

November/December 2025



... for the latest news in the square and round dance community.

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FCA President's Message

This Season's Beginner Lessons

SSD List?

Old Basic/Mainstream List?

New Mainstream List?

What to teach for the 2025/2026 season?

Thinking that we all should strive to have a few 1/2 way dances for our beginners, but what if you teach SSD this season, while

another caller 35 miles to the North teaches the old Basic/Mainstream list? Then another caller 25 miles to the South decides to get a jump start on the New Mainstream list one season early and teaches that list?

What are our chances of having a successful New Dancer Dance 1/2 way thru the season? I would say not good, if multiple clubs come to the same dances.

So since it is a given that the New Mainstream list will go into effect on September 1, 2026, and we already know what the calls are on the New Mainstream list, why not just start teaching the New Mainstream list NOW?

We have a suggested teaching order established for the New Mainstream that is currently being voted on (at the time of this writing), but we also have teaching orders for the other programs that will eventually be dropped.

It should not be hard to take the New Mainstream list of calls and put them in the similar order of a previous list as a guide. Some flexibility will be needed. You might be slightly off, but you will be "close to most".

Once Callerlab releases the Official New Mainstream teach order, you merely will need to adjust your list to comply. Meanwhile all the classes through out the state, will be on a better track to dancing/learning in a similar order and a same list of calls.

In Summary:

Let us use the New Mainstream list this season, while using the previously approved teach orders as a guide.

As to the Plus classes, just stick to the current Plus list and teach order for one more year and re-evaluate then.

Mike Gormley President, Florida Callers Association 2025/2026

Florida Federation Announces 2026 Officers

President Jenny Green (Central))
VP/Parliamentarian Annie Minor (Southeast)
Secretary Steve & Cathy Grant (Northeast)
Treasurer Ailene Picheco (Central)

Florida Callers Association Announces 2026 Officers

President Mike Gormley
Vice President Bill Cassidy
Secretary Darrell Cevasco
Treasurer Dave Vieira

71st Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention

"Survive the Curse of the 71st" - A Halloween party!

https://www.dancergram.com/aa-FWS/convention/hotel.html/https://www.dancergram.com/aa-FWS/convention/2026AllItems/2026RegistrationForm.pdf

CALLERLAB'S Updated Mainstream and Plus Program Lists

Dear Friends of CALLERLAB,

CALLERLAB's updated (New) Mainstream and (New) Plus program lists take effect September 1, 2026. Starting that date, new teaching should begin from the new lists. A transition period will follow, allowing callers and dancers time to adjust. Use caller judgment to keep your dancers successful and confident on the floor.

Press Release - Transition Guide

<u>Press Release: Dancer & Caller Transition Guide for (New) Mainstream Program – CALLERLAB</u>

We encourage you to share this news with your dance community. More information, including draft documents, a roadmap, and FAQs, is available at **callerlab.org/tippp**.

We thank you for your partnership in supporting callers, clubs, and dancers worldwide through this important transition.

Teresa Berger Executive Director CALLERLAB director@callerlab.org 785-783-3665 CALLERLAB.org

Square Dance Insurance

Greetings,

This [information] should be forwarded to EVERY club in your organization. And EVERY club should make sure all their members and visitors to their clubs are aware of this information. This needs to be done immediately.

Notice for ALL clubs enrolled in the USDA Insurance Program:

No Independent Square Dancer is Insured with USDA Insurance. There are no exceptions. There is <u>not</u> an individual insurance policy the club can purchase from the USDA Insurance program to just insure the independent dancers. Each club sold work with their regular visiting independent dancers and encourage them to join the club.

A suggestion would be to have a notice on the sign in sheet you have for independent dancers. Here is some suggested wording.

"As an independent (non-club member) dancer you are not covered by the club's square dance insurance. Please know that you are dancing at your own risk. May we suggest you talk with an officer of the club about joining and becoming one of the insured dancers."

Elizabeth Sanders USDA National Insurance Coordinator

Updated Insurance Rates and the new Accident Report Form for 2026 from the United Square Dancers of America website have been posted.

These forms are provided on the insurance page of the Florida Federation website. Each form is an Acrobat .pdf file that can be filled in online, saved and printed --OR-- printed and completed by hand.

When filling out forms please put names in alphabetical order.

All forms requiring money or a signature must be mailed (with the check) to your Association Insurance Chairperson.

Clubs should address all correspondence to their Association Insurance Chairperson.

For $\underline{2026}$ the insurance premium is $\underline{$6.50}$ per member with a minimum club fee of $\underline{$52.00}$.

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Therefore smaller clubs, 8 members or less, are a flat \$52.00 for the club.

Each Association Insurance Chairperson will forward the forms to the Florida Federation Insurance Chairperson.

A reminder - if you are having a New Years Eve Dance your coverage expires at midnight 12/31/2025 unless you have renewed for 2026!

75th National Square Dance Convention



77th (2028) National Square Dance Convention[®]

This convention will be held in Daytona and you can register NOW at https://77nsdcfl.com/. If you would like to be on the committee, go to https://77nsdcfl.com/contact/.

We are three years away from this convention, but we have already been working on it for a year or two!

What have we accomplished so far?

- Established committees of approximately 50 people
- Decided on a theme, by-line, and logo
- Negotiated special rates at hotels and event facilities
- Decided on fundraisers
- Designed and purchased ribbons

Loss of two more clubs

We regret to announce that we have lost two more clubs

- 1. Strawberry Travelers a square dance camping group has announced they will close their group by the end of the year due to lack of volunteers to fill offices and insufficient participants at the camping weekends.
- 2. Happy Promenaders will no longer dance in southwest Florida due to lack of participation.

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