



# USA Dance, Inc

---

Member of the United States Olympic Committee and the World Dance Sport Federation

Message from the DanceSport VP from WDSF Meeting in Berlin

Jun 18 2012

Dear USA Dance Members, Friends and Supporters – and especially the Athletes. This is a preliminary statement direct from Berlin at the WDSF Annual General Meeting (AGM). After several months of building bonds with Presidents of many other Member Bodies of the WDSF throughout the World and countless hours of work developing a motion that would challenge the WDSF on their policies of suspending Athletes and Adjudicators, I am thrilled to report that the Presidium agree to remove all banning and to reinstate couples previously banned from WDSF competitions.

This work was made possible by the unified effort of the majority of the democratic body of countries that spoke at the AGM. But I wish to thank a few key individuals for the role they played in helping to bring this about. Thank you to: Flemming Riis of Denmark, Franz Allert of Germany, Sandy Brittain of Canada and Peter Maxwell of England. Further thanks goes to our President, Lydia Scardina, and the role she played in working with the USOC in helping change everyone's mind about the enforcement of bans in the USA. I also wish to thank the Presidium for their understanding of the matter and for having the wisdom to correct the previous Code.

One final item to report at this time was the election of the open Presidium position. The Presidium nominated its candidate but also accepts the nomination of candidates from the floor of the meeting. I was nominated by the President of the DTV, Franz Allert and added to the ballot as a write-in candidate. The results of the election brings a new North American to the WDSF Presidium, me. I attended my first Presidium meeting today and I am extremely pleased with the recognition and support given and for the future of the WDSF.

Ken Richards, DanceSport VP  
USA Dance