

Minutes

# ALBERTA BJMC 2022/2023 UPDATE MEETING



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2022  
7:00 PM MST  
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

## Team Canada Dance

Director Bonnie Dyer  
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[www.teamcanadadance.ca](http://www.teamcanadadance.ca)

MINUTES IN **BLUE**

### INVITED

All Alberta dancers/families wanting more information on Team Canada Dance's participation in the upcoming 2023 IDO World Acrobatic Dance Championship and the 2023 IDO World Dance Challenge in Monterrey, Mexico, as well as the 2023 World Ballet, Jazz, and Modern/Contemporary Championships in Europe.

### Agenda:

#### 1. ATTENDEES

18 participants in attendance, 2 IDO Canada representatives, and 2 BJMC/Acro Choreographers

#### 2. WELCOMING WORDS

Bonnie Dyer introduced herself, National Director of Team Canada Dance, welcomed everyone for coming. She introduced the choreographers in attendance, Shelley Tookey, Lisette Stein, and potentially Kelci Tookey to come on later. She introduced Melissa, the team admin. Contact Melissa if you have any TeamSnap or payment questions.

#### 3. 2023 COMPETITION OPTIONS

Bonnie proceeded to talk about the types of competitions that were suggested for the 2023 team(s)

##### **a. IDO World Dance Challenge (IDO-WDC)– Monterrey, Mexico**

[www.ido-worlddancechallenge.com](http://www.ido-worlddancechallenge.com)

Licensed IDO event – the IDO Mexico organizer can choose own rules/regulations

IDO-WDC will be run similar to North American 'final' competitions meaning you dance once, get awarded, high scores go to dance-off, win cash prizes and scholarships

Multi-genre and open entries (dancers can enter whatever they wish)

Maga Domene of IDO Mexico is the organizer, Bonnie Dyer is the IDO Supervisor (not organizer). IDO Canada enters the dancers

##### **b. IDO World Championships**

IDO World Championships are the top dancers from each country and limited entries

Dancers dance in elimination rounds

Each discipline has its own Championship (≈week)

- The event in Mexico is 3 events in one week: IDO World Acrobatic Dance Championship (July 22-23), Workshops (24-25), and IDO World Dance Challenge
- Dancers can do all 3 (if they qualify for Acro), or just partial

#### 4. UPDATE ON EGYPT

- Bonnie commended the choreographers for deciding not to the 2022 IDO Ballet, Jazz, and Modern/Contemporary Championships scheduled for Egypt.
- The championships were moved out of Egypt, and we don't have confirmation where it will be held this year yet. Bonnie thinks the global climate summit may have something to do with the change in security of Egypt.
- The IDO Sport Director decided not to take any chances and moved the championships back to Europe, but we don't know to which country yet. There was mention of Slovenia and Italy being the front-runners to host.
- Due to all the uncertainty, Bonnie feels the choreographers made the right decision. Bonnie mentioned that the choreographers had several meetings to discuss the team and it was a difficult decision for them, but they did what they felt was right
- Sometimes the dancers/families may feel that they are 'in the dark' with no information coming their way, but there is a lot going on behind the scenes and we are always working on the teams. We are always talking and holding meetings. Bonnie doesn't like to give out information until it is confirmed to avoid confusion and the information that may not be accurate or up to date.

#### 5. ENTRY FEES FOR IDO DANCE CHALLENGE/MEXICO (these were the 2020 entry fees)

- Same as American competitions and are in US funds
- Solo \$75 USD
- Duo \$55/person USD
- Group \$40/person USD
- Workshop \$250 USD for 2 days (International faculty in all genres)

#### 6. IDO WORLD ACROBATIC DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

- IDO Event in IDO Championship format
- Entry fees are included in the travel fees (as all World Championships, you don't pay entry fees in addition to travel fees). These fees go to IDO directly, whereas the IDO licensed events (IDO World Dance Challenge & Workshop) go to the IDO Mexico organizer
- The 2022 World Acrobatic Dance Championship (IDO-WADC) was postponed in Mexico for a few reasons.
  - The Mexican government extended the school year which meant that the Mexican dancers couldn't attend. Dancers from Mexico, Panama, the Caribbean, etc., make up a large portion of entries, in addition to Canada, US, Australia, and Europe.
  - It will be very interesting and new to compete against dancers from Mexico and area as we don't normally get to do that.

#### 7. BRIEF EXPLANATION ON TEAM CANADA DANCE WEBSITE AND TEAMSNAPE

- Bonnie asked Melissa to share her screen and give a brief overview of the website, [www.teamcanadadance.ca](http://www.teamcanadadance.ca) so dancers/families know where to find information
- Melissa showed the HOMEPAGE (has dates for competitions we are attending), and the AUDITION tab where you will find the next audition information for each province.
- Under the **MORE** tab, you will find a page for each team, such as 2022 BJMC, or 2023 ACRO. On the team pages, you will find the link for the registrations system, rules, team handbook, registration guide, documents for sponsorship, the travel dates, costs, any Zoom meeting links/minutes.
- Melissa then gave a brief overview of TeamSnap. TeamSnap is our communication tool that we use for all teams. On TeamSnap, you will find your:
  - Schedule
  - Roster

- Where to mark your availability and do health checks
  - The MEDIA tab is where you can post any pictures, and videos. You can also find all the documents that we post here.
  - The MESSAGES tab is where you can find the group chat (phone only) or smaller group chats. All emails sent can be found here as well.
  - In summary, TeamSnap holds all the information for the team and also provides a platform to chat, ask questions, and share fun photos and videos.
  - There were no questions for Melissa. Bonnie told the group that if they ever have questions about any of this, to contact Melissa. Don't be afraid to ask!
- Bonnie wanted the group to use this chat for all Team Canada Dance chatter and not make their own. There was another parent on another team who decided to make her own private chat and was sharing information. The information was incorrect, and it caused a lot of confusion with other parents who contacted us to confirm info – which is how we found out about the other group and the other info.
  - Our chat is monitored but not continuously. You can chat freely on the chat and make plans for dinner with the team, or other plans...or talk about local attractions you might want to check out....it can be for fun and information.
  - The information on TeamSnap will always be up-to-date and if there is any confusion on the schedule, go with what TeamSnap says (or contact us to verify that it is correct).

## 8. UPCOMING PLANS FOR THE TEAM

- Bonnie handed over the meeting to Shelley Tookey (who also introduced Lisette Stein)
- Shelley explained how it was a 'really hard' decision to not go to Egypt, beside the safety factor, Shelley would have been travelling without Miss Lisette and Miss Kelci, just by herself. Closer to when the team was about to begin rehearsals, Shelley didn't feel it was a safe location now with the travel advisory recently being changed to include the area we would be attending.
- The Championship ended up being cancelled in Egypt and moving to Europe.
- Planning the team this way, by way of Zoom meetings and so on, we can plan some more positive things to happen, and still thinks the team will remain intact.
- Shelley proceeded to tell everyone what is planned as discussed thoroughly with the choreography team

### THE PLAN:

- Get-together in February – everyone in Edmonton
  - This will be like a mini workshop/class
  - Will do some team-building activities
  - All choreographers will see all the dancers do all the disciplines and will then assess everyone for 'extras' which will include solos/duos/small groups, etc.
  - DATE IS SET FOR SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in EDMONTON at Shelley's Dance Company (SDC)
  - **Children (under 12 yrs.) start at 11am – 1pm** and they will do Ballet, Jazz, Modern, and \*Acro
  - **Junior and Adult groups (13 yrs. and over) start at 1:30 pm – 5pm**, and will be combined for this day as some juniors may be in the adult formation but in their own age category for small group, solos, etc.
  - Junior/Adult will also do Ballet, Jazz, Modern, and \*Acro
  - \*Anyone not on the Acro team yet can audition at this point
  - We will also need to reassess some dancers due to changing age categories from this year. It doesn't mean that they won't be on the team, but may be a difference in which formation, etc. you will be in.

- We always have a lot of juniors that make the team, more than any other age group, and some juniors (depending on age) can fill in the adult formation
- **AUDITION** – anyone who missed the 2022 auditions and want to join the 2023 team can come to this mini workshop class and try-out. They may be awarded a position on the team at this point.
- **MAY** – we will take a break during the competition season and meet up again in May. Exact dates TBA
- **LOCATION** – the reason the locations were split this year on the weekends, such as Jazz in Calgary followed by Ballet & Modern in Edmonton the following day is because it was designed to make it more fair for all the dancers who need to travel for rehearsals. That way, the same dancers don't always have to travel to another city (although some may still have to). The evening times are because dancers do a lot of classes during the weekend, so we are trying to keep dancers in their studio classes.
- **CARPOOLS** – will be arranged so dancers don't need a hotel and can rideshare with others to save on gas and time.
- **MEET** – plan is for 2x in May and 2x in June to get together. Exact date/time will come later as both choreographers run large studios and need to plan, as well as the dancers' schedules from other studios.
- The plan is to send a JotForm to everyone to see everyone's availability to make planning easier and as fair as possible. There is graduation, recitals, etc.
- The rehearsals will be longer, but it will work!
- Then meet again in July
- **Any questions or comments?**

## 9. FUNDRAISER

- Previously, the team did a fundraiser together which included a showcase and a silent auction. The theatre was donated.
- All the proceeds were divided equally among the team members equaling about \$1,100 each!
- Shelley would like to propose to do this again. It gives the team a goal, it's a presentation for the family to see them live, it's a great opportunity, it brings the team together, it helps the parents feel part of it and wanted, and it's just a great idea!

## 10. ACRO

- Shelley handed over control of the meeting to Lisette to speak about Acro
- The Acro Championship is in Mexico –
- The Acro can compete in the Acro Championship as well as the IDO World Dance Challenge in Mexico in the multi-genre competition if they want to compete with other routines or the same routines.
- The Acro Championship is the World Championship so the dancers will perform the same routine more than once in the elimination round format
- HOWEVER – the Acro rehearsals will be held at the same time as the Ballet, Jazz, and Modern as many of the dancers will be doing both and it's easier for everyone involved to schedule it together.
- Miss Lisette is so excited for this and listening to Shelley describe the plan fills her with so much joy and excitement for what's to come
- The last time they did this team together was in 2017 Poland and it was truly a life-changing experience for the dancers and she's so excited to be doing it all again!

## 11. MEDIA

- Bonnie asked if anyone had any connections to any local media outlets, and if so, let her know

- She had a meeting with the owners of a fashion channel out of California who has connections with Euro TV, and they would like to make a documentary to highlight the Team Canada Dance members and showcase their hard work.
- It would be great if local media outlets can film/promote you and the other team members working hard and showing off all your talent
- The film will focus on Team Canada Dance and the International Dance Organization (IDO)

## 12. QUESTIONS & DANCERS

- 1) Are we doing both the Mexico competition and the Worlds in the fall? Or can we choose to do only one?
  - a) YOU CAN CHOOSE, however, you must all learn the same choreography. If a dancer only wants to do the Championships in the fall, then they will have to learn the choreography and another dancer (understudy) will take the same position in the group for Mexico. If a dancer is doing both, their role within the group doesn't change.
  
- 2) How old do the dancers have to be to travel without parents?
  - a) IT DEPENDS on where we are going. Generally, if you fill out the government form for travelling without a parent (see Team Handbook on our website under your team page), it doesn't matter how old the dancer is. Younger kids do better when travelling with a family member. Any dancer travelling without a parent WILL have a chaperone on the team (another parent). Teens do it often.
  
- 3) When do you expect the team to be finalized?
  - a) Shelley answered that she wants the team finalized in the next 30 days. Likely by November 1, 2022, not after the workshop in February 2023. We need to have the team together and finalized – then we can see how many positions need to be filled. PLEASE LET US KNOW WHICH OPTION YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN! You can do both or only one – but we need to know so that we know how many more dancers to bring on to the team
  
- 4) Can the trip be extended longer than a couple days?
  - a) YES – but we need 10 travelers to change the date without additional fees. Bonnie will give the deadline for you to decide how much time you would like to spend at the competition
  
- 5) Cancellation insurance?
  - a) Check with your credit card. If you pay by credit card, most cards have travel insurance on it. We are also looking into group insurance.
  
- 6) How likely will the 2023 BJMC be in Belgium?
  - a) That is a difficult question. Belgium has applied to hold the Championship but there is not contract yet. There can still be another bid from another country who can get a contract and fees together for a venue quicker.

## 13. LAST WORDS

- Bonnie wants everyone to know that we are very grateful for our choreographers and how hard they work and how much planning goes into everything. They are juggling their own studios and their own lives and yet they've taken the time to plan these very exciting

events/opportunities for you. Bonnie wants to give a BIG THANK YOU to them for all their extra time and work

- They aren't getting paid to do this team for what they're worth – there's a lot of extra work behind the scenes that people may not know they're doing, including planning, choreography, costumes, and everything else
- Bonnie appreciates the choreographers and thinks she 'always has the best choreographers out there'
- Shelley thanked Bonnie for her 'very nice' words.
- Shelley wanted to speak to the people who may not know her well and explain that she "doesn't do anything lightly". If she says, "I'm going to do something, it gets done". She continues to say that "we have time, and everyone can focus on school and getting back into their dance – then come February we get back together and do a little team building, we have something for the parents.....plan the event.....see everyone involved with your dancers
- It was stated that "we do it because we love to teach" and she just loves it when dancers from all over come together as it's "just amazing".
- Dance is a community and Shelley says they always say at her studio that it's their family. She wants the same for the Team Canada Dancers
- Shelley says that "we are going to go, and we're going to do it right, not just going to do it". It's the way she feels. She concluded with a thank you to Bonnie, Melissa, and Lisette and Kelci.
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- Bonnie says that she is always on the computer and available for you to email her and ask questions – about IDO, workshops, etc.
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- Anything about choreography/costumes, ask your choreographer.
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- Anything about registration, ask Melissa.
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A lot of you may have friends not on the Zoom tonight, please let them know that this video/minutes will be available on the website.

A DECISION MUST BE MADE BY **NOVEMBER 1, 2022**, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN MEXICO AND/OR EUROPE 2023

#### 14. CONTACTS

- a. Bonnie: [bonnie@cdo-online.org](mailto:bonnie@cdo-online.org)
- b. Melissa: [canadaworlddance@gmail.com](mailto:canadaworlddance@gmail.com)
- c. Lisette: [misslisette@prestigedance.co](mailto:misslisette@prestigedance.co) (Choreography Team)
- d. Shelley: (Head Choreographer) [shelleysdancecompany@gmail.com](mailto:shelleysdancecompany@gmail.com)
- e. Kelci: (Choreography Team) [shelleysdancecompany@gmail.com](mailto:shelleysdancecompany@gmail.com)

#### 15. **Thank you for coming!**

- Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm MST

[www.teamcanadadance.ca](http://www.teamcanadadance.ca)

