

# Ballroom and Latin Dance Club

*In accordance with the Manchester University Mission Statement, this club does not discriminate on the basis of such factors as national or ethnic origin, race, color, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or veteran status.*

## Article I. Club Purpose and Mission

Section 1: The purpose of this club is to promote knowledge of, and participation in, ballroom dancing at Manchester University. This may include:

- hosting guest performers, speakers, instructors and coaches
- planning and participating in on-campus dances and classes
- attending dances and classes held throughout northeastern Indiana
- attending professional and amateur competitions throughout the Midwest
- supporting students wishing to participate in collegiate ballroom competition

Section 2: For the purposes of this club “ballroom” is used as an umbrella term for partnership dances in the following general categories.

- Smooth (e.g., waltz, tango, foxtrot, quickstep)
- Latin (e.g., cha cha, rumba, bolero, mambo, samba)
- Swing (e.g., east coast swing, west coast swing, jitterbug)
- Club (e.g., salsa, merengue, hustle, night club two-step)

These genres are consistent with generally accepted definitions of American-style ballroom dancing as defined by organizations such as Dance Vision International (<https://dancevision.com>) and USA Dance (<http://usadance.org>).

Section 3: Though not affiliated with USA Dance, we subscribe to their mission, “to improve the quality and the quantity of ballroom dancing in the United States”, and especially at Manchester University.

## Article II. Membership

Section 1: In support of the Manchester University (MU) Mission Statement membership is open to all interested MU students, faculty and staff.

Section 2: There will be a \$5 membership fee collected each semester. Funds will be used to underwrite travel costs for off-campus events and classes provided by visiting instructors.

Section 3: On-campus dances will be open to all members of the MU community.

Section 4: Some classes (e.g., those at a more advanced level) may be limited to club members only.

## Article IV. Officers and Executive Board

Section 1: The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be the officers of the club. Only Manchester University students may serve as officers.

Section 2: The executive board shall consist of the officers, the faculty/staff advisor and other club members who may be appointed to the board at the officers’ discretion. For example, appointed board members might serve as music coordinator, on-campus event coordinator, off-campus event coordinator, publicity/media coordinator, etc.

Section 3: The officers shall be responsible for recruiting the faculty/staff advisor.

Section 4: The executive board may appoint committees as needed to facilitate planning and implementation of club events.

Section 5: The duties of the President shall be to convene and preside over meetings of the club, to supervise and direct all club activities and to attend Presidents’ Council meetings.

Section 6: The duties of the Vice President shall be to assist the President as needed and, in their absence, fulfill the role of President.

- Section 7: The duties of the Secretary shall be to record, distribute and maintain minutes of executive board and club meetings, to maintain historical records (e.g., policies, external correspondences, budgets) and to send communications to club members as may be requested by the President.
- Section 8: The duties of the Treasurer shall be to submit a budget, collect dues, maintain records of funds collected and spent, and make necessary cash withdrawals and deposits.
- Section 9: The duty of the advisor shall be to provide general guidance to the club in planning and implementing events, as well as in the areas of goal-setting and long-range planning.
- Section 10: An elected officer found deficient in his/her duties may be removed by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at a duly called club meeting.
- Section 11: An appointed member of the executive board may be removed from the board by a unanimous agreement of the club's officers.

#### **Article V. Elections**

- Section 1: Election of officers shall be held in the spring for the following academic year.
- Section 2: All dues-paying members in good standing are eligible to run for office and to cast a ballot.

#### **Article VI. Meetings**

- Section 1: The executive board shall meet at least once monthly (when classes are in session) to coordinate planning and implementation of events, make budgetary decisions and conduct other items of business that may arise.
- Section 2: The club as a whole shall meet as determined by the needs of the officers and members. This shall include at least one members' meeting each semester to conduct business and provide input to the executive board regarding club goals and activities.
- Section 3: Quorum for executive board and member meetings shall be 50 percent of membership plus one.

#### **Article VII. Disbursement of Funds**

- Section 1: All disbursements must be authorized by both the president and the treasurer. In the absence of one of these officers the advisor may also approve disbursements.
- Section 2: Any disbursement of funds over \$200 must be approved by majority vote of the four officers and the advisor.

#### **Article VIII. Amendments to the Constitution**

- Section 1: Amendments to this constitution may be made by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at a duly called club meeting.
- Section 2: All amendments shall be submitted every two years to the Student Senate and discussed with the Office of Student Activities.

**Submitted on October 16, 2014 by students Jordan Lett, Zac Clark, Kari Cottingim, Brian Motley, and faculty member Jim Brumbaugh-Smith. Approved by Student Senate, October 22, 2014.**