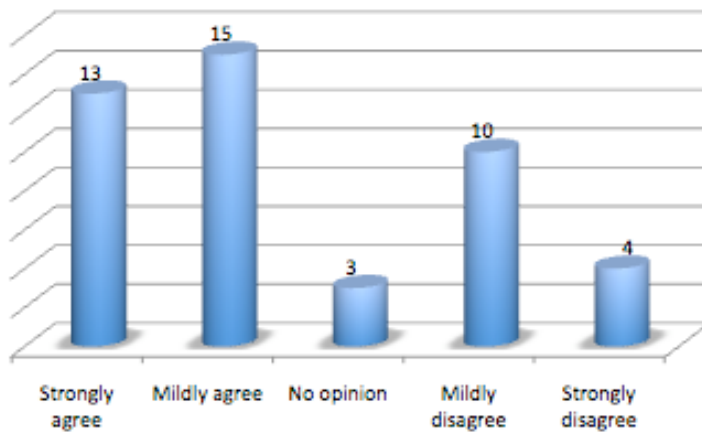


CLUB MEMBER SURVEY YIELDS RICH RESULTS—PART ONE

The DCLS online survey, completed by 45 members, has produced a rich treasure-trove of information. The comments express generally positive views but with many suggestions for improvement. The newsletter will feature highlights of the results over the next several weeks.

At our annual membership meeting on Thursday March 25, the Club will vote on a proposal to permanently change our Club Night dance schedule. Here are some relevant findings on the issue, drawn from four of the questions:

A) Agree or disagree: “The Club offers sufficient opportunities to dance at the levels I prefer.”



B) “What would motivate you to attend Club events more often?” (only comments related to dance levels are included)

- More dancing at my preferred program (C1 or C2)
- More A2/C1 dancing
- More dancing at both or either of my top two levels.
- Higher-level dancing, more of a mix
- More Mainstream and Plus

C) “Are you satisfied with the Club Night schedule now in effect?”

- * First Thursday: Mainstream and Plus
- * Second Thursday: Plus and Advanced
- * Third Thursday: Mainstream and Plus
- * Fourth Thursday: Plus and Advanced
- * Occasional fifth Thursday: Challenge

Yes		29	67%
No		14	33%
Total		43	100%



Written comments:

- I personally am perfectly satisfied. Since I don't know how many dancers dance at the Challenge level, I can't really voice an opinion on how much time should be devoted to them.
- I want to dance A. I'm bored with anything less. You want me to be a full member but I can

- only dance 2 nights/month? I'll pay for the nights I dance only.
- Too much Mainstream when we have so few Mainstream-only dancers
- More Mainstream and Plus
- I think C-1 dancers need another night to dance. It should be integrated with Plus and Adv. dancing nights. Not a separate night
- Mainstream dancers can barely function at any event. They should be required to move up to Plus ASAP.
- If you made the 2nd Thursday A2/C1, you might address some of your Challenge concerns.
- As a Plus dancer, I can dance almost every week.
- I think it's absurd to have no regularly scheduled Challenge with so many DCLS club members dancing at that level... True, Etcetteras and the Barkley Squares make up for the lack of C1 in DCLS...but then why continue with DCLS?
My [suggested] schedule:
 - * First Thursday: Plus and Advanced
 - * Second Thursday: C1 and Advanced
 - * Third Thursday: Plus and Advanced
 - * Fourth Thursday: C1 and Advanced
 - * Occasional fifth Thursday: Plus and Mainstream
- I selfishly prefer the experimental schedule (see next item) Prefer even more... Mainstream thru C-2 Club night dancing
- You need to support Mainstream to have new people coming in
- While I am satisfied with this schedule, I am open to trying something new.
- Preferred a whole evening of Advanced but if the other way brings more people, so be it.
- A strong advantage of this schedule is it's predictable & regular.
- Advanced dancers could be helping the new folk to learn more during club nights. There could be a session of new(er) material (A-tip with a twist) for everyone... I bet some of the callers know how to do that...
- It does not make sense to have Mainstream if all the dancers dance at least Plus

D) "Do you prefer the experimental schedule tried in the latter half of 2009?"

- * First Thursday: Plus
- * Second Thursday: Plus and Advanced
- * Third Thursday: Advanced
- * Fourth Thursday: Plus and Advanced
- * Occasional fifth Thursday: Challenge

Yes		18	43%
No		24	57%
Total		42	100%

Written comments:

- This schedule is good when there are no new dancers in the club. If there are Mainstream dancers who want to dance, we should give them the opportunity.
- As nice as it is to dance higher levels, we need to support our newest dancers.
- Didn't prefer this over the standard, but it is certainly acceptable.
- I would prefer to add Mainstream tips on the first Thursday IF there were any Mainstream only dancers present.
- This schedule appears to totally shut out Mainstream dancers.
- No, I think that the Mainstream and Plus dancers are second-class in the club and should dance the same night as Advanced and Challenge at least 2X/month.
- This is more fair to Advanced dancers, yet still acceptable to this Plus dancer.
- I think it forces the Mainstream students into Plus too fast and some cannot keep up. Thus they don't come back.
- I think it ill-advised to communicate to beginners/newbies that they are not valued.
- Prefer the experimental schedule, but should include Mainstream for short periods after each beginners class.
- If you're going to have a 2-level club, then have BOTH levels every week and keep it simple.
- I wouldn't say I prefer this schedule, but I am open to the change.
- This schedule is a bit harder to remember - and it writes off dancers who are not ready to move to Plus (or should not move to Plus).

- A social club should always include time for the lowest levels or you just become an elitist self-extinguishing group.
- I don't like the idea of Plus-only or Advanced-only nights. An alternative would be Plus/Mainstream and Advanced/Challenge for those nights
- This works if there are no dancers who only dance Mainstream

Note that the findings of this survey are not binding—only the vote at the annual meeting is. If you have strong opinions be sure to pay your dues, attend the meeting, and vote.

Next week: Should the Club support Mainstream and Challenge levels?