

CALLER TRAINING GUIDELINE - SOCIABILITY

Square dancing has three strong appeals:

- Choreographic Puzzle Solving
- Moving with music – Dancing
- Sociability

In traditional square dancing moving with music is probably most important. In modern square dancing for the last three decades of the 20th century the puzzle solving was featured.

We have realized over the last decade (2000 – 2009) that the social aspect of modern square dancing is more important than we had realized.

The club organization on which MWSD was based and built provided a strong social environment that gave much support for the popularity of the activity.

Callers must understand and appreciate the importance of social support and interaction if they are to provide the leadership necessary to the success of MWSD.

FOR DANCERS SOCIABILITY IS A POWERFUL, IF OFTEN UNAPPRECIATED, SQUARE DANCE VALUE.

Square dancing provides many dancers with one of the most important social groups in their life.

Involvement with the club often goes way beyond dancing.

- Executive Meetings
- Club dance visits
- Refreshments at the dance
- Holiday and/or Graduation Parties
- Long term personal friendships

Square dance trips to conventions or on vacation travel strengthen the friendship bonds.

CALLER ENCOURAGEMENT OF SOCIABILITY

A club caller can strengthen the club and encourage longer square dance participation of club members by supporting and encouraging the social interaction of the club members.

Realization of the importance of non-dancing interaction among dancers is an essential component of being a successful caller.

Club callers should expect to participate in club events. They should understand these activities as part of the obligations of the job.

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