

Guide for Social Dance Floor Etiquette

Gents ask a partner to dance in a courteous manner and ladies do not refuse without a good reason.

Gents have the privilege of leading their partner in the dance to the best of their ability unless there is agreement otherwise.

Everyone is required to **hold the weight of their own arms** while dancing and not lean on their partner. Supporting the weight of a partner is tiring and they may be reticent to dance with you in future or choose not to dance at all.

All dancers are required to **take responsibility for learning the dances**, as well as correct **holds and posture** to avoid causing problems for your partner.

Line of dance is established in an anti-clockwise direction around the floor to ensure a comfortable flow for everyone and to eliminate chaos.

Music with **specific timing is provided** for all to enjoy, and all dances are governed by that timing. Confusion for others is likely if some are not adhering to the appropriate timing.

Respect for all dancers' space on the floor is important. Arm movements that invade others' space may cause injury or damage to glasses etc.

Expressing disapproval of partners' momentary errors is not going to support a happy evening for either partner. It's a moment that can't be retrieved.

Teaching on the dance floor is by consent only and should not impede other dancers. It is courteous to dance to the level of your partners' ability.

Applause for good music after a dance is very much appreciated and encourages the persons arranging the music.

Thank your partner at the end of each dance to express your enjoyment.

Ladies are to be **escorted to their seat** after a dance and not abandoned on the floor.

Adding **'pops' or any other substance** to a dance floor can be hazardous to other dancers and you could be liable for accidents resulting.

There are other ways of managing a slow floor.

Couples are encouraged to **be aware of single dancers** who are **not having the opportunity to dance**. **Offering an occasional dance bracket** to them would ensure everyone enjoys the evening.

It would be helpful to all if **visitors and new dancers were welcomed** and introduced around.

Everyone contributing to a **happy, supportive atmosphere** for our dancers can make a big difference to the ongoing viability of dances for the future.