



# Ontario DanceSport

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## 2023/2024 ANNUAL REPORT of ODS PRESIDENT

The following is the current ODS board of directors:

Gordon Brittain	President	Iliia Matveev	Director/Membership
Marcin Kwietniewski	Vice president	Candy Leung/Nixon Wu	Volunteer only webmasters
Dave Winn	Treasurer		
Debbie McKelvey	Secretary		

### **Membership**

As of December 31, 2023, which is ODS' year end, we had 168 ODS members (143 Std. & Lt. & 25 Breaking – 1 – YO & 24 AD).

Currently, I am doing the ODS membership as Henry List, due to his health problems has to resign. Iliia will be assuming this position very soon.

The current age category is: JV I = (29), JV II (8), JR I = (8), JR II (10), YO = (8), AD = (4), SR I = (4), SR II = (4), SR III = (22), SR IV = (23) for a total of 120 members. Since most are renewed for Ontario Championships & CCC, I do not expect many more except Breakers who have not renewed yet. We lost some top adult competitors to DanceSport Heritage boycotting WDSF & its National members. We had a large influx of Ottawa children joining ODS in order to compete in DSQ competitions, but its 4-5 hours to come to Toronto, so our ODS competitions are not reaping the benefits of these new young ODS members!

### **RESULTS OF ODS ATHLETES**

#### **2023 WDSF World CHAMPIONSHIPS**

##### **World Junior Latin Championships – Portugal**

October 28, 2023 – Daniel Reunov & Marielle Shvaitser, Ontario

##### **World Youth Standard Championships - Hungary**

September 23, 2023 – Nathaniel Petrov & Katusha Petrova, Ontario

##### **World Senior I 10 Dance Championships – Germany**

Marcin Kwietniewski & Monika Kwietniewska, Ontario

Congratulations to all ODS athletes who participated in different WDSF World championships in 2023.

### **Breaking**

Onton See and Tiffany Leung both attended the **Pan Am Games**, as qualifiers for the 2024 Olympics.

At the **2023 Canadian Closed Championships** ODS competitors did extremely well with the following becoming Canadian Champions

Junior Standard & Ten Dance Champions: Danil Akimov & Anna Osminin

Youth Standard, Latin, Ten Dance Champions : Nathaniel Petrov & Katrina Petrova

Under 21 Standard, Latin, Ten Dance Champions : Thomas Zinger & Sarah Stolarsky

Adult Standard, Latin, & Ten Dance Champions: Thomas Zinger & Sarah Stolarsky

Senior I Standard, Latin, & Ten Dance Champions: Marcin Kwietniewski & Monika Kwietniewska



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## **2023/24 ODS Sanctioned/Registered Competitions**

September 17, 2023 the first 2023 Stars DanceSport Festival was held at the Westway Club organized by Phil Lee, Patricia Goh, Ralph and Theresa Yuan. It was well attended by many competitors from Syllabus to Championship Standard and Latin events, as well many Solo and Singles events. Competitors were given judges comments after the event.

**February 24, 2024** ODS hosted the **2024 Ontario Championships**, at the Thornhill Community Centre. This was the 2024 qualifier for ODS competitors to qualify them to dance at the upcoming 66<sup>th</sup> 2024 Canadian Closed Championships being held this year at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto. Again, we did not call it a "Closed" event with the hopes that we may get entries from out of province competitors. Which we did, we had two couples from Quebec and one couple from the USA. The event was well attended by Championship level athletes but not well attended by lower level athletes or spectators.

## **2024 Canadian Closed Championships – Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20, 2024.**

With the help of two ODS couples, Harry and Teresa Knox and Marcin & Monika Kwietniewski, who took it upon themselves and made an effort of calling and/or visiting various venues throughout Toronto and Mississauga for our upcoming 2024 CCC. This turned out to be quite a challenge due to various costs the hotels wanted to charge for their ballrooms, which did not include a wooden floor in the ballroom, or in any practice hall, they may have had, so in addition to renting the halls, we would also have had to rent a wooden floor from an outside vendor. We visited and secured the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre located in Don Mills area of Toronto.

The Toronto Don Valley Hotel and Suites was booked to accommodate our official Judges, CDS Executives, ODS Executives and all out of town competitors. Rates and information about the booking of the hotel were on the Official package on the ODS and CDS website, as well as it was distributed to all the Regional Associations.

7 Judges and other officials were confirmed for this event.

## **Other Dance organizations in Ontario and Canada**

This past year we have also experienced the NDCC/CDF running numerous competitions, galas, & showcases in Ontario but especially in the Toronto area. They are run in fancy, expensive hotels and often offer a gala dinner & top couple as a show. They have taken the dates we used for our ODS competitions with in March, they ran 2 competitions very close to our Ontario Championships, in April to coincide with our CCC, they are running a big event just before us, and in the fall of 2024, they are running every weekend in October plus another in November & December! Two of these same promoters are running a few of these events. This makes it impossible to schedule an ODS fall competition! To make matters worse they are using our long recognized Ontario titles, which confuses members who are not familiar with the difference in the 2 organizations. By them running so many events it has affected our entries from lower level categories and our spectator base.

This year, due to CDF decisions, not only their judges, but now, as of January 1, 2024, all of their various other officials, who belong to them as members, are no longer allowed to sign contracts with no one else but them. If they do, they will no longer be allowed to perform any work/jobs for them. This includes, but not limited to, Scrutineers, DJ's, MC's, etc. [Talk about freedom of work in Canada.](#)

## **Financial**

ODS still has the following regular expenditures- insurance, web hosting, office expenses, and moneris (credit card) fees.

## **Relationship with the Ontario Professionals**



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ODS continues to have a good working relationship with our amateur friendly CDS-PD professionals in Ontario & other Provinces.

## **Vacancies on the Ontario DanceSport Board**

As mentioned last year in my report, ODS is having extreme difficulty getting any of our members to take any interest at all by taking a position on the **ODS board**. Many on the current Board have all dedicated well over 35/40 years to Ontario DanceSport, both as past competitors and serving on the ODS Board.

## **Summary**

If ODS wants to continue to run competitions then it is imperative that the ODS members/friends get more involved by being on the board since some are seniors who would be planning to retire from the board but are willing to help. We need more ODS past athletes to become judges and teach lower level classes for competitors that will support ODS competitions. Finally, we need more ODS promoters running competitions, even if they are smaller competitions held in studios or smaller venues.

Respectively submitted by  
Gord Brittain, ODS President