



Canada DanceSport

DanseSport Canada

1116 Harvest Drive, Pickering, Ontario, Canada, L1X 1B6
Telephone: 905-831-2426 Facsimile: 905-831-6430 E-Mail: cadapresident@rogers.com

MINUTES OF THE 2024 CDS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, April 18, 2024 at Toronto Don Valley Hotel & Suites, in the Gallery West Room

Delegates Present:

Sandy Brittain	Ontario, CDS President
Pinky Wong	British Columbia, CDS Vice President, DSBC President
Sy Jung	British Columbia, CDS Secretary, DSBC Vice President
Gord Brittain	Ontario, CDS Treasurer, ODS President
Marcin Kwietniewski	Ontario, ODS Vice President
Marjolaine Legace	Quebec, DSQ President
Rae Westlake	Quebec, DSQ Vice President
Diane James	Alberta, DSAB President
Gene Rassin	Alberta, DSAB Vice President
Patricia Goh	Ontario, CDS PD President

1. Call to Order at 9:15 a.m.
 - (a) Identification of Proxy Holders
 - (b) Determining Compliance with Bylaw 8.3
 - (c) Determining Compliance with Bylaw 6
 - (d) Chairman's RemarksProxies verified / Confirmed Bylaws compliance / Welcome and introduction of delegates
2. Approval of Agenda
Motion to accept Agenda – Moved by Rae; Seconded by Pinky
Approved Unanimously
3. Allocation of Time for Each Agenda Item.
Approximate times are allocated on the agenda. Pinky to be the timekeeper.
4. Approval of the Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting
Motion to approve April 27, 2023 AGM Minutes
Moved by Pinky; Seconded by Gord;
Approved Unanimously
5. Business Arising from the Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting
No business arising
6. President's Report

CDS has approximately 10 recognized comps this year whereas CDF has many more - almost every other weekend. CDS is a Not For Profit organization which is run either by Regional Associations or dance clubs where the profit does not go to one individual but is kept by Regional Association or dance club running the event. Whereas CDF is For-profit, making money on their pro-am events and then the money/profit is kept by the organizers. In Ontario CDF/NDCC promoters, which are for profit private studios. have taken dates that ODS traditionally hold competitions on & used titles given by ODS. They don't have a lot of rules and any dress code rules and syllabus rules are usually not followed.



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CDS Bursaries awarded to some CCC top Juniors in Alberta who want to compete in CDS/WDSF competitions. Most athletes & officials associated with DanceSport Heritage /Team Diablo left CDS & WDSF and their athletes competed in NDCC/WDC competitions.

Motion to accept report by Pinky; Seconded by Rae
Approved Unanimously

7. Vice-President's Report

Pinky has been assisting Sandy, and attending Zoom conference calls. Breaking has created a lot more work for CDS with so many new policies and guidelines, especially during the past year and currently, because this is an Olympic year. She appreciates the amount of work and time Sandy has devoted to Breaking and to CDS. We will have to see what happens to funding after the Olympics are over. November may have a WDSF World Adult Breaking Championship. Marcin asked if there could be more opportunities for more working together with Breaking. It appears not to be as the Breaking athletes are not responsive when asked to do a demo at one of our competitions.

Motion to accept report by Gord; Seconded by Gene
Approved Unanimously

8. Treasurer's Report

Breaking has created a lot more work on CDS Treasurer. He just had \$20,000 for Breaking deposited in the CDS account. Almost all of the grants received are for Breaking. Directors' Insurance is going up annually due to other sports having issues with Safe Sport (i.e., hockey, etc.). Some Championship level adults elected not going to Worlds this year due to Team Diablo/Dancesport Heritage leaving WDSF. Thomas Zinger & Sarah Stolarsky (6 different worlds) and Saamuel Rammo & Beatrice Oberfeld (2 worlds). This saved CDS \$2500 in bursaries

Motion to accept report by Sy; Seconded by Rae
Approved Unanimously

9. Auditor's Report

Moved by Marcin; Seconded by Marjolaine
Approved Unanimously

10. Presentation of Budget for the 2024 Association Year

Hard to project how much Breaking will be getting from IOC, Own the Podium, & Sport Canada. Only with figures that we know can we plan. Diane Backer's email re CRAD members for Alberta stating a cheque for \$1100 should be coming

11. Regional Associations' Reports:

- (a) DSQ membership dropped. There is an increase in Breaking memberships for Nationals held in Vancouver but memberships were only taken out in order to qualify. The extra-curricular school program is working well. There is a \$20 membership fee until the students compete. Then they will need to pay for their regular membership fees. November comp - lots of kids. There are two new judges from CDF.



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The Hit the Floor series joined DSQ in order to be eligible for government grants.

Motion to accept report by Pinky; Seconded by Gene
Approved Unanimously

- (b) ODS has 3 new Board members. Many members are not willing to join the board. It is expensive to run a competition in GTA since it would cost \$10,000 to rent a floor & using a hotel as a competition venue is too expensive and most wooden floors in hotels are now covered with carpet. OSIC Safe Sport consent form going online & all who signed a paper copy must now enroll online.

Motion to accept report by Diane; Seconded by Marjolaine
Approved Unanimously

- (c) DSAB currently has 102 members. Compared with Covid/Pre-Covid, membership is down. Some parents are willing to spend \$\$ to be able to represent Canada and the parent(s) will support. CCC was successful but Deerfoot Inn is no longer available. Shelly Crawford from Tourism Calgary helped to find 2 possible locations: University of Calgary where tables and seating are included, and a Municipal facility that has 2 basketball courts all in downtown Calgary. There would also be some kickback from local hotels. Souvenir programs are expensive to print and not many were sold. Edmonton kids supported the CCC & profit made \$6,000+. Saddened by the loss of Darren Yesmaniski who did so much for DSAB & DanceSport. One new judge, Peter Somolia, came over from CDF.

Motion to accept report by Gord; Seconded by Pinky
Approved Unanimously

- (d) DSBC has two new Directors; 1 breaker but not participating too much in DSBC tasks. Ram is still on the board but is very busy with his job and other volunteer work so did not have much time to help, but still does web updates. The Qualifier had lots of kids doing single & solos. They were awarded ribbons instead of medals. Snowball was held in November but did not have a lot of spectators, therefore, lost money as this is the first time it was not in a hotel. Received a grant of \$10,000. This was the 2nd year of IFB after Covid and Saturday evening was sold out. Gala Ball had more people this year but there are internal executive issues. Unsanctioned events run by Michelle, Clara and David include Challenge Cup-and two Sunday Fundays which were not well attended. The only wooden dance floor for rent is now sold to a couple of Arthur Murray teachers in BC. There is a good working relationship with the professionals.

Motion to accept report by Gord; Seconded by Sy
Approved Unanimously

(#

12. CDS PD Executive Director's Report - Stable membership. A signed registration is required to confirm membership and meet the Safe Sport requirements. Re-certification (exam) is available if previous certifications are not found. There is information on-line to start and PD has a training program. Elite/Senior Elite Athletes should be encouraged to



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become PD and stay with CDS after they have retired from competitions. CDS PD needs to be more inclusive. CDS lost Larissa & Elena due to Team Diablo/Dancesport Heritage requiring their members to no longer be associated with WDSF or its member countries. Suggestion of creating an Accelerated Program for top dancers to become amateur teachers & amateur judges after completing a course. To be used as Amateur Judges for syllabus level competitions or possibly Pre Champ but under supervision of a Professional Regional restrictions. Rock & Roll situation in Quebec but the dancers joined DSQ since under WDSF Rules CDS can not join the World Rock & Roll Federation. Question by Sandy if CCC will use 7 judges for Sr IV as a competitor claimed that Alberta only had 5 (upon checking though it was confirmed that 7 judges were used) as required by CDS Rule 18.71. Topics for tomorrow's sessions will be 1. Qualities of Good Dancing by Jitka Bouma & Phil Lee; 2. Barbara Wilson will be presenting on foot hygiene and how to protect the foot; 3. Stephen Johnson will do a presentation on explaining the Scrutineering system. They will be 20 minutes per session. There was a suggestion for a Recycle bin for medals that can be reused.

Motion to accept report by Gord; Seconded by Rae
Approved Unanimously

13. Report from Wheel Dance
Not presented
14. Report from Breaking Canada
Not presented

Break for lunch at 12:32pm

Reconvened at 1:06pm
Discussion of membership for breakers going to worlds

15. Future Championships
 - (a) 2024- 66th Canadian Closed Championships, (ODS) - Gord - not sold out, possibly not breaking even, even with grants, etc. Trouble with insurance as it must include Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport (Grantor's) coverage. Some of the qualified Ontario couples are only doing 1 event, but not both (Sr 3 & Sr 4). Suggestion that CDS CCC application usually, apply at AGM and pay \$1700 fee in advance of a competition, but in the future, application should be made without payment since lately not many couples or less than 3 couples are entered in certain categories Payment can be made when events are finalized. The parade will consist of flag bearers & sign carriers from home province if any are available. Running the CCC involves a lot of work but ODS was fortunate to get a great inexpensive venue which included a wooden floor, excellent inexpensive local caterer, a volunteer who made all the bouquets and a few sponsors. This all helped save ODS money.
 - (b) 2025-67th Canadian Closed Championships (DSBC) - Pinky said there are currently 2 options - Venue used for Snowball; or run it in Nanaimo. There are fewer volunteers in Vancouver. If Nanaimo, then either Beban or VICC (no floor), could apply for Nanaimo Tourism grants, 50% off in rental at VICC but requires minimum food & beverage. Easter Weekend or weekend after. April 25, 26 & 27



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2025 - 2 full days Sat & Sun. Avoid Easter, end of April (tax time) if possible, qualifier should not be held after CCC Entry Deadline (3 weeks)

- (c) 2026- 68th Canadian Closed Championships (DSQ) – planning has started. A possible venue is Pointe Claire Sport Centre
- (d) 2027-69th Canadian Closed Championships (DSAB) – have found a new location.

It was recommended to avoid the last weekend in April for accountant members that have to do income tax. CCC used to be on the Easter long weekend but this was discontinued as some members thought it should be time spent with family plus flights are generally more expensive & hard to get. Possible in May per 2023 AGM.

16. Motions Pursuant to Bylaws 9 and 19

A). **President's motions**

Motion 1

To add to **Bylaw 8.01** : The General Meeting is composed of two (2) delegates elected by each Active Member to represent it at that meeting, the President, the Professional Division Executive Director, one (1) delegate from Wheel Dance, one (1) delegate from Breaking, and a National level athlete representative.

Reason: Part of the delegates were overlooked when in 2022 we revised the Bylaws including Wheel Dance & Breaking. We are mandated by COC to have an athletic representative on our board. Currently we have 3 current International dance style athletes as Board directors but no one from Breaking. We need to add at least one from Breaking even if just as an observer. After consulting with Geoff Reyes I suggest Onton See from Ontario as the CDS Breaking Athlete Representative.

Motion by Sandy; Seconded by Marjolaine

VOTE: Motion accepted unanimously

Motion 2

To adopt the changes made to the **Dress Code, Schedule F**, that were passed at the 2023 June WDSF AGM.

The Dress Code was revised to amend Dress Regulations of the WDSF Competition Rules for reformatting, new pictures illustration, new wording on athletes/partners.

I've attached a copy of the WDSF motion with the changes in red & green. Our Dress Codes also include some CDS & Regional dress code but I won't change those. SEE ATTACHMENT

Reason: Athletes competing in WDSF & our National Championships events must be in compliance with the current WDSF dress code.

Clarity and Consistency: Clear and consistent rules can help ensure that all athletes and trainers understand and comply with the dress regulations, reducing the potential for confusion or disputes during competitions.

Enhanced Visual Representation: This can help athletes, trainers, and officials better understand the expected dress standards, and ensure that they adhere to the regulations during competitions.

Updated Wording: New wording on athletes/partners can reflect current practices and ensure that the language used in the rules is relevant and up-to-date. This can help avoid any ambiguity or misinterpretation of the rules, and ensure that they are effectively communicated to all stakeholders.



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Question asked whether these will be in CDS Dress code & answer was yes but most are already there it was just the wording that was changed or made clearer.

Motion by Sandy; Seconded by Pinky
VOTE: Motion accepted unanimously – carried

Motion 3

To add **Solo events** in Junior II, Youth, Under 21, and Adult Championship level to **Rule 14.9 g,x**

Reason: Solo events are becoming very popular around the world and the WDSF has bids out for WDSF World Championship in Solo Latin for Junior II, Youth, & Adult for 2024 & 2 countries have applied to host these 3 Worlds.

Motion by Sandy; Seconded by Diane
VOTE: Motion accepted unanimously - carried

Motion 4

To accept the changes that COC has made to “**Code of Conduct & Ethics**” & **Discipline & Complaints Policy** found in Schedule I-C & D. Updated versions are attached with changes highlighted. SEE ATTACHMENTS

Reason: The lawyers working with the COC updated the template Discipline and Complaints Policy as well as the template Code of Conduct and Ethics to reflect recent changes in Abuse-Free Sport terminology.

Motion by Sandy; Seconded by Pinky
VOTE: Motion accepted unanimously - carried

OSIC stands for Office of the Sport Integrity Commission,

Motion 5

To add the attached **Screening Policy** for Canada DanceSport’s Schedule I.

Reason: This is a very important in Safe Sport practices. Regional associations can adopt it and customize it to fit their Region. SEE ATTACHMENT

Changes were made to item 5 (see DRAFT) Took out 5a &b & f

Motion by Sandy; Seconded by Pinky
VOTE: Motion accepted unanimously - carried

Motion 6

To add the attached **Inclusion Policy** for Canada DanceSport **Schedule I.**

Reason: This is a very important in Safe Sport policy practices. SEE ATTACHMENT

Motion by Sandy; Seconded by Pinky
VOTE: Motion accepted unanimously - carried

B) CDS PD Motions

The CDS PD executive Director on behalf of the CDS PD Board sent motions regarding CDS PD Rules. The motions were sent by the deadline to be presented at the CDS AGM.

Schedule K – Canada DanceSport Adjudicator’s Code of Conduct



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Motion #1

Bylaw #2. Rules for Adjudicators

f. An adjudicator shall not coach, teach, or give any advice to any participating couple **including family member/s** during an event **and on the day** at which he/she is judging.

Rationale: Added to provide further details and be explicit as some adjudicators think teaching their own family members at the competition that they are judging is allowed.

VOTE:

Motion #2

Bylaw #3. General Behavior of Adjudicators

During the conduct of a competition, the adjudicators on the judging panel shall:

d. Mark and sign their paper score cards in ink, including their code letter, and initial each and every alteration s/he makes to the score card **or mark and electronically sign on the electric device.**

Rationale: Added to include electronic marking and signing as these days, we often use electronic devices for judging and signing.

VOTE:

Motion #3

Bylaw #4. Complaints about Adjudicators during a Competition

During a competition the Chair nominated or confirmed by CDS or its Regional Associations is authorized and obliged to observe the compliance of all licensed adjudicators **engaged for the competition** with the Code, ~~whether they be engaged in the competition or not.~~

Rationale: Replacing the words to provide clarity as current wordings is vague and can be interpreted as all adjudicators present in the hall. The Chair's duty is to the competition and cannot be monitoring every adjudicator in the hall that is not on the judging panel of the competition as well.

VOTE:

Motion #4

Bylaw #4. Complaints about Adjudicators during a Competition

Any complaints regarding the breach of Code during the competition, should be made by an official representative of CDS or its Regional Associations **or CDS PD** in writing and shall be addressed to the Chair, provided always that anyone may make such a complaint to the Chair when an official representative of CDS or its Regional Associations **or CDS PD** is unable or unwilling to do so.

Rationale: Added CDS PD as CDS PD is a member of CDS and the CDS PD Rules Observer can submit as well.

VOTE:



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Motion #5

Bylaw #4. Complaints about Adjudicators during a Competition

The Chair shall document any incident or observation of alleged or suspected misconduct by an adjudicator, and any reprimand or replacement of an adjudicator, and include it in a written report to CDS or its Regional Associations and **copy to CDS PD** who shall decide whether there is the need to initiate a further investigation.

Rationale: Added CDS PD as CDS PD is a member of CDS and CDS PD needs to know about its member's conduct so that actions can be taken in conjunction and accordingly.

VOTE:

Motion #6

Bylaw #5. Other Complaints about Adjudicators

Any other complaints about an alleged breach of the Code after the results of the competition have been announced must be submitted by the person in writing to CDS or its Regional Association member **and copy to CDS PD**.

Rationale: Added CDS PD as CDS PD is a member of CDS and adjudicators are from CDS PD. It needs to be informed about its member's conduct so that actions can be taken in conjunction and accordingly.

VOTE:

Motion #7

Bylaw #5. Other Complaints about Adjudicators

A complaint shall not be considered unless the following lodgment criteria are met:

- a. The complaint must be made in writing and signed by the complainant, and must be lodged with CDS or its Regional Association member Director **and copy to CDS PD** within ten (10) days of the date of the alleged breach together with any supporting documentation

Rationale: Added CDS PD as CDS PD is a member of CDS and adjudicators are from CDS PD. It needs to be informed about its member's conduct so that actions can be taken in conjunction accordingly.

VOTE:

Motion to accept all 7 PD motions en bloc by Patricia; Seconded by Gord

VOTE: Motion accepted unanimously - carried

17. World DanceSport Federation (WDSF)

- (a) 2023 WDSF Annual General Meeting ("AGM") was held in person for the first time since Covid on **Sunday, June 11th**, 2023. WDSF PD held the PD AGM on June 10, 2023. The information compiled by Pinky & myself at the WDSF AGM was circulated to CDS Board Members on June 26, 2023. The actual minutes were not circulated until August 11, 2023.
- (b) Canadian WDSF Adjudicators & Chairmen: Currently only have 6 General Adjudicators, (4 still to renew) 3 PD Adjudicators (3 still to renew), 3 Chairmen, 7



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Breaking Adjudicators with 2 of them with Three Fold Qualification & 5 with advanced Trivium, 1 scrutineer & 1 DJ. Some CDS officials have not paid their WDSF fees until Canadian WDSF competitions resume or because they need to attend a WDSF Congress. 4 Breaking officials (needed Trivium qualifications applied to attend the WDSF Head Judge for Breaking held on February 12, 2023.

- (c) 2024 WDSF Annual General Meeting ("AGM") will be held on **Saturday, October 26th (TBC)** 2024 but location and other details not released. The AGM is being held later this year due to the WDSF involvement in Summer Olympics.

Sandy turned the chair over to Pinky for Elections.

18. Election of Officers (2 year term) for the 2024-2026 Association Years

President: Pinky nominated Sandy Seconded by Diane No other nominations. Sandy declared President by Acclamation. She accepted but stated she might not last the full 2 year term. She decided not to go to Paris for Olympics (Breaking) but instead let Geoff CDS Breaking Sport Director have that place.

Treasurer: Sy nominated Gord, Seconded by Gene – Gord accepted & was declared Treasurer by acclamation

Chair returned to Sandy

19. CDS Delegation for the 2024 WDSF AGM: No official invitation yet.
Two delegates to attend the WDSF AGM if the meeting is held in person:
1. Sandy Brittain, CDS President
Pinky Wong, as CDS Vice President
Alternate will be Gord Brittain, CDS Treasurer since he is a senior CDS Executive Director plus as a guest.
 2. Recommended Financial Support for 2 CDS Delegates only will be a maximum of \$? per delegate only if meeting held in person.

CDS PD delegate will have to either pay themselves or get funds from CDS PD.

20. Fixing Financial Support for Championship Representatives for 2024-2025 for the WDSF Bursaries in 2023 CDS agreed to pay:
World Championships/World Cups, Adult– \$500 per couples (8 Adult couples) = \$4000
Youth – \$750 per couple (5 Youth couples) = \$3,750
Junior II - \$750 per couple (5 Junior couples) = \$3,750
Total of Bursaries: in 2024 = \$11,500
In 2023 many categories did not have full representation so saved CDS (amount budgeted for \$9,000 less amount paid \$2,500) = \$6,500. Changes in blue for 2024

Motion by Diane; Seconded by Rae
VOTE: Approved unanimously

21. New Business:
- (a) **To create a CDS Action Plan for the Canadian Governance Code-** see attached email from Sport Canada regarding Governance Code compliance. No discussion since waiting to see the revised Governance Code for 2024 as a result of zoom meetings with concerned NSOs.



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(b) **To complete A Long Term Development Framework for CDS.**

- Will need to decide on running more comps.
- How to encourage athletes to compete with CDS. Marketing by informing athletes about the bursaries awarded to different categories in junior, youth, & adult.
- Need publicity but consolidated. Need a good communication plan.
- World events published.
- Better communication with our athletes and why they want to be with us.
- Publish the advantages of Not for Profit versus For profit events.
- Need to get more adjudicators with CDS especially younger ones who were once our elite athletes

(c) **To update CDS's current Objects of the Corporation**

The objects of the Corporation are:

- a) to improve, encourage and advance DanceSport on a nation-wide basis, at all levels and to provide standards for its member associations;
- b) to provide rules for all DanceSport activities of its member associations;
- c) to pass upon and determine the status of any dancer in Canada who is a member of a member association of the Corporation;
- d) to publish and disseminate information concerning DanceSport;
- e) to encourage the formation of local DanceSport clubs where no member association exists; **not relevant**
- f) to raise, use, invest and reinvest money to support the activities of the Corporation, provided, however, that no property, funds or income of the Corporation shall inure to the profit of any member or person;
- g) to cooperate with the World DanceSport Federation and its members;
- h) generally, to take all steps necessary or desirable to regulate DanceSport throughout Canada.

(d) How we can attract board members, officials, & athletes to join our Regional Associations.

Better communication.

(e) Trophies- getting very expensive to ship & athletes don't want to take them home. Solution - spending a couple K every year shipping around. 9 boxes had to be replaced in 2024 since athletes took trophies without the boxes. Some are huge trophies that were donated. All trophies to be brought home by the winners.

Many solutions were proposed and discussed but not voted on:

1. Each Region keep 2-4 trophies permanently and just use them as photos for Awards ceremony.



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2. Maintain all the plaques since there is no big expense in shipping them especially the Adult Standard
3. Marcin volunteered to take photos of each photo & Board members to decide which trophies they will keep in their Region although it should be trophies that were donated by people from their Region if possible.
4. Keep all trophies after CCC and ship to next Region together rather than couples taking home a trophy.

No final decision was reached since no motion or vote was taken but all agreed we can not put the burden on the athlete to take them home after the CCC at their expense since often an out of province couple could win multiple trophies. We publish the past champions in the official CCC program.

We need to reach a final decision before next CCC but definitely this year's winner does not get to keep the trophy donated by a past athlete or Region or in memory of a deceased athlete.

- (f) Amateur Teaching- how to enforce it?
Amateur Teaching License must be enforced more by the Regional Board.
We need a combined course for amateur teaching and amateur judging but it's depending upon PD acceptance.
 - (g) Waivers: this was gone over in great length at 2022 AGM please read the minutes of that AGM & if you need a copy, please ask me for a copy. Diane said she had confusion over waivers and suggests Regional decision be made. Change to "another qualifier" not any other qualifier. Sandy pointed out that CCC waivers must be a CDS Board final decision although she would consider the Regional recommendation. Sandy suggests that next year a motion be submitted taking out the alternate Qualifier but CDS Board would then have to decide if the reason for missing the qualifier, if not medical, was a reason that was acceptable. Dr's note required for any medical waiver; Section 7:09 –
 - (h) Rae brought up the topic of that Financial Rule -1.09 as it pertains to 16.08 states Per diem \$75 for food, nothing for mileage. She said that this is out of date since government & other organizations give more. Motion to be presented at 2025 AGM to increase per diem & add mileage for travel by car.
22. Compiling a CDS Calendar for the 2024-2025 Association Year: the President & Secretary will compile & circulate by July 15, 2024. Please supply us with any upcoming events, in person or virtual, for the calendar. So far I not received any invitations for WDSF World championships etc.
 23. Housekeeping Resolutions
 24. Setting the Date, Place and Time of the Next Annual General Meeting:
TBD - April/May 2025 in BC.
 25. Adjournment at 5:09 pm

Motion by Pinky; Seconded by Marcin
VOTE: Approved unanimously