

## **Mason Dixon Square Dancers Federation, Inc.**

Delegates Meeting via Zoom

18 January 2026 at 7:00pm

### **Call to Order/Pledge:**

Brandt started the recording at 7:05pm. Carol Eyre called the meeting to order at 7:07pm and led the Pledge.

### **Roll Call of Clubs:**

Laura reported that there are 12 clubs in attendance of 14 active clubs.

John joined late and represented Dayle's Dancers. Belair Sq Cats was not in attendance.

### **Minutes from Previous Meeting:**

The minutes for the November Delegate Meeting were distributed via e-mail just prior to today's meeting. The following corrections need to be made:

- Corrections on page 1 and page 5 "role" not "roll".
- Ambassador dance for Chesapeake is Saturday, not Tuesday.
- Correct date of "next meeting"; bold font correct in header but the "body" is not.

Margie motioned that the minutes be accepted with corrections; Joyce second. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The treasurer's report was distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting.

Request made to send this report and the minutes as pdf files. Several people cannot open the documents.

Fiscal year was closed December 31<sup>st</sup>. Income appears higher because of Festival registrations.

Overall, the Federation is in good shape.

The entry for Toys for Tots in the last treasurer's report was an error. A check has been issued to Toys for Tots for \$15, but it has not yet cleared.

Jackie motioned that the treasurer's report be accepted; Darlene second. Motion passed.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **61st Festival, July 16-18, 2026 – Jackie Boggs and Becky Cate**

Jackie provided updates on planning for next year's festival. Planning is progressing. The check-in sheet is going to be more detailed in hopes that we will be able to develop more detailed reports/metrics. Schedule and floor plan planned for March. Fundraiser dance is March 8th. Ribbons have been ordered and received.

Registration increases to \$140 in April. There are 167 registrations so far. A big registration push is planned for March.

## **62nd Festival, July 15-17, 2027 – Ellen Linsenbardt and Jackie Boggs**

Jackie Boggs reported.

The hotel contract has not yet signed, but the date is “reserved”. Callers and cuers are on contract.

### **Membership:**

Jackie Boggs reported that there are 14 active clubs and 376 members.

Dues have been received for all clubs except Spinning Windmills.

### **Ambassador Dances**

Friendship held their Ambassador dance in November. The remaining 2025-26 series of dances are:

- February 21, 2026 (Saturday) CHESAPEAKE SQUARES with Jenn Engimann, from Philadelphia, calling.
- April 11, 2026 (Saturday) BELAIR SQUARE CATS with Felton/Shotting

### **Appreciation Dance:**

The 2026 Appreciation Dance is scheduled for June 14, 2026, at Westowne Elementary School. Dancing is from 2:00 – 4:30. The program will be 2x2, alternating MS and Plus, with one Advance Star tip. Shawn Brown from Pittsburgh is calling. Barb Buchanan has been approached about being the cuer but has not yet responded.

Chesapeake Squares had agreed to host the Appreciation Dance, but due to conflicts with Pride Week activities, their Board has voted to withdraw from hosting. However, because they are unable to host, they have made a generous donation to MDSDF to offset the cost of running this dance. Thank you, Chesapeake!

Tom Thumbs has been approached about taking over as the host club, and will discuss this at their Management Team Meeting this week.

### **Recruitment and Promotion of New Dancers:**

The classes are going strong. Clubs who are only teaching Mainstream are getting ready to graduate their students. DC Lambda graduated their class last week. Both Chesapeake Squares and Village Swingers are graduating their classes this week. The Carroll County class will teach to Mainstream (including the New MS), and expects to end in February. The other teaching clubs plan to continue teaching into the Plus program and will likely graduate in June.

Village Swingers is starting another Mainstream class in February.

On Sunday, January 11, MDSDF hosted a Student Level Dance at Westowne Elementary School with NINE squares of dancers in attendance! Sixty-four angels and 14 students

signed in to the dance. It was wonderful! David Hartman called and Helena thinks that everyone had a good time. There was also had a small Second-Hand Rose Sale at this dance, which brought in \$145. Overall, we made more than \$400, so I think this dance was a great success!!

The next student level dance is scheduled for Sunday, February 22, also at Westowne, and Dayle Hodge will be the caller.

**Club Insurance from USDA:**

No clubs using this program. The Federation is the only “club” on this policy.

**Google Group:**

Don Pahl was not in attendance but provided updates to Jackie. Jackie reported that there are approximately 350 members in the MDSDF Google Group.

**Website:** [www.marylandsquaredancing.com](http://www.marylandsquaredancing.com)

Kathy Zottmann was not in attendance.

*Reminder: All clubs should check and make sure that their club pages are current.*

**Sickness/Distress/Sunshine:**

Laura Vykol reported that a sympathy card was sent to Pat Hicks for her husband passing.

**License Tags:**

No new requests.

Link to license plate info: <https://www.marylandsquaredancing.com/license-plates>

**MACA (Mid-Atlantic Challenge Association):**

The spring weekend is April 25-26, 2026 with Don Moger. Dancing will be held at Westowne Elementary.

**CallerLab:**

The next CallerLab convention is March 29 – April 1, 2026, in Reno, NV.

**VASARDA:**

Virginia State Convention is February 19-21, 2026. Theme is Backtrack to a Throwback! The festival will be held at Holiday Inn Virginia Beach, Norfolk Hotel & Conference Center.

**WASCA:**

WASCA March 26-28, 2026, at the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel in Herndon, VA. The theme is “65 and Staying Alive.” Over 600 dancers have registered.

**USDA (United Square Dancers of America):**

Visit the USDA website, [USDA.org](http://USDA.org), to view previous webinars and learn more about square dancing.

### **NSDC (National Square Dance Convention):**

- 75<sup>th</sup> NSDC – Waco, TX, June 24 - 27, 2026
- 76<sup>th</sup> NSDC – Loveland, CO, June 23 – 26, 2027
- 77<sup>th</sup> NSDC – Daytona Beach, FL, June 28 – July 1, 2028

### **Old Business**



### **New Business**

- Nominations for the board are needed for the coming year.
- Publicity is needed for the Federation and the board. Board members need to show up and introduce themselves at the student dances.
- Jackie prepared and sent a Federation newsletter. Kathy is going to post it to the website.
- A meeting is planned after the Festival fundraiser dance on March 8th to discuss the new CallerLab calls. A suggestion was made for a potential “new call” Workshop at the Festival.
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### **Club Announcements:**

Time for delegates to share special happenings about their club(s).

### **Chesapeake Squares**

Their Pass the Ocean weekend is May 1-3, 2026, in Rehobeth Beach, DE.

### **Sunday Dancers**

Sunday Dancers will be having an Advanced dance/workshop on February 8<sup>th</sup> with the goal of providing a place for newer Advanced dancers to transition from a class environment to a dance environment. Dave Hartman will be calling the February event. Ett McAtee and Chris Stacy will be calling similar Advanced dance/workshops on March 22nd and April 26th. The regular dance will start an hour early on February 8<sup>th</sup>. The March and April dances 1.5 hours earlier with their normal SSD/Mainstream dance starting around 3:00 PM. Advanced dancers are welcome to stay for the SSD/Mainstream program. The fee is \$10 for the entire afternoon.

### **DC Lambda Squares**

Community Dance on April 11<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 5 with Jeremy Butler at Francis Scott Key School.

**Next Delegates Meeting, March 15, 2026, 7:00 PM – Virtual**

The next Delegate Meeting is scheduled on Sunday, March 15th @ 7:00pm via Zoom.  
Nominations for board positions will be accepted.

**Next Board Meeting, January 31, 2026**

The next Board Meeting is scheduled on Saturday, January 31 at noon. This is an in-person meeting. Please eat before attending.

**Motion to Adjourn** – Joyce motioned, Maggie second. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Darlene Mueller