

S . A . R . D . A . N . S . W .

CALLER'S CO-OPERATIVE



News, Notes 'n Nonsense for Callers & Eners

Issue #7 Part Deux

December 2016

DATES to REMEMBER for 2017

• January 28-29	SPECIAL CALLER WORKSHOP WEEKEND at Corrimal RSL Club
• January 28	SPECIAL DANCE at CORRIMAL RSL CLUB
• July (Date TBC)	DINNER DANCE
• September 15-18	38 th NSW State Square Dance Convention - Goonellabah
• November 10 – 12	Red Barons Tripple Celebration Weekend

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS MONTH

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Editorial Comment from Barry Wonson.

- What do we have here?
- More stuff from Barry?
- Does he ever rest?
- Does he have a life?

The Newlsetter: This is the anticipated “part 2” to the December 2016 SARDANSW Newsletter. It deals primarily with the SARDANSW Program Committee Report. As it is a large report; I thought that it would be wiser to make it a separate “extra” rather than attach it to a regular one.

Originally, the SARDANSW newsletter was going to be a small, about 10 pages each month, newsletter and notes on a myriad of topics interesting to both dancers and callers. It has however “morphed”, and escalated over the last year to become almost a manual of concepts, thoughts, and idea generators. So much valuable information was being submitted, that I felt it needed to be shared. Each issue just became bigger than Ben-Hur (did you know that the original book was written by a US Civil War General?). I do hope to bring it down to a more manageable size in 2017 with the next issue due mid-January, just in time for the 2017 re-start.

SARDANSW Functions: The SARDANSW functions and sessions organized during 2016 were so successful, that we will continuing along this path again in 2017, and possibly even expanding further in 2018 (plans are in progress).

Caller Education and training: Caller education is a vital part and key aim of our Association. These functions are for you, our members and friends and are available to all callers. The days of keeping everything to ourselves are long gone. The more we share, the more we all benefit from each other's ideas, knowledge, and experience. We firmly believe that every single one of us has something to offer -- from the 25+ year veteran caller to the brand Trainee Caller or dancer. We can only share when we get together as a group and SARDANSW believes in providing a venue for sharing.

At what cost? SARDANSW has the belief that the funds in its account, and funds raised through its various activities, are there to be used for the benefit of the activity. By utilizing these funds for training and education purposes, we are giving ourselves and our activity a future.

SARDANSW and its members have supported every new caller asking for assistance, through mentoring, information passage and whatever assistance could be offered. However, formal and semi-formal Caller Training sessions and workshops are a vital part of Caller education and SARDA NSW has supported every Caller training function since its inception. As callers, we gratefully acknowledge that these functions could not happen without the financial and moral support given to us by our Association.

If we do not take advantage of that support, then we as individuals are missing out. By supporting these functions we are showing everyone that we, as callers, care about our future. Understandably, not everyone can attend each and every function, but please remember that these functions are done with the specific purpose of supporting you, the caller. Please make the effort to attend as many as you can.

2017 EVENTS STILL TO COME

28-29 January 2017. A **FULL WEEKEND CALLER CLINIC** with Mel Wilkerson at Corrimal RSL Club. (See Attached Flyer)

Corrimal RSL club is situated on the Princes Highway, (Corrimal's main street) at the northern end of the shopping Centre. The venue has a nice auditorium with a good downstairs restaurant.

Our January 2016 this year at the venue was a great success. The club's management went out of their way to assist us in the event even dealing with the minor setback of the air-conditioning replacement by bringing in portable coolers at the last minute.

The great news is the AIR CONDITIONING IS NOW WORKING GREAT.

The Jan 2016 weekend clinic was well received and the dance had an incredible atmosphere, with maximum numbers on the floor all the time. This was especially amazing because everyone knew the air conditioner was out and it was the hottest weekend of the entire summer!! We hope for the same or better as the popularity of this annually held full weekend activity grows in popularity.

We look forward to the January 28-29 2017 Caller Clinic with Mel Wilkerson

Caller Sessions will be as follows:

SATURDAY MORNING	10:00am - 12:30pm
LUNCH (EACH DAY)	12:30pm - 1:30pm
SATURDAY AFTERNOON	1:30pm - 4:30pm
SUNDAY MORNING	10:00am - 12:30pm
SUNDAY AFTERNOON	1:30pm - 4:00pm

Dancers to support the caller training sessions are appreciated

Dance Sessions are as follows:

SATURDAY EVENING	7:00pm - 10:30pm
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Weekend cost per caller is \$50. This includes all sessions and material, lunch each day and dance on Saturday Evening. Partner cost is \$35 (Includes meals and dance).

Please register early so we can organize numbers for food, etc. I have attached flyers for dance and weekend registrations as well as information on accommodation in the nearby areas.

SARDA President's Report



It certainly has been a fantastic year for both Square and Round Dancing in New South Wales.

Thank you to the callers, cuers and club leaders for their dedication and commitment to our wonderful activity. Also, I wish to give a big thank you to all the dancers who have supported the clubs and the many functions that have been organised this year.

Over the past eighteen months, the executive of SARDA NSW has worked tirelessly to provide dancers, callers and cuers with fantastic opportunities to attend many great functions for your enjoyment and education.

You, our members, are important to us. In 2017 we want to provide you with:

- Fun and fellowship in dancing.
- The best educational opportunities for callers and cuers.
- Obtain feedback from our members for the betterment of square and round dancing.

Congratulations to Barry Wonson who has done a fantastic job in coordinating education and providing an informative newsletter for callers, cuers and dancers.

On behalf of the executive I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe 2017. Take the time over the break to recharge your battery and get ready for another year of fun and friendship set to music.

I am looking forward to seeing you on the dance floor at the many functions that will be happening in 2017.

Regards

David Todd

SARDA NSW President

SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES



PROGRAMMING DIRECTION AND GUIDELINES FOR

S.A.R.D.A.N.S.W.

HOSTED OR SPONSORED EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS

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INTRODUCTION

Objective:

To provide a consistent, high quality program for all functions and events that is in the best interest of dancers and caller/cuers.

Program Committee

In order to meet the SARDANSW Objective, the Executive Committee of this organization has determined that a program committee was to be established.

Program Committee Function

To provide guidelines for programming ALL SARDANSW sponsored or organized Functions. This includes specifically but is not limited to:

- A. MULTI-CALLER SINGLE SESSION FUNCTIONS
- B. DUAL CALLER SINGLE SESSION FUNCTIONS
- C. SOLO CALLER SINGLE SESSION FUNCTIONS
- D. MULTI-CALLER MULTIPLE SESSION FUNCTIONS
- E. DUAL CALLER MULTIPLE SESSION FUNCTIONS
- F. SOLO CALLER MULTIPLE SESSION FUNCTIONS

Programming Purpose

All SARDANSW functions (excludes club specific and non SARDANSW sponsored events) ranging from single evening dances, special events, weekend special functions to full State Conventions need to present a dancer program that is consistent and of high quality and presentation standard. The purpose is to achieve the highest entertainment value and success for both the dancers and the Callers/Cuers involved within any given dance program.

Square Dance Programming Committee Membership

It has been determined that the ideal membership of this committee would be three callers. Interested parties are always welcome to apply to be part of this committee.

Essential elements of programming for success

There are 2 specific areas where Programming is an essential element to provide the best dancing for all attendees. They are:

1. The Physical Makeup of the program for the function; and
2. Placement and allocation of Caller/Cuers to specific positions within the Program.

PART 1. THE PHYSICAL PROGRAM

The type and placement of Round-ups. Round-ups can be divided into a number of different categories:

1. General Round-up
2. Couples Round-up - including, but not limited to:
 1. Ladies/Gents Choice Round-up
 2. Other possibilities. (e.g. choose partner from different club).
3. Square Up (e.g. open floor get on and get dancing)

PART 1.A. TYPES OF ROUND UP

1. **General Round up.** Having a Round-Up at the start of each bracket can be time consuming and wears thin with dancers as actual dancing time is reduced. While General Round-Ups are a traditional part of our activity, many callers and dancers have come to realise that they need to be limited
 - a. General Round-Ups may be used to start the evening at the discretion of the programmer.
 - b. A maximum of two (2) General Round-ups can be used at any evening dance session.
2. **Couples Round-Ups** should be announced at the end of a bracket to inform the dancers of what will apply for the next bracket. It would then be announced at the start of the bracket to which it applies. These should also be used sparingly with no more than three per evening.

Couples Round-ups can be divided into separate styles - Couples, Ladies/Gents, choice, Inter-club, etc., for variety.

Dancers do like to dance with the one they came with. If they wish to mix and match they will often do it on their own.

3. **Square up.** Caller calls for the dancer to square up and allows limited time for squares to form. He begins to call when there are sufficient squares still allowing for others to fill as required. This will maximize dancing and encourage dancers to attend the floor quicker.

PART 1.B. THE PLACEMENT OF THE “ROUND-UP”

As a general guideline, a Round Up should be conducted at multi “open caller” dances by the MC of the session or by the caller introducing the next caller at a special dance, Weekend, or Convention. The placement is different for Daytime or Evening sessions.

- Daytime sessions. There should be a maximum of one General Round Up at an “open multi caller” function. All other brackets should be square up.
- Evening Sessions. There should only be a maximum of two (2) General Round-Ups during an evening session.
Other forms of brackets that can be used during the Program are:

- a. Couples Round-ups - including various forms (Regular Couples, Ladies or Gents Choice, Inter-club.
- b. Square-Up brackets.

The above methods of moving dancers to a Square Formation in order to start a bracket should be used in a method where a variety of these concepts enhance the dancer's enjoyment of a given program.

It is suggested that a rule-of-thumb system be used where (approximately) every third or fourth bracket be a Square-Up. There may be up to three Square-Up brackets in a given evening session, however the final bracket should always be a Square-Up.

PART 1.C. ROUND DANCING

Round Dancing, whenever possible should be incorporated into the programming of any multi-Caller event. The SARDANSW Square Dance programming committee recognizes that at certain events (State Conventions) separate round dance halls and sessions within the framework of SARDANSW should be allowed for.

Programming of round dance cuers, levels and scheduling shall be the task of the round dance programming committee. The following general guidelines should be adhered to when programming SARDANSW events with regard to the incorporation of Round Dancing.

1. Daytime Sessions.

- a. Daytime Round Dance Sessions (full sessions) are to be included within the framework of State Convention programs.
- b. Round dance (sessions or inclusion) is to be included as part of all SARDANSW event full weekends.(see 1.C.b. formats 1 and 2)
- c. Where practical, Round dance brackets should be included in all SARDA NSW full day events as part of the program. (see Part 1.C.b. formats 1 and 2)
- d. Programming of round dance sessions/brackets shall be the responsibility of the round dance programming committee member or specific event coordinator

2. Evening Sessions.

- a. Round dancing at the appropriate level shall be included in All SARDANSW sponsored or hosted events
- b. These events usually take one of three different formats:
 1. Bracket For Bracket: If a comparable number of halls and full sessions (example, four dancing halls with two halls each allocated to both Square Dancing and Round Dancing) are available during the day, then the Program Manager shall liaise with RD Program Committee and SD Program Committee for a reasonable allocation of time

for Rounds in the evening program. The allocation of time will be considered based on whether or not there is an evening pre-round session. If there is no Evening Pre-Rounds, the Bracket For Bracket format must be used.

- If there is no Pre-Round session then the allocation of Rounds (floor time) must be the same as squares. The opening and closing brackets of the evening will remain squares.
- Although varying Phases rounds may be used during the day, the evening program will have limited variation in phases and must be appropriate to the appropriate comparable square dance level of the evening combined dance(s). Often referred to as the "Square Dance Rounds" category.
- The make-up of these sessions is at the discretion of the interested parties involved (Convention Committee, RD Program Committee, SD Program Committee).

2. Evening Pre-Rounds Session. This is a common format. It is recommended, that a Pre-Rounds Session of no more than 30 minutes be featured. The following criteria apply:

- Cuers are selected from those that fit the assessment criteria.
- This form of Round Dance placement often impacts on the format of the remainder of the evening regarding the amount of Rounds used
- Rounds will be interspersed between square dance brackets using one of the three interspersing methods. The decision of which is to be followed is up to the programming committee. (see Interspersed Rounds below)

a. Interspersed Rounds. This is the common format for all evening functions. There are a number of possible combinations that can be used:

- **2 x 1:** This system allows for a Square Dance bracket of two numbers followed immediately by a single Round Dance.
- **2 x 2:** This system allows for a Square Dance bracket of two numbers followed by an immediate Round Dance Bracket of two numbers.
- **Allocated Brackets:** A third possibility is that a number of two or three number Round Dance Brackets be placed within a general Square Dance framework. This usually consists of a maximum of 3 (2 number) Round Dance brackets during an evening.

PART 1. D. CLOGGING

Clogging, wherever possible, should be given a single hall or facility for daytime events at Major SARDANSW hosted Conventions. Clogging should not interfere with the base square and round dance programming in the main halls.

Part 2 - EVENT SESSION TYPES

In general terms there are two types of events (functions):

1. Feature caller events (single caller). This is an event where a featured caller is hired to conduct the entire program for the event.
 - a. This may be a sub event dance within an overall larger event (i.e weekend dance with a special evening dance featuring the “guest caller”)
 - b. This may also be a specific club or organization feature caller that conducts the entirety of the evening or activity dance.
 - c. SARDANSW programming guidelines in these instances will apply only to:
 - i. the MC introduction of the Feature caller when applicable;
 - ii. The dance level of the event hosted

Note: session programming and format in this case is the responsibility of the feature caller and not the SARDANSW committee

2. Multi “Feature Caller” events. – there are two kinds of multi caller functions
 - a. Limited callers with full timed rotating sessions by dance level
 - These are event dances with no specific feature callers. Callers here are allowed one full bracket (Hoedown & Singing Call) and must fit within the timed requirements of the program. There may be occasions where two callers are designated for the bracket. In these cases the option is available to call both parts together, or as individual numbers. In this latter case, the caller whose name appears second in the program would be the one designated for the Singing Call.
 - b. Multi “Open Caller” events where callers rotate on varied sessions and variable time frames. (For example: Conventions programming may be allocated with great variation from a bracket portion (a hoedown or singing call) to a full hour session in a specific hall and level.
 - These types of dances have rigid programming schedules and callers and cuers must adhere to the program and bracket design as allocated by the SARDANSW program Committee. For longer multi bracket sessions, the caller or cuer may tailor his/her session within the time allocation but must still adhere to the timing and programming requirements provided by the event coordinators

Single bracket or bracket portion callers must adhere to the type and structure of bracket as provided by the program committee.

PART 3. BRACKET COMPOSITION

While the ideal program bracket or tip is one Hoedown (patter) and one singing call, other possibilities exist which may be suitable or even necessary to meet the purpose of the dance. For example, a state convention may require a slightly altered format in order to place callers who are either new, or may not have the necessary skillset to call a full bracket. Numerous possibilities exist here which must be tailored to meet the specific aim of the dance.

SARDANSW hosted or sponsored events will utilize the following guidelines for structure consistency of sessions and brackets within SARDANSW Events. The most common bracket forms are:

1. **2 number bracket** (Hoedown & Singing Call)

- a. 2 Number Brackets (Single Caller) shall make up the majority of a Session. Each will consist of a Hoedown (which may be extended slightly) and a Singing Call. The bracket should not exceed a maximum of 10 minutes in length.
- b. 2 number bracket (both Singing calls)
 - 2 number Singing Call (single caller) brackets **may not** be used in Evening Sessions (except as noted for final brackets, unless specifically requested by a caller who has a specific gimmick that requires two singing calls)
 - 2 number singing call brackets may be used as approved by the programming committee with two callers as part of the programming desired outcome (for example – new caller showcase)

2. **3 number bracket** (2 Singing Calls with Hoedown in between, or a hoedown and 2 singing calls) **IMPORTANT NOTE:** The impact on dancer mood and bracket consistency is detrimental to a comfortable dancer floor if this format is overused. Ensuring all experienced callers are able to present at least once per evening is not a valid reason. Distribution of calling brackets is based on the overall event and the programming committee should ensure that previous events records are reviewed to ensure a fair rotation of experienced callers in the evening programs at subsequent events. The focus of the programming must remain on maintaining dancer enjoyment and not caller ego. Continued 3 number multi-caller brackets, like multiple and continuous Round-Ups are wearing, tiring for dancers and not conducive to sustained energy and enjoyment.

- a. This type of bracket should be used sparingly and only as a means of maximising exposure of new callers which share a bracket with a more experienced caller. This bracket should not exceed a maximum of 14 Minutes in dance length.
- b. This format is often used with multiple callers (1-3) sharing the bracket.
- c. The last caller in a 3 number bracket should always be the one with the most experience and ability to lift a lagging floor

3. **3 number bracket** (3 Singing Calls)

- a. This is a common format for specialty dances with all singing calls
- b. This format is common for new caller showcase dances or sessions
- c. This format is common for end of evening function brackets where multiple callers share a “harmonising format of calling”

Part 3.A. BRACKET COMPOSITION (structure) GUIDELINES

SARDANSW has adopted the following guidelines which should be adhered to in general terms for the planning and programming of SARDANSW hosted or sponsored Square Dances. (**Note:** SARDANSW hosted or sponsored Round Dance specific events are subject to similar consideration however programming will be more determined by the specific round dance function coordinator(s)).

1. DAYTIME SESSIONS (Multi-Caller sessions)
2. DAYTIME SESSIONS (Solo and Dual Caller Sessions)
3. EVENING SESSIONS (single or multi Caller **Single Session**)

DAYTIME SESSIONS (Multi-Caller sessions)

In sessions or events where there are multiple “open caller” brackets or sessions:

- a. Multiple 3 number brackets are permissible to maximize the number of callers given a chance to call (for example – convention brackets). As with evening brackets:
 - The last caller in a 3 number bracket should always be the one with the most experience and ability to lift a lagging floor
 - The more experienced caller may assist (with permission) less experienced callers but this assistance should be minimized
- b. Wherever possible three number multi “open caller” brackets should be minimized and interspersed with 2 number single caller brackets.
 - These latter brackets may be used in order to provide a possible 'lift' after a bracket that could have an uncertain outcome.
 - Where possible, no more than three multiple 3 caller brackets should be used in an afternoon session.

DAYTIME SESSIONS (Solo and Dual Caller Sessions)

These sessions are lengthy (greater than ½ hour) sessions within a multi-level multi session event or applicable to structured single focus sponsored events such as workshops within a convention event. They allow the caller(s) to structure and program the individual sessions within the overall event.

- a. Where possible, longer session programming should be structured to build upon one another and continue to elevate the dancer mood.
- b. Workshop sessions, if possible should be structured to build upon each previous session to further enhance the dancing experience.
- c. With the exception of workshop teaching inclusive brackets within a session, the two number bracket format of a hoedown (patter) and a singing call shall be used.
- d. Brackets should be limited in length to 12 minutes maximum, and 20 minutes maximum if a workshop-teach is part of the program.
- e. Please note here that the above timing also includes the time spent in moving the dancers into squares.

- f. Final session brackets should be adjusted to elevate the mood of the dancers and should maintain the specific caller programmed focus of the workshop or session.

EVENING SESSIONS (single or multi Caller Single Session)

- a. 2 Number Brackets (Single Caller) shall make up the majority of a Session. Each will consist of a Hoedown (which may be extended slightly) and a Singing Call. The bracket should not exceed a maximum of 12 minutes in length.
- b. Up to two 3 number brackets may be included in the program in order to present callers who otherwise would not necessarily qualify to call at such session. This bracket should not exceed a maximum of 14 minutes in length.
 - The last caller in a 3 number bracket should always be the one with the most experience and ability to lift a lagging floor
 - The more experienced caller may assist (with permission) less experienced callers but this assistance should be minimized.
- c. 2 number Singing Call brackets **SHOULD NOT** be used in Evening Sessions (except as noted for final brackets) and unless specifically requested by a caller who has a specific gimmick that requires two singing calls.
- d. Duet brackets may be placed within a specific session. It is expected that these duet brackets will still retain a Hoedown and a Singing Call, with both callers involved in each of the numbers.
- e. If the evening session is a feature caller dance (i.e. limited to 1-3 callers); Two-Number brackets shall make up the evening session with the following criteria.
 - The possibility of one two number bracket with two “showcase” Singing Calls is fine.
 - Duet brackets may be placed within a specific shared session.
 - Duet brackets will still retain a Hoedown and a Singing Call, with the callers involved in each of the numbers.
 - Final bracket may be three Singing Calls.

The Final Bracket of an evening session may be 3 Singing Calls but is generally preferred as a hoedown and 2 singing calls. This is at the discretion of the Programmer.

PART 3.B. BRACKET COMPOSITION – ROUND DANCING

Round Dancing Bracket composition. Most round dance brackets are consistent to a structure of specific phase (level of dance) and number of rounds to be conducted within the bracket. This is usually two rounds with a short break.

1. Phase (levels) and style of dance are generally advertised for each bracket and phases are generally within one level of each other for each bracket.
2. Other variations may apply at specific Round dance Only SARDANSW Functions.

Use of Round Dancing during a primarily Square Dance event and the use of Squares in a primarily Round Dance event

1. The square dancing umbrella is inclusive of square dance, round dance, and clogging. The two most prevalent in most SARDANSW events are square and round dancing. These two activities should not be mutually exclusive. The use of rounds between square dance brackets should be encouraged for all SARDANSW functions. The use of Squares between Round dance should be encouraged for all SARDANSW round dance functions. (although historically this is not the case)
2. The number of rounds or squares and the type/level of the “between bracket” should be determined by the specific dance programming committee.

(See Special Appendix e: Special Section 5 for more detail)

PART 4: CALLER PLACEMENT

The placement of callers is only applicable to the structuring of multi “open caller” SARDANSW sponsored or hosted events. Multi “Feature Caller” events or sub events within an event shall be programmed by collaboration with the feature caller(s) and the program committee coordinator.

The following programming criteria on caller placement are applicable to all SARDANSW hosted or sponsored events and is applicable to both daytime and evening sessions:

3. Category - Callers shall be programmed according to the assessment criteria presented in the SARDANSW Caller database. This database has 6 categories, based on assessments by members of SARDANSW Callers Cooperative.

These categories are:

1. Callers that fall into the 90 - 100 ranking
2. Callers that fall into the 80 - 90 ranking
3. Callers that fall into the 65 - 80 ranking
4. Callers that fall into the 50 - 65 ranking
5. Callers that fall into the 40 - 50 ranking
6. Callers whose ranking is below 40 or Callers that are unranked (experience, etc)

Note: SARDANSW has an ongoing assessment program in place. Where a caller is registered but is outside the scope of this system, it is advisable to follow the ACF Database ranking system. For those who do not fit in this area, common sense rules shall be applicable.

All Callers that wish to be programmed at SARDANSW hosted or sponsored dances **MUST** be willing to call at all levels they are eligible to call. This is to ensure that newer dancers receive exposure to the more experience callers.

For this reason it is also recommended that more experience callers have equitable slots in the mainstream halls. Allowance may be made to maximize exposure of new callers by sharing a 3 number bracket with an experienced caller but this should not be done at the sacrifice of the full 2 number bracket of the experienced caller

It is noted and accepted that:

1. Higher level experienced will receive more time behind the microphone than newer callers or callers that only call limited levels.
2. Callers with a higher category assessment rating shall also be given more positions on a lower level program than callers who as yet do not have equitable experience and capability.

PART 4.A. PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are applicable to the programming committee for all daytime and evening programming sessions with multiple “open callers”.

1. Common sense must prevail in the presentation and programming of Afternoon Sessions.
2. Callers that meet the assessment criteria and are eligible to call at SARDANSW events should be allocated space in the program in such a way that they have the potential to shine.
3. Newer and more experienced callers should be relatively evenly spaced in the program in order to maintain a consistent dancer mood elevation scale
4. Callers are to be informed that they are to adhere to the programming schedule
5. Experienced callers may be asked to modify (slightly shorten) their performance by the program coordinator as required to maintain program schedule consistency if requested. This is not asked of newer callers.
6. Experienced callers mentoring newer callers should be available to new callers during their performance and assist (with their permission) if required
7. The programming committee will seek to maximize the calling exposure of all eligible callers at all levels they are eligible to call.
8. Experienced callers should be programmed at all levels they are eligible to call at to allow newer and lower level dancers the full range of calling experience. This may lessen the duration at lower level multi session hall but is required for the benefit of new dancers.

PART 4.B. PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE GUIDELINES – CALLER PLACEMENT

When programming an event schedule, program committee guidelines for caller selection shall be:

1. All callers must call in every hall up to the maximum dance level they have indicated on their application (subject to Caller category evaluation)
 - a. **Note:** a single caller may be evaluated as having different categories at different levels
2. The Upper 3 categories shall be given single caller two number brackets (hoedown and singing call)
3. Less experience callers that do not meet the upper 3 category assessment may be used in more than one Three Number (multi caller brackets) which contains at least one category 1-3 caller.
4. Depending on numbers of callers, newer callers may be limited to a single number in a three number bracket.
5. Programming of new caller trainees may be done at the discretion of the program committee subject to the objective assessment and recommendation of their mentor.
6. New callers (trainees) should where applicable, share their two or three number bracket with their mentor.
7. Program committee members **MUST** allocate program brackets beginning at the lowest advertised level of the dance. For example:
 - a. If a weekend sponsored event has the levels Mainstream and Plus and is a multi “open caller” event, then the program committee will program the full mainstream program first to include all eligible callers.
 - b. The program committee will then program the Plus level with all available callers
 - c. The program committee will then program the Advanced level session and brackets with all eligible callers
8. Programming shall be done in the following sequence
 - a. Eligible Category 1-3 callers will be bracketed in each hall for the first and last sessions and interspaced evenly throughout the remainder of the Mainstream program (2 number bracket)
 - b. Eligible Category 1-3 callers will be bracketed in each hall for the first and last sessions and interspaced evenly throughout the remainder of the Plus program (2 number bracket)

- c. Eligible Category 4-6 callers will be bracketed interspaced evenly throughout the remainder of the Mainstream program (2-3 number bracket depending on number of eligible callers performing)
 - d. Eligible Category 4-6 callers will be bracketed interspaced evenly throughout the remainder of the Plus program (2-3 number bracket depending on number of eligible callers performing)
 - e. Remaining time brackets are to be allocated to category 1-3 callers but may be shared with a category 4-5 caller at the discretion of the programming committee. (2 number bracket – shared patter and singing call both callers)
9. Where ever possible, redistribution and placement of time slots and sessions at higher levels should be done to accommodate mentor participation for new callers and avoid rush-scheduling between halls.

This programming format is used worldwide for most SARDANSW dances and has proven the most effective for ensuring the overall best quality consistency of calling and the best overall enjoyment for the dancers.

Placement and program scheduling is dependent on the number of eligible (category assessed) callers programmed and the associated levels to which they call.

The lowest level must always be programmed first to ensure quality assurance and maximum enjoyment for the dancers

Examples of Calling Distribution:

Category 1-3 Will have a number of calls allocated that is around double the average.

- The opening or closing bracket in the Evening Hall, or placed in positions during the evening program whereby their skills can enhance the program
- Where for example, after calculating the number of slots available
- Category 1 may have a total of 8 or 9 calls
- Category 2 may have a total of 7 or 8 calls
- Category 3 may have a total of 5 or 6 calls
- NB - These are examples only

Category 4 Callers will have a number roughly equivalent to the average:

- In the above example a Category 4 caller may have up to 4 calls
- The majority of calls allocated here would be for daytime slots, however it is possible that a caller in this category may be used in an evening session within the confines of a 3 number bracket
- NB - This is an example only

Category 5 caller on the same program may have a number that is less than the average

- In the same example a Category 5 caller would have up to 3 calls
- These calls would predominantly be during the daytime. Under special circumstances a caller within this category may be given a single spot within a 3 number evening bracket
- NB - This is an example only

Category 6 caller will be given a lesser number of calls

- In the same example, a Category 6 caller would only be given a single call within the program. This would be in a daytime session only.
- NB - again, this is only an example.

Please note here that while the above examples use a number consistent with the number of calls (hoedowns and Singing Calls) possibly allocated, the actual make-up shall be placed as full brackets - thus a caller having 8 slots would have an actuality of 4 brackets.

Appendix a: SPECIAL SECTION 1. BRACKET & EVENING LENGTH

Most square dance evenings average 3 hours in length. It is generally calculated that each hour is broken into a minimum of 4 – 15 minute segments; or 12 dancing brackets.

Although the standard length of a singing call is 4 minutes and a hoedown of around 7 minutes in length (extended), the additional 4 minutes of a bracket are used to allow for dancer transition, announcements, square up time allocation and change of callers/cuers, etc. It is possible to tighten this timing further in order for further Square Dance or Round Dance brackets.

At SARDANSW hosted or sponsored events, there is usually a requirement for at minimum two brackets of round dancing. Depending on format of the dance, this could be two (2 number) round dance brackets, or 1 round between square dance brackets.

Ideally, dancing should be continuous through the program with very little “dead air” time between brackets. This is achieved through:

- Careful programming and adherence to the schedule
- Master of Ceremony function limitation to opening and closing of session only
- Each caller/cuer introducing his/her successor when applicable
- Informing the dancers of the Choice round ups at the end of the bracket if applicable to minimize organizational set up time for the dancers.
- Commencement of calling once more than 2/3 of the floor is squared. Do not wait for that one last dancer in the one last square that has to be coaxed onto the floor. – If they want to dance, they would be there already. Do not force them.

Note. At conventions this job is allocated to floor marshals so that lag time is minimized.

Comment on Program committee function during the dance:

- At least one member of the Program Committee **shall** be present for all sessions involving multiple callers or cuers. This is to ensure smooth operation of the Program and to keep the session running on schedule.
- The program supervisor (must be a caller or cuer as applicable for hall) is responsible to ensure that the dance program runs smoothly and efficiently.
- The program supervisor is responsible to also fill and/or schedule callers for any “no-show” brackets.
- The program supervisor is authorized to decide without consensus and allocate “vacated” brackets with suitable caller/callers for the bracket.
- If no replacement caller or cuer is available, program Supervisor may fill step in and fill the vacated bracket.
- Wherever possible, if the no-show is part of a multi-caller bracket, the remaining callers/cuers in attendance sharing that bracket may fill the empty slot if capable.

Appendix b: SPECIAL SECTION 2: MASTER(S) OF CEREMONY

Main MC

For all SARDANSW sponsored or hosted events, a Main Master of Ceremony (MC) shall be chosen.

- The person chosen as the Main MC should be the President of the Association or a caller appointed by the Program Committee for such duty.
- This person shall open the event with the daytime welcome and introduce special guests and/or dignitaries where applicable.
- The person chosen as Main MC will open the evening event, deliver the welcome speech and introduce any “special guests” dignitaries where applicable.
- It is also ideal if this Main MC makes closing remarks at the end of the dance.
- It is not strictly required that the MC be a caller, however, it is recommended that the caller for the opening bracket accompany the MC for the opening to ensure a seamless transition from speeches to dancing.
 - Ideally the role of MC is taken by a Caller appointed by the programming committee who will then introduce the president or his delegate (if it is not him/herself) for any speeches etc. that are required.

Session MCs

Depending on format of the overall event it is possible to have separate master of ceremonies in each hall. The duties of these persons are strictly administrative functionality to start the overall sessions for the afternoons and mornings where applicable and to ensure the continuity of dancing is un-interrupted.

The function is similar to a program director for each hall. It is not required to introduce each and every caller or cuer as this is the responsibility of the preceding performer

Appendix c: SPECIAL SECTION 3. MUSIC FOR ROUND-UPS

The programming committee should have a list of any special events, demonstrations, or announcements that require specific musical use or introduction. Examples could be such things as the Colonel Bogey March for the first General Round-Up, or Happy Birthday music for a special announcement of a 100 year old dancer or even Auld Lang Syne if the event is a New Year's dance party. ‘

- The programming committee **shall** be responsible for supplying suitable music to be used to meet these requirements.
- The sound engineer or person in charge of sound shall be given copies of this music in a suitable format.
 - The caller or sound engineer may have his/her own suitable music for specific events. These should be approved by the program committee where possible.
- All music chosen for round-ups **must** be of such type and tempo to be uplifting and create enthusiasm with the dancers and be based on a 2/4 or 4/4 tempo. (“boom –chuck” or “march” tempo or "pop" beat)
- The “dirge” (of any type) is not to be used at SARDANSW functions unless the event is of a nature that specifically calls for such music. (An example would be the playing of “Last Post” at a dance honoring a specific person or event where that event being honoured is the reason for the dance.)

Appendix d: SPECIAL SECTION 4. LIAISON WITH STATE CONVENTION COMMITTEES

Specific Hall Programs (Session Times, Session Types, etc.) **shall** be the responsibility of the Convention Committee. Hall programs and broad general timings will be given to the SARDANSW program committee who may be able to make suggestions as to possible alternatives where deemed necessary.

Caller registration is the responsibility of the Convention committee. A full list of caller and cuer applications is to be provided to the programming committee as soon as possible after the closing of registration to allow time for caller category analysis and evaluation if required.

Reasonable time must be allowed for the Program Committee to establish a suitable Event Program. The length of time is by mutual agreement of both the Convention Committee and the Program Committee. Common sense rules must apply here.

It is the responsibility of the Program Committee to determine the physical aspects such as the specific caller bracket and session caller/cuer allocations to meet the organized structure given by SARDANSW Program Committee.

It is the responsibility of the Program Committee to liaise with the Convention committee on a regular basis.

Any changes to the provided hall programs provided by the Convention Committee must be justified and approved by the convention committee prior to finalization of the overall program release.

The Convention Committee may provide input and suggestion regarding the Caller Schedule and Make-up of the Physical Program, however final responsibility for the Calling and Cueing Programs remain with the SARDANSW Program Committee.

Appendix e: SPECIAL SECTION 5. ROUND DANCING

Round Dancing is an integral part of our activity, and should always be featured within a given program (see Part 1, Section C).

While the general make-up of the Round Dance program is at the discretion of the cuer selected to cue within a given timeframe, (bracket or session) three general rules can be applied. These are:

1. Rounds should be selected that complement the Square Dance Program
 - a. This means that rounds should be level associated with an applicable square dance program they are to share a hall with. For example:
 - Within Mainstream rounds should not exceed Phase 3 and a majority should be Phase 2
 - Within a given Pre-Rounds evening session the Rounds designated should not exceed Phase 3+2. Some exceptions can be made due to extreme popularity of a specific dance.
2. Cuers should coordinate with the SARDANSW Round Dance Program Manager/Coordinator as to what type of round dance is required within specific times (e.g. Fast, slow, Two-Step, Waltz, Rhumba, etc).
3. When Pre-Rounds are featured, Cuers should liaise with the Programmer regarding general time frames, as well as what is required for finishing the session (tempo, etc.)

Appendix f: SPECIAL SECTION 6. DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY

It must be recognized that both Square and Round Dancing have specific terminology used by callers and cuers that may not be fully understood by all who may read this document. For that reason a list of terminology has been provided.

SARDANSW	Square and Round Dance Association of New South Wales
ACF	Australian Callers Federation
ARDA	Australian Round Dance Association
Event	a specific function hosted or sponsored by SARDA NSW. This may be a full week, a weekend, a day or an evening event. Examples would be state conventions or weekend special dances.
Hall	The physical location where the dance is to take place
Program	The detailed outline of what is to take place where, when and who is presenting
Session	The broad bracket of timing within a dance program that is related to one level, focus or purpose. This may be a 1 hour challenge level 2 workshop, or a 30 minute plus session with one caller, a 3 hour clogging session, or a 2 hour phase 6 round dance workshop. These longer focused events are programmed within the overall event schedule.
Bracket	a bracket is the full time allocation given to a single portion of a session for either square or round dancing. It may consist of up to three separate pieces of music but generally consists of two. For square dancing this would be a hoedown and a singing call, for round dancing this would be two separate round dances.
Number	this is a term used to denote a single piece of music within a bracket. (for example: a 2 number square dance bracket would mean two pieces of music, a hoedown and a singing call or two singing calls)
Hoedown	a hoedown is a piece of music used for a patter call (a call that is spoken or chanted, rather than sung to the tune of a popular song). Most hoedowns remain traditional fiddle tunes with simple chord progressions, with no discernible melody. These musical rhythms are produce using various instrumental means however the overall structure has remained to be a background rhythm for dancers to move to whilst callers direct the flow of choreography. The purpose of the hoedown music is the same purpose as a military drum beat. Hoedown music is done at Duple meter (double meter) which is 2 beats to the bar usually in 2/4 time (Boom-chuck) or 4/4 (March) time

Singing call	a usually reformatted piece of music of any type re-done to meet generally 7 64 beat of the song which remains recognizable and true to the original melody line and lyrics. Choreography is structured to fit within the phrase and maximize the use of the original lyrics in opener and tag lines as close as possible to the original music.
Round up –	a term used to collect the dancers onto the dance floor and organize them into groups of 8 dancers or squares. Several method variations exist.
“Open caller” event	an event where multiple callers and cuers apply to perform at the event and are allocated performance slots in the overall program by an independent committee. “Open-callers” at these events are not paid.
“Featured Caller/Cuer”	A feature caller/cuer is usually a person of sufficient fame or renown within the chosen field of calling or cueing that they will be a significant draw to dancers to attend the event. Featured callers are generally paid to perform and allocated “star billing” generally by being the only caller(s) at the dance or being the selected callers for the “main event” within the overall dance program

QUOTABLE QUOTES ...well, sort of,

- "A woman without a man is like a fish without a bicycle" - **Vickie Dean**
- "Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly, and applying unsuitable remedies" - **Greg Fawell**
- "In America, only the successful writers are important. In France all writers are important. In England, no writer is important, and in Australia you have to explain what a writer is." - **David Cox**
- "We British have an extraordinary ability for flying into a great calm." - **Paul Bristow**
- "A jury consists of 12 people who have been chosen to decide who has the best lawyer." - **Jeffrey Garbutt**
- "Consultants are like castrated bulls...all they can do is advise." - **Ken Ritucci**
- "WE Irish are a fair people. We never speak well of one another." - **Kevin Kelly**
- "Auditors are the troops who watch a battle from the safety of the top of a hill; and, when the battle is over, come down to count the dead and bayonet the wounded" - **Howard Cockburn**
- "Brass Bands are all very well in their place -outdoors and several kilometers away." - **Les Heaton**
- "Jazz has a bad name because some of it is crap, and it's boring" - **Jeff Seidel**
- "Whatever women do, they must do twice as well as men to be thought half as good. Luckily, this is not difficult." - **Helen Hodalj**
- "I find television today to be very educational. The minute someone turns it on, I go to the library and read a good book." - **Wade Driver**
- "I love children, especially when they cry - because then someone takes them away." - **David Todd**
- "Children make the most desirable opponents when playing Scrabble - they are both easy to beat and fun to cheat." - **David Cox**
- "Getting older has its definite advantages, after all what is more enchanting than the voices of young people when you can't hear what they say?." - **Brian Hotchkies**
- "The best years of a woman's life are the 10 years between 30 and 31." - **Gary Petersen**
- "If you can't annoy somebody, then there is little point in putting pen to paper - **Barry Wonson**

January 28-29 2017 S.A.R.D.A.N.S.W. CALLERS WEEKEND

(see attached flyer)

This two day Conference will be held on the weekend of January 28-29, 2017 at Corrimal RSL Club. Cost will be \$50 per person which will include full hot lunch on both days, Entrance for Saturday Evening Dance and all sessions and materials.

- Partner cost is \$35 (meals and dance included).

Program:

SATURDAY MORNING	10.00AM - 12.30PM
SATURDAY AFTERNOON	1.30PM - 4:30PM
SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE	7.30PM - 10.30PM
SUNDAY MORNING	10:00AM – 12:30PM
SUNDAY AFTERNOON	1:30PM – 4:00PM

Please send form and payment to:
SARDANSW,
PO Box 453,
Casula Mall, NSW 2170

or direct deposit to CBA a/c 10436279, BSB 062329 (ref Jan 2017)

NAME(s).....

ADDRESS.....

EMAIL.....PHONE.....

CALLER TICKET.....AMOUNT PAID.....

PARTNER.....AMOUNT PAID.....

Editor's final words ... well at least for 2016.

Well, that brings us to the end of our first year of the SARDNSW Newsletter. I do hope that you have enjoyed the content and found the articles and items, informative and entertaining.

I would re-iterate that the best way to read this Newsletter is to print it out as a double-sided document. There are a lot of pages to go thru, and I know that I find it difficult to just sit in front of my computer and read something of this length....it is just too much to digest all at once!!

I am always looking for anything that would be of interest to callers. This includes choreography, ideas, comments, articles, and basically anything that could possibly entertain and enrich our overall square dancing and calling experience.

In coming issues we plan to have articles on Music, Ethics, General changes within our leadership roles as callers, more historical articles, and many other topics that affect us all, plus more choreography, and hopefully, an occasional dash of humour.

Please feel free to pass this Newsletter on to any of your friends who you feel will gain some form of benefit from the contents.

I have attached the flyer for the Saturday Night dance at Corrimal in January 2017. As noted earlier, we will also have a full weekend Callers Clinic, presented by Mel Wilkerson. This weekend will be similar in format to that of our first one at this venue in January this year. Mind you, we will have one major change: **the air conditioning is now working!!**

For the January 2017 caller workshop seminar we are changing the format for this specific weekend where we will only have a single presenter (Mel Wilkerson) over the two days. This allows for a more structured event.

Mel has been involved in many similar Caller Weekends overseas and we look forward to his presentation. As we have meals to organize, it is important that you **BOOK IN EARLY**. We have to supply numbers in advance to the club, so your early registration is very important.

One important thing to note is that events such as this are subsidized by SARDANSW. With the cost we apply per attendee, we would not cover all the various costs involved. The subsidy applied by SARDANSW for this weekend is around \$20 per caller - this shows the continuous commitment to Caller Training programs by our Association.

As always, dancers wishing to support caller training and act as live lab test rats are always welcome.

Best wishes
Barry



For your dancing pleasure:

SATURDAY

**January
28th**

7.30 - 10.30pm

CORRIMAL RSL CLUB

Princes Highway, Corrimal

WITH WORKING A/C

**featuring
MEL WILKERSON
& Special Guests**

**THE SQUARE & ROUND DANCE
ASSOCIATION OF N.S.W.**

**PROUDLY PRESENTS
A SPECIAL NIGHT OF
SQUARE DANCING**

**Come along and join
us for a great night
of dancing**

MS & PLUS

ADMISSION

\$15

THE RED BARONS SQUARE DANCE CLUB

is pleased to invite you to a

SPECIAL CELEBRATION

10TH - 12TH NOVEMBER, 2017

with Callers

BARRY WONSON

and Special Guest

KEVIN KELLY

**RED
BARONS
43rd**

Barry's
50th
Year of Calling

Barry's
70th
Birthday

WOONONA-BULLI RSL CLUB (10 mins North of Wollongong)

Friday Night / Saturday Afternoon & Evening / Sunday Morning

Early Bird prices apply - Register now

For information & Tickets

Contact Barry or Sue - 42294059 or bjwonson@gmail.com

**GOOD DANCING
GOOD CALLING
GOOD COMPANY
GOOD TIMES**

THE RED BARONS TRIPLE CELEBRATION WEEKEND

November 10/11/12th 2017

WOONONA-BULLI RSL CLUB

With KEVIN KELLY & BARRY WONSON

This is a very special event for The Red Barons Square Dance Club. We will be celebrating 3 special events this weekend:-

- 1) The Red Barons Square Dance Club 43rd Birthday
- 2) Barry's 50th Year of Calling
- 3) Barry's 70th Birthday

For this unique event we have chosen to go back to where all of our Special Festival Weekends began...at the Woonona-Bulli RSL. We had many great weekends at this club and look forward to having the use of the auditorium once again. This will be the last of the weekend functions that we have been organizing for nearly 40 years. While the Red Barons Club will still be running, we have decided to no longer have any more special weekend functions. We have had a wonderful time over the years with all the special weekends that have been run under our club banner, but feel that the time has come to look at other alternatives.

For this weekend we plan on having the following Sessions

Friday Night : 7.30-1030 (MS & Plus & Rounds)

Saturday Afternoon 1.30 - 4.30 (MS & Plus session, followed by Advanced session)

Saturday Evening 7.30 - 10.30 (MS, Plus, Rounds)

Sunday Morning 10.00 - 12.30 (MS, Plus)

TICKETS: EARLY BIRD	\$45.00 (to December 31st 2016)
SLOW RISING BIRD	\$50.00 (to July 30th 2017)
REGULAR TICKET	\$60.00

.....
To SUE WONSON

PO Box 1819 Wollongong 2500

Email: bjwonson@gmail.com

Surname.....First Name.....Ticket \$.....

Surname.....First Name.....Ticket \$.....

Phone #.....Email.....

Contact Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Payment can be made by cheque payable to Red Barons SDC or by direct deposit to BSB 062-626 A/C 10008106 Red Barons SDC (please use your surname as ref). Please email your details as above if using direct deposit.

ACCOMMODATION IN & AROUND WOONONA

Woonona-Bulli RSL Club is located on the Princes Highway, which is also the main street of Woonona. The club is located on the southern side of Woonona. The club has lots of parking at the rear.

The suburb of Woonon is located only a few kilometers north of Wollongong central. For people traveling south, take the Bulli Pass exit and head south thru Bulli and then next is Woonona. There is an alternate route (slightly longer but not as sharp) by passing the Bulli Pass exit and heading down Mt Ousley. Take the exit to the left at the bottom of the pass to the big roundabout at the junction of the Princess Highway...turn left, thru Fairy Meadow, Corrimal and then Woonona.

The following businesses offer accommodation that is within a reasonable distance from Woonona-Bulli RSL Club. There are other alternatives that can be found via a websearch. Please note that these are listed in descending order relative to distance from the Woonona-Bulli RSL Club.

WINDMILL MOTEL, WOONONA 42848766

- 1 minutes drive

BULLI BEACH TOURIST PARK 42855677

- 5 minutes drive

CORRIMAL HOTEL (PALM COURT HOTEL) 42844086

- 10 mins drive

CORRIMAL BEACH TOURIST PARK 42855688

- 10 minutes drive

CORRIMAL BEACH BED & BREAKFAST 42832899

- 10 minutes drive

TOWRADGI BEACH HOTEL 42833588

- 13 minutes drive

COMFORT INN, TOWRADGI BEACH

- 13 minutes Drive

LYNDON HAVEN B & B 42859491

- 10 minutes drive

WOLLONGONG SURF LEISURE RESORT 42836999

- 13 minutes drive

All of the above have websites where you can check prices and view the type of accommodation available. All are within a short drive of the venue.