

**Sanding Your Edges/Smooth Calling and Dancing**  
**CALLERLB Convention**  
**April 9-12, 2017**  
**Mesa, Arizona**  
**Jerry Junck, John Marshall, Mike Seastrom**

**Session Description:**

Every caller should desire that dancers have a smooth dancing experience – something that feels good while they are dancing. The calls we choose to string together are part of the equation, but choreography is not the only thing to consider. Even more important is the way those calls are delivered. It is not only WHAT we call, but HOW we call it. Presentation is vitally important to smooth dancing and dancer success.

This session will endeavor to explain how to master the various elements involved in a smooth dancing presentation, which should include calling to the music, having a choreographic plan, being aware of problem situations, awareness of body flow and hand usage, command timing, cueing and helper words, conditioning the dancers for success, and much more.

**Elements for Smooth Dancing and Body Flow:**

**A. Music**

- 1) Choosing music that promotes dancing to rhythm
- 2) Tempo – Comfortable number of beats per minute
- 3) Awareness of the musical phrase
- 4) Delivery of calls to that musical phrase
- 5) Matching Music and Choreography – Wind in your face or workshop?

**B. Body Flow and Hand Usage**

- 1) Body Position
- 2) Hand Availability
- 3) Body Momentum
- 4) Counter Dancing -
- 5) Over Flow and Sequential Overflow
- 6) Continuing Motion – Keeping beat and rhythm

**C. Caller Awareness**

- 1) Knowledge of formations and calls that can cause dancing disruption limiting flow
- 2) Helper words or cues to enhance dancer success
- 3) Changing the dancer focus within the square – i.e. (Changing from a box to wave)
- 4) Call to call transitions
- 5) Body flow of call sequences-Knowledge of choreography-Use of quality modules
- 6) Sequence momentum – Dancer momentum and direction