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**WDC CC Report: January 15, 2019**  
**Topic: WDC Competitors Commission Report**

**Introduction**

The WDC CC would like to take this opportunity to thank the WDC Board of Directors and the Competitive Dance Executive Board for giving us this opportunity to present this first report of the newly formed WDC Competitors Commission. Each member of the Management Committee would also like to thank the WDC BOD for giving us the opportunity to serve on the WDC CC and to represent all registered WDC Competitors. We aim to continue to do good work by representing the needs and interests of all WDC Competitors in an unbiased and inclusive manner.

**Launching of Website and Social Media Platforms**

Since our inception in August of 2018, the WDC CC has launched its website at [www.wdccompetitors.com](http://www.wdccompetitors.com). We have formed the website as a source of information for all competitors as well as a means for which any competitor can reach out to us. We are pleased to report that we have had many visitors and have also started a membership program to the WDC CC website. This membership is free to join for WDC competitors and will be required for participation in our WDC CC Surveys and other WDC CC related events.

In addition, we have launched our Social Media platform which includes our Facebook account and Instagram account. We also use these sites as a source of information and communication with all registered WDC competitors. We are pleased to report that we have had much activity and responses through our Social Media channels.

**Darren Hammond Fundraiser**

The WDC CC would also like to report the results of the Darren Hammond Fundraiser. Within one week of our inception, we were notified of a fellow competitor, Darren Hammond's, medical situation. Darren Hammond required immediate and very costly surgery due to an abnormal bone growth on his hips. The WDC CC, immediately set up a GoFundMe Fundraiser Campaign and reached out to all members of the dance community. We are pleased to report that within 4 weeks of initiating the Fundraiser we were able to raise sufficient funds to completely cover Darren's costly medical bills. Darren is well on his way to recovery and is likely to return to the dance floor soon.

## **WDC Surveys**

The WDC CC is pleased to report that after a month of operation, we launched the WDC Surveys which can be found on our website. These Surveys are meant to serve as a bi-directional source of communication, information, and connection between any and all registered WDC competitors and the WDC CC. These surveys are a way for the WDC CC to get to know what the competitors would like and how they would like to see improvements within the WDC. We are pleased to report that we have had a number of responses to the topics raised on our initial survey.

### **Survey #1 Results**

The following three questions were asked on Survey #1. We've had approximately 75 responses as of the date of this report.

#### **1) *Should WDC Championship events continue to include World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Testing?***

**Results:**

-YES: 59 (78.67%)

-NO: 12 (16.00%)

-NOT SURE: 4 (5.33%)

#### **2) *Should the WDC bring back the WDC Over 40 Professional Championship categories?***

**Results:**

-YES: 57 (76.00%)

-NO: 7 (9.33%)

-NOT SURE: 11 (14.67%)

#### **3) *In what ways can the WDC make the World Ranking System more appealing to the competitors? What changes or additions would you like to see in the WDC Ranking System?***

**Results:**

-Please see additional attachment for responses.

## **WADA Results from Top Couples**

In addition to the Surveys, the WDC CC has reached out to the top 12 couples in the Professional category and a number of top couples in the Amateur Category and asked for their opinion as to whether the WDC should continue participating in WADA Testing. Here are the results:

**Results:**

-YES: 4 (10.26%)

-NO: 17 (43.59%)

-NO RESPONSE: 18 (46.15%)

### **Ukrainian Pro-Am Letter**

The WDC CC has received a letter from a group of dancers in Ukraine expressing concern that there is a growing number of participants in Pro-am events that seem to be participating in an unscrupulous manner. Some are participating as the student while being teachers of kids, others are ex-sports dancers participating as the student in Ukraine while competing as a professional abroad. They have requested information as to the current Pro-Am rules and regulations within the WDC. We have informed them that the WDC utilizes the NDCA Pro-Am rules and regulations and that any assistance we may be able to provide them we will continue to do so.

### **Blackpool Dance Festival Prize Money Sponsorship**

The WDC CC is pleased to report that we will be sponsoring the prize money for the Youth Latin and Amateur Ballroom categories at the British Open Dance Festival. We shall look forward to further supporting and sponsoring the future generations of dancers.

### **Conclusion**

The WDC CC is pleased to present this first report to the CDEB and the BOD. We look forward to continuing to serve the needs and interests of all registered WDC Competitors and are open to hearing any suggestions that the CDEB and BOD may have for us on how we can improve our commission and our work. We are looking forward to continuing the conversation and thank the CDEB once again for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

**The Management Committee of the  
WDC Competitors Commission**