

# GPSDC July 4<sup>th</sup> Convention Code of Conduct

The Greater Phoenix Swing Dance Club (GPSDC) is proud to sponsor the July 4<sup>th</sup> Swing Dance Convention, and share our love of swing dancing with dancers of all races, ethnicities, religions, sexual preferences/orientation/gender identities, disabilities/abilities and ages. We welcome the wonderful diversity of our swing dance community and desire everyone to be included and to feel welcome at the event.

Any type of verbal or physical harassment or assault, discrimination, gross un-sportsmanship or discourteous behavior will not be tolerated. Harassment includes, but is not limited to: offensive verbal comments or physical actions related to gender, sexual orientation, ability, age, ability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion; intimidation, stalking, following, disruption of dance or social settings; and / or any unwanted sexual attention or physical contact.

Legitimate concerns of harassment or abuse with a potential partner in contests will be addressed (discreetly), if it can be done without affecting contest fairness and integrity.

Anyone under the influence of alcohol or mind-altering drugs will be subject to removal from the event. Anyone deemed to be 'unsafe / out of control' due to alcohol and or mind-altering drugs, at the discretion of the Chief Judge, may be removed from competitions.

All attendees are required to be respectful of others, both socially and on the dance floor. Apologize for minor mishaps on the dance floor. Do not do dance moves that could result in injury to your partner or to others. Causing physical harm to a dance partner is not acceptable. Remember that someone may have injuries (or recovering) injuries or disabilities/limitations that may not be seen or known that may limit their movements or ability to do certain moves. Do not critique / criticize or try to teach someone on the social dance floor, unless they have asked for your advice.

All attendees must respect others' boundaries. Do not invade someone's personal space (on the floor or off the floor), do not incorporate overly 'flirty' or moves/movements that could be interpreted as sexually aggressive moves or sexual touching in your dancing.

Be gracious in accepting a 'No, thank you' replies to your offer to dance or if someone withdraws from you in a social setting. Everyone has the right to dance or not dance (for whatever reason) with everyone else at any time. Remember, "No" means "No"; no exceptions are tolerable.

Respecting others and creating a comfortable environment extends beyond the dance floor to all social settings and social media; before, during and after the event.

Due to our contract with the venue, no outside food or alcohol is allowed in the ballroom. Please be respectful of our relationship with the venue!

Many people have allergies or medical reactions to various food items and strong fragrances / laundry products / hygiene products which can result in severe medical conditions. To keep all event attendees 'safe' and comfortable, everyone is requested to:

- Avoid heavy fragrances (perfume, cologne, anti-perspirants, essential oils, patchouli oil) and heavily scented laundry products.
- Not eat (or handle) shellfish, peanuts, or other food items with strong odors.

Airborne illnesses and hand-to-hand skin contagion are always a concern. Please take appropriate precautions if you are subject to sneezing or coughing, please wash your hands after using the restroom or handling food items.

Dancing is an exercise causing perspiration and close contact. For the comfort of others, please follow good hygiene practices and wash / dry off often and change clothing as needed.

If anyone witnesses, or is a victim of, any inappropriate activities or behavior, please contact the Chief Judge and Compliance Officer, or contact the GPSDC Event Directors. Ideally, complaints should be documented in a written report. Any issues will be investigated and a variety of resolutions may be made. If a report is requested to be confidential, the offending party will not be contacted and there would be no resolution. *Violators are subject to removal from the event and to being denied entry at future events. Violators may be reported to other Events. Legal authorities may be contacted if a situation warrants such an extreme measure.*

*Everyone can dance their best when they feel comfortable, safe and respected. We appreciate your support and efforts in making the Event a safe, relaxing and fun experience for all attendees!*