

Chapter 26 Scheduling Conflicts

26.1 Background

- a) The April 2015 Council of Dancers adopted the following motion:
That EOSARDA within its current structure establish the position of a dancing date scheduler/coordinator for the express and singular intent of eliminating dance date conflicts within the boundaries of EOSARDA.
- b) The Board of Directors was directed by Council to determine how best to implement this policy and was asked to report back to Council as soon as possible.
- c) The Board established a Scheduling Conflict Working Group which developed a draft policy that was subsequently approved by the November 2015 Council of Dancers.

26.2 Definitions

- a) For the purposes of this policy, “dance event” means a special function, held on other than a club’s usual meeting time and/or at its usual meeting place.
Dance events only conflict with other dance events.
A club’s regular dance date is not considered to be a dance event.
- b) “Scheduling Conflict” refers to a dance event which will likely significantly impact the attendance at a previously scheduled dance event taking place on the same date.

26.3 EOSARDA’s Policy on Scheduling Conflicts

- a) Clubs are encouraged to avoid holding dance events of any kind on the same date as another dance event.
- b) Where a Scheduling Conflict is determined to have occurred, EOSARDA will advertise or promote only the first scheduled dance event. This policy will apply to all advertising in Square Time, all postings on www.eoDance.ca and all EOSARDA Bulletins and any other electronic announcements.
- c) The prohibition on advertising and promoting the second scheduled dance event may be waived with the consent of the organizers of the first scheduled dance event.
- d) This does not mean eliminating all choices on a particular date. Dance events that cater to different audiences may still be advertised if the dance levels or styles do not overlap or are not adjacent.
- e) For more information see Paragraph 26.6 below “Guidelines for Recognizing Conflicts”.

26.4 “Grand-fathered” Dance events

- a) A small number of long-established Open Dances occur at approximately the same time every year. These include:
 - Mississippi Squares’ Halfway Dance 2nd Saturday in January
 - EOSARDA Frosty Fling 1st Saturday in February
 - Swing into Spring and SVSRDA Mothers Day Dance Mothers Day Weekend

- EOSARDA Fall Fest 4th Saturday in October
- Capital Carousels' Capital Caper Last Friday and Saturday in October

The established dates of these dance events are reserve for their use.

- The above list is incomplete. Any club that believes that it sponsors a Dance Event that should be grand-fathered may submit a request to the Board to have the event added to the list. The request should include a justification for grand-fathering the dance event.
- Whether a dance event has been grand-fathered or not, due to vagaries of the calendar year, it is the responsibility of the event organizer to submit a request to the Web Master in order to have the event added to the Dance Calendar on EoDance.ca

26.5 Implementing the Policy

- The Scheduling Coordinator function is a shared responsibility among those who are responsible for the three advertising functions, i.e. Web Calendar, Bulletins and Square Time magazine.
- Where one or more of the Scheduling Coordinators believe that there is a potential Scheduling Conflict, they will consult with each other. If the Scheduling Coordinators determine that there is a Scheduling Conflict, or if they cannot reach agreement on the matter, the issue will be brought to the Board's attention.
- If the Board agrees that there is a Scheduling Conflict it will instruct the Scheduling Coordinators to withhold all advertising of the dance event in question.

26.6 Guidelines for Recognizing Conflicts

a) Round Dance Events and Square Dance Events

Square and round dance events scheduled for the same date are not considered to constitute a Scheduling Conflict.

The pool of round dancers is relatively small and many square dancers do not round dance. Therefore, restricting a Square Dance event scheduled for the same date as a Round Dance event would remove the opportunity to dance from many dancers. While it is desirable that such dances not be scheduled on the same date, due to the limited number of people likely to be affected, doing so will not be considered to create a Scheduling Conflict.

b) Dance levels that are not adjacent or overlapping

A Scheduling Conflict only occurs when dances have overlapping or adjacent levels. For example, an A1/A2 dance might draw dancers away from a Plus event, but a C1 dance is not likely to have any significant impact effect on a Basic/Mainstream or Plus event. Similarly, Phase II and III round dancers are not likely to attend a high level Round Dance featuring Phase IV and V dances.

The definition of overlap or adjacency is not always clear cut and will require a judgement call to determine if the events in question conflict, but as a rule of thumb:

- C1 does not conflict with Plus and below
- A1/A2 does not conflict with Basic/Mainstream

- A round dance does not conflict with a square dance
- A Phase II and III Round Dance does not conflict with a Phase IV and V Dance
- A square dance with Easy Rounds between the tips does not conflict with a Phase II and III Round Dance

But

- A1/A2 does compete with Plus
- Plus does compete with Basic/Mainstream
- A dance with a full square and round dance program in separate halls may conflict with a square or round dance if the dance levels are adjacent or overlap

c) One-day Dance Workshops

Some dance events are advertised as “workshops” or “blasts”. Regardless of how they are identified, one-day workshops may conflict with existing dance events if the dance levels are adjacent or overlap.

d) Weekend, Multi-day and Multi-week events

Weekend dance events may conflict with an Open Dance, if the dance levels are adjacent or overlap.

Multi-day and multi-week dance events are not considered to conflict with other dance events and vice versa.

Some dance events such as special courses, teaches and workshops take place over a number of days. These days may be consecutive or sequential. Each day of such an event could be considered separately when looking at possible Scheduling Conflicts. However, it is impractical to delete a specific date or dates from a series of dates. Moreover, it is very difficult to find a location and time-frame that accommodates multiple dates, while exceptions for specific dates can make that task almost impossible. Also the number of people who attend multi-date events is generally quite small.

e) Club Dates

A club’s regularly scheduled dance activity does not conflict with a dance event.

If held at the regularly scheduled club time and place, special club events such as Anniversary Dances and Theme Nights are not considered to be dance events. Therefore they are not considered as being in conflict with any other dance event being held on the same date.

f) Distance

Eastern Ontario is a very large geographic area. However, many dancers drive long distances to attend dances. Thus distance between the location of dance events is not a factor in determining if a Scheduling Conflict exists.