in order to accomplish the collective class goals? Compared with teachers teaching whatever they want, independent of the other classes? I like to attend classes that move to music as much as possible. Dancing and practicing technique with dances we have learned, and teaching fewer new dances each class. A dedicated beginners class with a small number of beginners would need sufficient helper dancers. Teach recovery from mistakes so beginners do not feel intimidated by making mistakes, that mistakes are expected. Goal for beginners to feel confident to dance with experienced dancers. Consider the option for Geri's Wednesday class to become a Branch class in some capacity. Teaching a repertoire of commonly danced dances is an efficient use of learning time because the dances can be danced more than once. Versus an example: I attended a class that took 25 minutes to teach a Drewry dance that was danced in 6 minutes and we will probably never dance it again. Provide significant move-to-music dancing time in classes, more time to practice "dancing" technique versus more "dances". Dance programs could be designed with a combination of new-to-dancers and familiar dances, so there are fewer time-consuming new-to-dancers dances to teach.

However, there should be a more advanced class that truly is more advanced

I should say "mostly." A challenge class would be fun every now and then - with dances even more challenging than the Classics class.

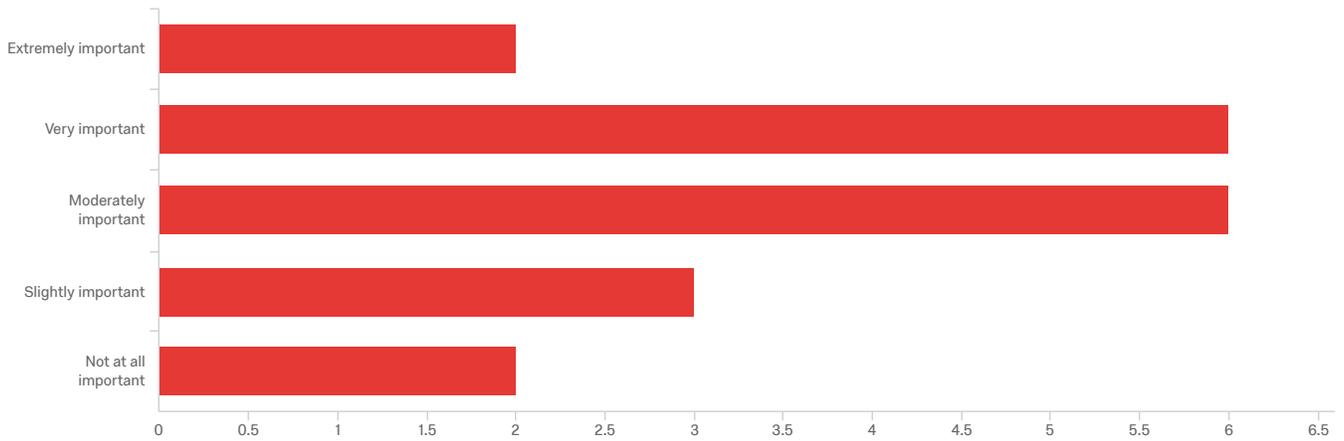
Comment on the above question: Marge's "adaptive" class is good, because it doesn't dumb down the dances but instead offers alternative dancing methods that can be adopted by those with the need to do so, while leaving everyone else free to retain the original figures and forms.

an advanced class focusing on interesting dances and technique would be nice. a dedicated beginners class is also needed. other than those items, the variety offered is good.

It should be made clear to all exactly what these classes are and who is welcome to attend.

Showing Records: 1 - 6 Of 6

Q10 - How important is it for the Branch to offer a dedicated beginner class?



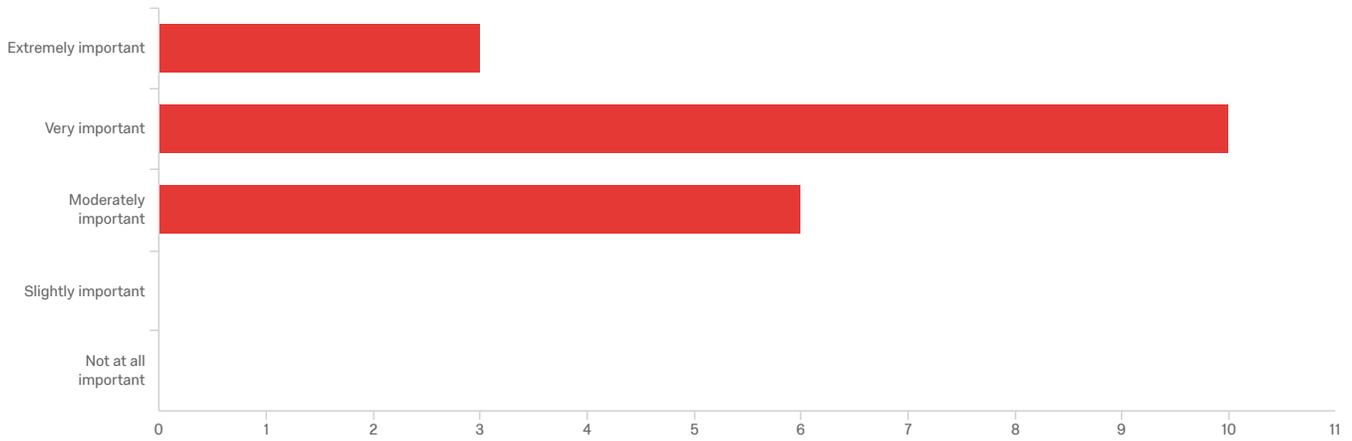
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How important is it for the Branch to offer a dedicated beginner class?	11.00	15.00	12.84	1.14	1.29	19

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Extremely important	10.53% 2
2	Very important	31.58% 6
3	Moderately important	31.58% 6
4	Slightly important	15.79% 3
5	Not at all important	10.53% 2

19

Showing Rows: 1 - 6 Of 6

Q11 - How important is it for dances on upcoming Vancouver/Portland programs to be taught in classes?

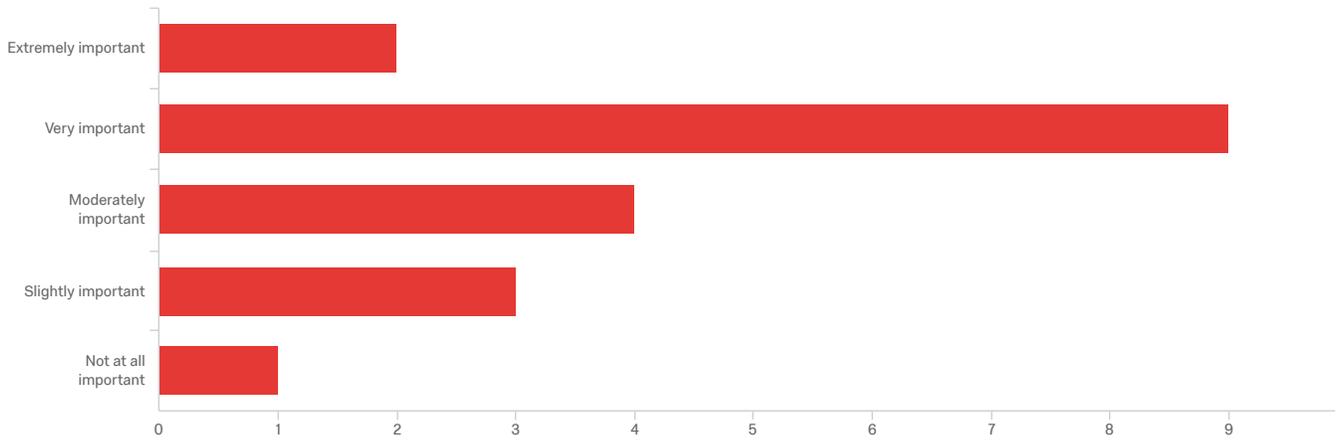


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How important is it for dances on upcoming Vancouver/Portland programs to be taught in classes?	11.00	13.00	12.16	0.67	0.45	19

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Extremely important	15.79% 3
2	Very important	52.63% 10
3	Moderately important	31.58% 6
4	Slightly important	0.00% 0
5	Not at all important	0.00% 0
		19

Showing Rows: 1 - 6 Of 6

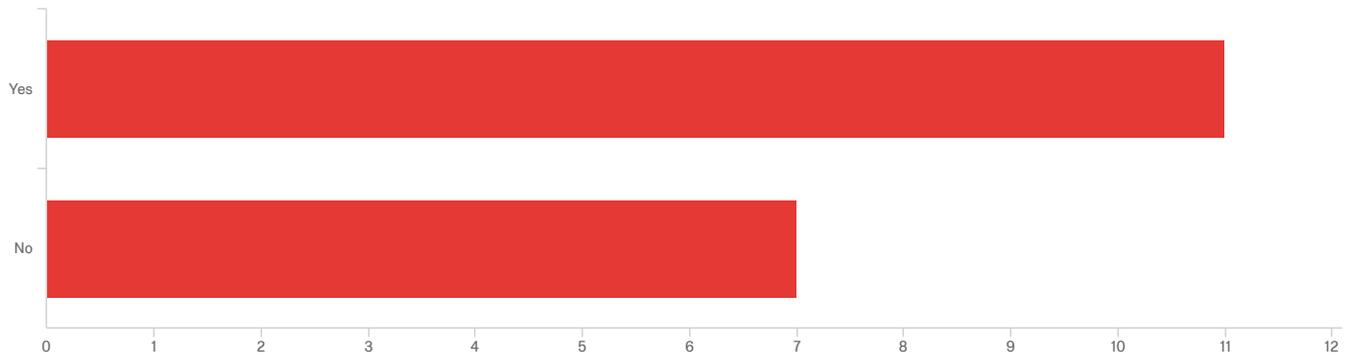
Q12 - How important is it to learn a core repertoire of dances that are commonly danced around the world?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How important is it to learn a core repertoire of dances that are commonly danced around the world?	11.00	15.00	12.58	1.04	1.09	19

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Extremely important	10.53% 2
2	Very important	47.37% 9
3	Moderately important	21.05% 4
4	Slightly important	15.79% 3
5	Not at all important	5.26% 1
		19

Q14 - Would you make use of a pre-paid class card?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Would you make use of a pre-paid class card?	33.00	34.00	33.39	0.49	0.24	18

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	61.11% 11
2	No	38.89% 7
		18

Showing Rows: 1 - 3 Of 3

Q15b - Our Branch offers four dances in a year: October dance (beginner da

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Not at the moment.

No

This format has good variety. The Friday dance class could be considered as a more-frequent "dance" with recorded music.

All good, but hadn't previously been communicated to me this way

My only suggestion would be to have some more difficult dances on the programs. The February dance was a good mix and it would be nice to see more than one or two challenging dances on the dinner dance program.

No

No

There may be a "saturation point" in the number of dances held, that we don't want to exceed.

Seems like a nice variety and balance: beg-adv, casual/formal, short/long program

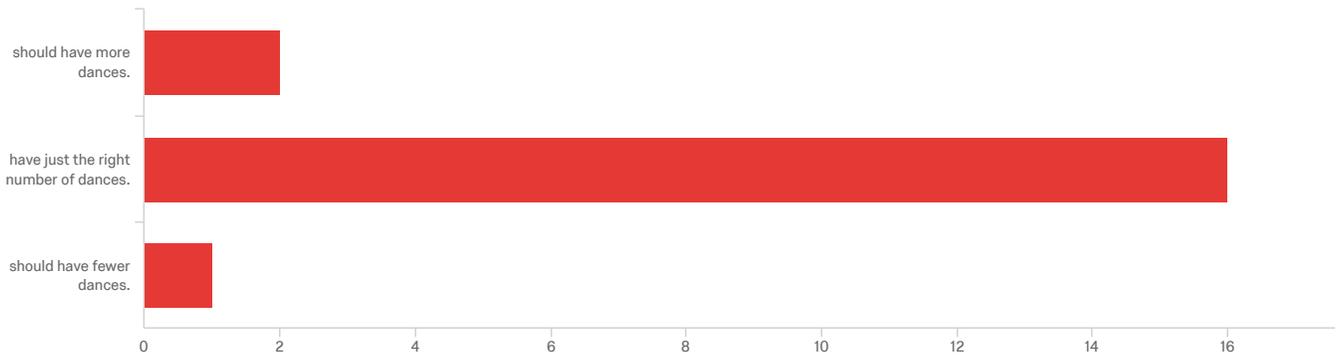
don't focus on the dance program dances in every class.

Making sure they are beginner dance friendly.

January Dance that is not formal - more like a party.

Showing Records: 1 - 12 Of 12

Q16 - In your opinion, we:

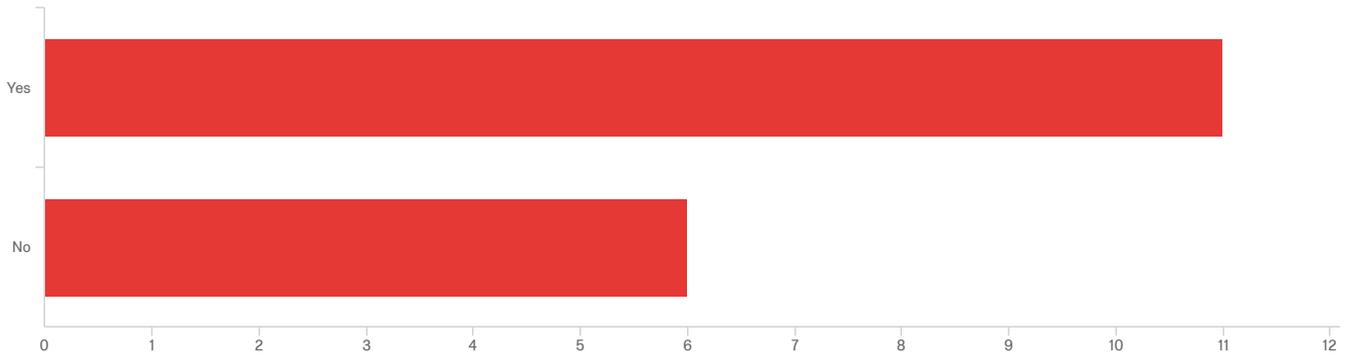


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	In your opinion, we:	1.00	3.00	1.95	0.39	0.16	19

#	Field	Choice Count
1	should have more dances.	10.53% 2
2	have just the right number of dances.	84.21% 16
3	should have fewer dances.	5.26% 1
		19

Showing Rows: 1 - 4 Of 4

Q17 - Should we host an occasional special dance event to celebrate the Branch, reward ourselves, draw a larger dancer audience? (e.g., nicer venue, more and/or different musicians, possibly more expensive)



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Should we host an occasional special dance event to celebrate the Branch, reward ourselves, draw a larger dancer audience? (e.g., nicer venue, more and/or different musicians, possibly more expensive)	1.00	2.00	1.35	0.48	0.23	17

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	64.71% 11
2	No	35.29% 6

17

Showing Rows: 1 - 3 Of 3

Q18 - If you don't often attend our Branch dances, why?

If you don't often attend our Branch dances, why?

work schedule

I live too far away

N/A

Find ways to prepare dancers for dances; address people's fears and help them get through dances

Travel distance (south of Albany) and personal schedule conflicts

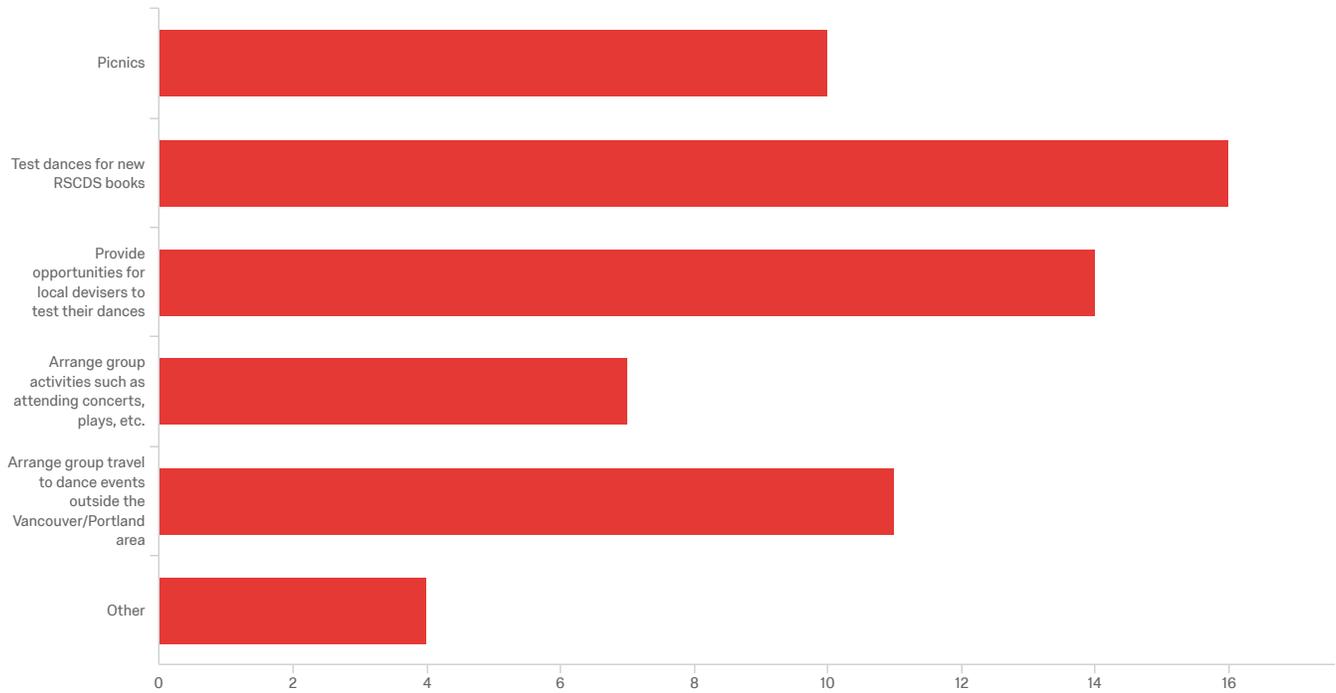
N/A

kilt no longer fits having shrunk over the years.

Members have been together for a long time and don't always welcome newer dancers.

Showing Records: 1 - 8 Of 8

Q19b - Which activities would you like to see our Branch provide? (Choose as many as apply.)



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Picnics	16.13% 10
2	Test dances for new RSCDS books	25.81% 16
3	Provide opportunities for local devisers to test their dances	22.58% 14
4	Arrange group activities such as attending concerts, plays, etc.	11.29% 7
5	Arrange group travel to dance events outside the Vancouver/Portland area	17.74% 11
6	Other	6.45% 4
		62

Showing Rows: 1 - 7 Of 7

Other

Other

meet for meal; tea or drinks after class;

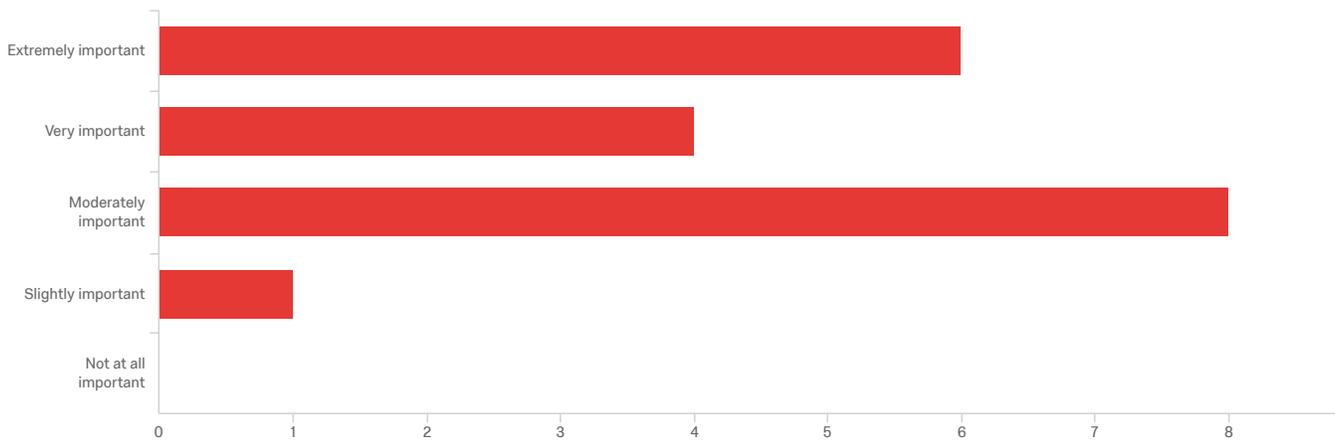
Dance projects like the Virtual Festival video, dance in public to increase awareness of SCD. Partner with international folk dance club to increase interest in SCD.

This isn't an other really, but we do a good job of numbers 4 and 5 already.

demonstration group

Showing Records: 1 - 4 Of 4

Q20 - How important is it to partner with the Portland branch?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How important is it to partner with the Portland branch?	1.00	4.00	2.21	0.95	0.90	19

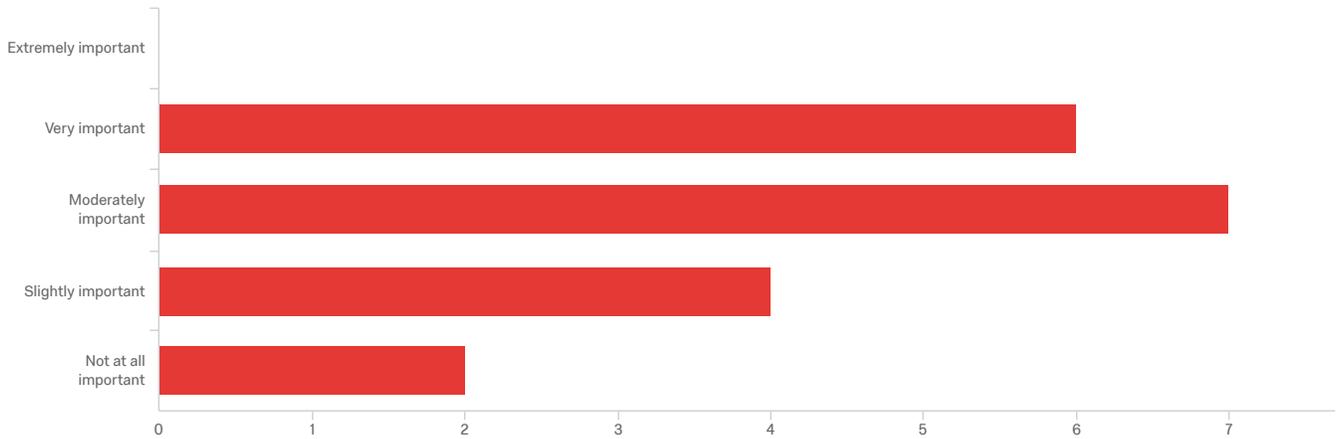
#	Field	Choice Count
1	Extremely important	31.58% 6
2	Very important	21.05% 4
3	Moderately important	42.11% 8
4	Slightly important	5.26% 1
5	Not at all important	0.00% 0

19

Showing Rows: 1 - 6 Of 6

Q21 - How important is it to partner with other organizations? e.g. pipe bands, Portland

Highland Games, other folk dance forms.



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How important is it to partner with other organizations? e.g. pipe bands, Portland Highland Games, other folk dance forms.	2.00	5.00	3.11	0.97	0.94	19

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Extremely important	0.00% 0
2	Very important	31.58% 6
3	Moderately important	36.84% 7
4	Slightly important	21.05% 4
5	Not at all important	10.53% 2

19

Showing Rows: 1 - 6 Of 6

Q22b - Our Branch offers many opportunities for building your skills beyond dancing. For example, help with administrative tasks, author a newsletter item, chair a dance (checklist provided), emcee at a dance, run a performance, serve on the Board (meets 6 times a year), manage the website, manage the Facebook page, edit the newsletter, play music for classes or dances, become a teacher. Which of these personal development opportunities might you be interested in pursuing?

Our Branch offers many opportunities for building your skills beyond dancin...

I'm full up at the moment, so no additional atm

At the moment, I'm busy with newsletter for both branches. :-)

teach, author newsletter items, emcee/brief, edit, assist with administrative, work on social events/dances

Serve on Board, manage Facebook page, learn basic teaching skills to help lead performances.

Will be interested to help out more when I have more time

I've done a few of these already.

Author a newsletter item, chair a dance

NA

Emcee at a dance

laughter

Administrative tasks, hosting small discussion classes in my home.

Showing Records: 1 - 11 Of 11

Q23 - What is an appropriate form of recognition to give those helping with Branch activities?

What is an appropriate form of recognition to give those helping with Branch...

I've liked some form of little gift and recognition at dances.

special dessert at dances?

thank you card, simple tartan ribbon pin to wear at event, one free class, mention in newsletter, post names on large sheet on a wall at an event so others know who to personally thank

at least vocal recognition, followed by newsletter article

Announce recognition in newsletters and permanent documents.

public gratitude and party

Simple thank yous, whether written or spoken, are so important. Often those in charge only hear "they should do this or that" comments. Cards signed by dancers or small gift cards (small as in dollar amount, not size) are a nice touch.

Not sure what you mean...hmmm...maybe the chair of a dance should get free admission

Call outs in the newsletter, personal thank you notes/comments

Public thanks at said activities; signed (by multiple people) thank you cards, small gift cards and public thanks for helpers with extensive time commitments for said branch occupations.

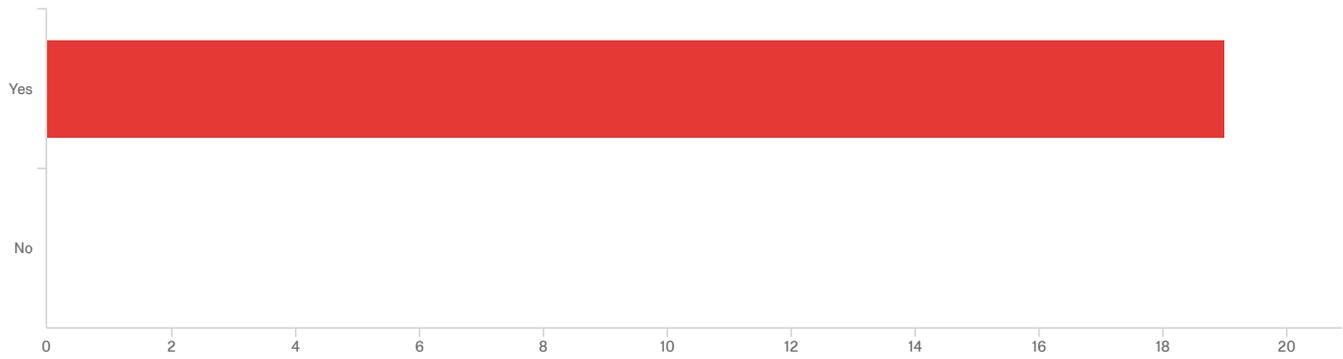
public acknowledgement with hand-signed greeting card; gift card

name recognition in the newsletter

Introduce them frequently so everyone knows who they are, what they do, and can thank them.

Hand written thank-you note.

Q24a - Are you a member of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS)?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Are you a member of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS)?	26.00	26.00	26.00	0.00	0.00	19

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	100.00% 19
2	No	0.00% 0
		19

Showing Rows: 1 - 3 Of 3

Q24b - Why or why not?

Why or why not?

it supports the branch to be a member

Information about dancing world wide

Right thing to do

Because

Effort to standardize SCD, train teachers. I wish they would support fiddle & piano music recordings.

Want to financially support the SCD community

I think it's important to support the world-wide effort to promote SCD.

I like being connected to the larger world of Scottish Country Dance!

It seemed the right and proper thing to do.

To keep up with what's happening, and to support the RSCDS

It seems a very small price to pay for supporting a world wide organization devoted to SCD.

to promote Scottish Country Dancing in general, and for the things the RSCDS provides (standardized/quality teacher training, publications of new dances and music)

economic coercion and i'm annoyed with the rscds for no longer offering life memberships.

Showing Records: 1 - 13 Of 13

Q25 - What are your suggestions for encouraging local dancers to join our Branch?

What are your suggestions for encouraging local dancers to join our Branch?

Appeal to their better nature, altruism(?)

make it easy for them to sign up; offer class discounts to members; publicize the benefits (HQ newsletters, dance books)

Financial incentive: classes discount to members.

PDX should be a non-profit, like SWW, so it is tax deductible; publicize it more. Need more perks for being an RSCDS member. Most people say that they already pay for each class, so what extra benefit comes with Branch membership?

We go round and round with this. People like to try new things but they don't want to feel stupid while learning new things so it's very important that advanced dancers aren't rolling their eyes when someone forgets what casting is or "helping" too much, especially when the teacher is teaching. Not sure that answered the question.

Discounted class rates for members.

Make SCD and our Branch more visible, and more visibly FUN

Make new members (in a given membership year) eligible for a drawing for some free classes (TBD)

reduced prices for beginners classes. classes for children/young adults have been successful in some areas.

Talk to those at other types of dance classes our members attend.

Teacher mention this at least once a month.

Showing Records: 1 - 11 Of 11

Q26 - Current sources of Branch revenue are: Classes (currently break even or deficit) Dances (currently break even or deficit) Paid demos Tax-deductible donations to our Branch as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation What are your suggestions for other revenue sources to support our Branch activities?

Current sources of Branch revenue are: Classes (currently break eve...

Bake sales(?)

Perhaps we are being a bit generous in our teacher pay? Do they really need to receive special bonus payments in addition to the recent raise? Was the raise too much?

Gaining new dancers to cover the fixed costs is a revenue source. Raise public awareness of Scottish country dance.

Corporate sponsors; government grants; figure out a kickstarter event to fund

Rummage sale at a heavily trafficked location, raffle of highly desirable item (not always easy to obtain), encourage Bill Gates to join our branch and donate money.

Increase paid demos, make sure the charge for dance entrance is comparable to other RSCDS organizations.

There may be some grants available for special events, but they bring their own set of headaches. Maybe some sponsors?

1. Do more demos. 2. Charge \$5 admission for something like A Scottish Afternoon (dance demo, Scottish music performance, ceilidh dances, raffle, games with small prizes, tea, and treats) 3. Promote SWWS at the PHG ceilidh dance. (Have flyers to hand out.) 4. Do even MORE demos.

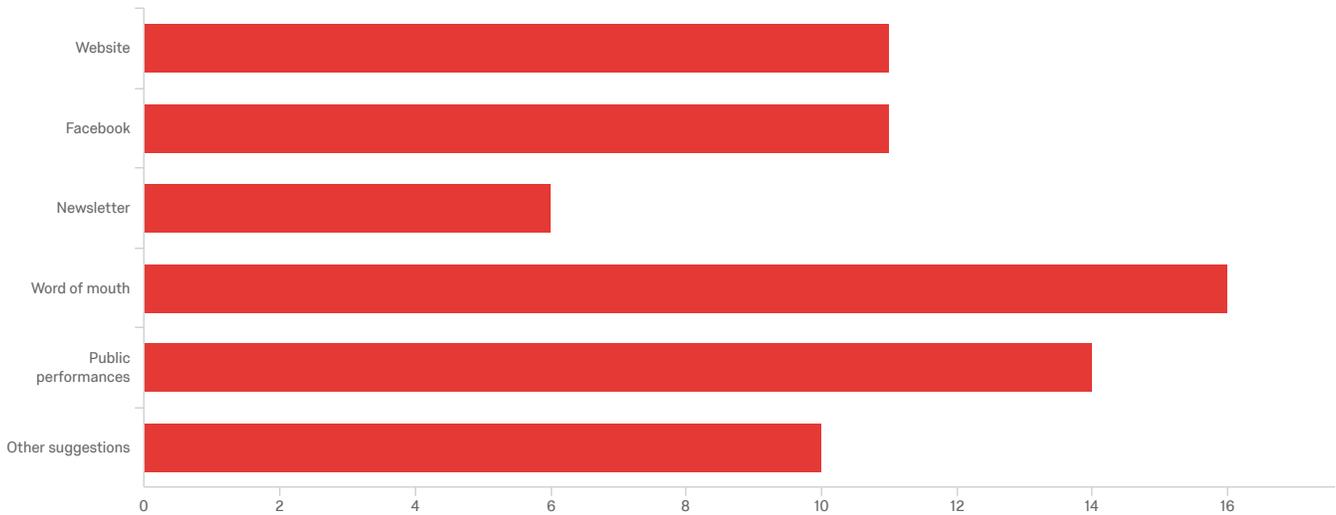
lotto. foundation grants to support scottish culture.

Donations for performing at events other than our own.

Ask for Donations from September through December. Maybe provide a donation envelope.

Showing Records: 1 - 11 Of 11

Q27 - Which of these methods are important for advertising Scottish country dance in our community? (Choose as many as apply.)



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Website	16.18% 11
2	Facebook	16.18% 11
3	Newsletter	8.82% 6
4	Word of mouth	23.53% 16
5	Public performances	20.59% 14
6	Other suggestions	14.71% 10
		68

Showing Rows: 1 - 7 Of 7

Other suggestions

Other suggestions

occasional advertising

Interaction / joint programs with the other folk dance groups in the area

being listed on general folk dance web sites or sites that list places to dance in the area; visitors/newcomers to the area do use these resources

Dance in the park during the summer before fall classes.

advertising on third party websites and social BLOGS

Use the free ad section in local papers

Newspaper articles

Use judiciously posted flyers.

tv and news coverage of events and classes

Meetup.

Showing Records: 1 - 10 Of 10

Q28 - With which of these might you be interested in helping?

With which of these might you be interested in helping?

I help in several at the moment.

Performances

coordinating with other website owners

depending on the whens, public demos

All.

I talk up country dancing to anyone I think might be interested in it and have used FB in the past to advertise.

Other suggestion box is not expanding so I'll add another idea here: Meetup most groups use this for attracting and signing up participants.

make a flyer - quarter-page size is good - more room than a business card for info and colorful design, and you get 4 to a sheet of paper.

Wurd of mouth. Public performances

Showing Records: 1 - 9 Of 9

Q29b - Do you have any other suggestions for our Branch?

Do you have any other suggestions for our Branch?

plan for periodic informal socializing after classes; supply dance booklets/cheats at the formal dinner dance; follow up post class with dancers that come to try a class to encourage them to come back/try another class; run a beginners class or split a class into beginner and experience portions; help beginners find dance shoes and to learn about internet resources such as dance videos and cribs

Think about contingency plans, if interest in Scottish dance continues to decline.

For the most part, the branch does a great job of having excellent teachers and fun events and of being welcoming to new dancers.

Sadly, no.

keep dancing; the pasture needs to be graded to be level; this is hardly an anonymous survey but i sit by my answers.

Have informal classes/discussions hosted in homes to explain how to find the dances on the internet, reading the written forms of the dances, other info about the dancing.

Don't give up.

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