

Seaway Valley Square & Round Dance Association

CONSTITUTION

BY-LAWS

**Revised:
October 24, 2010**

Seaway Valley Square & Round Dance Association

CONSTITUTION

Article I : Name:

The name of this organization shall be the Seaway Valley Square and Round Dance Association.

Article II : Purpose.

1. To promote modern square and round dancing for fun and to encourage dancers to visit other clubs.
2. To assist the clubs in working together and in eliminating conflicts in scheduling special dances.

Article III : Membership:

Membership is open to any club within the Seaway Valley & surrounding area, upon approval by the Association. All members shall have voting privileges.

Article IV : Executive Committee:

1. The Elected officers of the Executive Committee of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and four Coordinators
2. The immediate Past President shall be a member of the Executive Committee.
3. If two or more committee members resign, a new election shall be held to elect only offices vacated.
4. In the event the office of President is vacated, the Vice-President will complete the current term.

Article V : Election of Officers:

1. Any member of a club in good standing shall be eligible to be elected to any office in the Association.
2. The election of all officers shall be by secret ballot when there is more than one candidate for any position.
3. A nominating committee shall be composed of the Past President. The nominating committee may present a slate of officers at the annual meeting.
4. Any member nominated for an office must be present at the election of officers meeting to accept the nomination or must have signed an agreement to let his / her name stand for nomination. Nominations may also be made from the floor.
5. The annual general meeting is to be held in March or April with the installation of officers to take place at the Mother's Day Dance.

Article VI : Meetings:

1. The Association shall hold two meetings a year. The meetings will be held in the Spring (March/April) and Fall (Oct/Nov).
2. The Executive Committee may call a general membership meeting with one month's written notice to all member clubs.
3. The Executive Committee may call a special emergency meeting at any time.
4. Five officers of the Executive Committee will constitute a quorum.
5. Each officer shall have a vote.
6. Two thirds vote of total SVSRDA Club membership will be needed to amend the constitution or by-laws.

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Article VII : Dissolution:

1. Upon dissolution of the Association, all moneys and property of the Association after all claims have been paid, shall be evenly divided among clubs in good standing at the time of dissolution.

CONSTITUTION - Revision History

- Revised April 14, 2002 - no records of reasons for previous revisions.
- Revised September 15th, 2002
 - Changes made to the By-Laws only.
- Revised October 24, 2010.
 - Changes made to bring Constitution Articles IV, V, VI and most By-Laws, to bring them into line with the current structure that has changed since 2002.
 - Approved at General Meeting of October 24, 2010

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I : Purpose:

1. To promote and encourage square and round dancing to any individual who has the desire to learn, and to maintain fun and good humor for all square and round dancers who participate at dances.
2. To unite and work with all clubs to help better the square and round dance movement in the Seaway Valley & surrounding area.

II : Membership:

1. Square and round dance clubs within the Seaway Valley & surrounding area, upon approval by the Association, may become members of the Association by paying an annual membership fee of \$10.00.
2. **For a club to be a member in good standing, two people from each club must attend at least one meeting a year to represent their club.**

III : Meetings:

1. The meetings will be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

IV: Executive Committee:

1. The Executive Committee is composed of the elected officers, the immediate Past President, and the Caller & Cues Representatives.
2. The officers are to be elected by the general membership at the annual meeting to be held in the Spring (March/April). The new officers will take office in June.
3. The duration of each office shall be one year. A person may be re-elected for subsequent years.
4. The Executive Committee quorum will be five officers. A majority of those will govern.
5. **President:** The President will preside over all meetings of the Association. He/She will have the power to appoint and dismiss all committees. He/She will be responsible for the enforcement of all rules and regulations of the Association.
6. **Vice-President:** The Vice-President will assist the President. In the absence of the President, he/she will act as President. The Vice-President will promote membership, encourage attendance at meetings, circulate advertisements, prepare newsletters, and promote close association between American and Canadian clubs.
7. **Secretary:** The Secretary will keep minutes of all meetings and will attend to correspondence.
8. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer will be responsible for all the Association's financial transactions. He/She will collect all the money for the Association and deposit it in a bank located in his/her country. He/She will have signing authority on all accounts. He/She will pay all bills approved by the Executive Committee. He/She will give a financial report at each meeting. The financial records will be audited annually after May 31st. Two members will be chosen to audit the financial records.
9. **Coordinators:** Coordinators have the responsibility to head all committees as directed by the Executive.

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10. **Calendar Editor:** The Calendar Editor is in charge of publishing a calendar of scheduled dances and promoting the Association's dances.
11. **Caller Representative** – an Association Caller who coordinates the appointments of Callers to the Association dances & any other Caller affairs as directed by the Executive committee. The Caller Representative is a volunteer position and has a full vote on the Executive.
12. **Cuer Representative** – an Association Cuer who coordinates the appointments of Cuers to the Association dances & any other Cuer affairs as directed by the Executive committee. The Cuer Representative is a volunteer position and has a full vote on the Executive.
13. Any Association sponsored project must have the approval of the Executive Committee.

V : Travel Badges / Dangles:

A travel form will be printed in the calendar for members wishing to earn a travel badge and/or yearly dangle. Travel Dangles are awarded to any dancer that dances in nine (9) **different SVSRDA dances**, which includes:- (a) all SVSRDA member **club nights** (including your own club); (b) **both Open Dances** put on by SVSRDA; and (c) **any Open Dance** put on by SVSRDA clubs that are in addition to, & separate from, a regular club-night dance. Forms must be signed by the Club or a Dance Caller/Cuer (or officer of the Club or SVSRDA in attendance) and dated. The completed form will be submitted to the appropriate SVSRDA officer by April 1st. The presentation of badges & dangles will take place at the Mother's Day Dance.

VI: Association Dances:

The Executive Committee will hire callers/cuers for Association dances. Basics, Mainstream, and Rounds will be offered at all Association dances.

VII : Animal Policy:

It shall be the policy of the Seaway Valley Square and Round Dance Association that pets or other animals shall not be permitted at meetings, dances, or other association functions. This policy does not apply to a guide dog or other service animal that is accompanying a blind person or otherwise handicapped person.

BY-LAWS - Revision History

- Revised April 14, 2002 - no records of reason for previous revisions.
- Revised September 15th, 2002
 - Section IV, item 3 - Replace: *"No more than two consecutive years will be allowed"* **with** *"A person may be re-elected for subsequent years"*
 - Addition of New By-Law Section VII - Animal Policy.
- **Revised October 24th, 2010.**
 - Changes made to all By-Laws(except VI) to bring them into line with current structure & operating procedures that had changed extensively since 2002.
 - Approved at General Meeting of October 24, 2010