NEW YORK ANNUAL DANCE LIST GUIDELINES

Aim:

The main aim of the list and guidelines is to increase everyone’s enjoyment of dancing, especially their enjoyment of party nights and balls. The list should also help dancers to build up their repertoire.

How it works:

1. The list consists of 60 dances, split between reels, jigs and strathspeys. The dances include beginner, intermediate and advanced dances. Both basic formations and more advanced formations are included. The list has a mixture of RSCDS and non-RSCDS dances and a mixture of set types (2, 3, 4, 5-couple). The dances on the list have a term limit of three years. Each year, one-third of the dances are dropped from the list. They are replaced by a similar number of reels, jigs and strathspeys, making sure to keep a balance of formations and levels of difficulty. In their classes, teachers may try out dances they think could be added, and then they meet to agree on the new list.

2. The full dance instructions are sent to all teachers. Cribs of all the dances are sent by e-mail to all members and put on the website. A book of the cribs will be available at dancing venues.

3. All dances for parties and balls are selected by teachers from the Annual List, with the following exceptions:

a. All programmes may have up to five dances from outside the list provided they are beginner-friendly.

b. For “marquee” programmes, namely the JC Ball and the Pawling Ball, two of the five non-list dances may be more challenging.

c. For obvious reasons, the list does notapply in the case of Burns night or Drewry night

4. To help dancers increase their repertoire, if a “new-to-the-list” and less familiar dance is on one party/ball programme, the devisor/s of upcoming programmes are encouraged to consider it for their programme as well.

5. Given that the Annual List is carefully chosen, teachers can, over the year, teach all the important aspects of SCD while at the same time preparing their classes for the specific dances at each upcoming event. Teachers are encouraged to choose some dances from the list for their classes, but are free to teach non-list dances.

These guidelines have been approved by the New York Branch Teachers’ and Executive Committees.