



# Queensland Line Dance Association Inc.

## 2023-2024

### PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

It is an enormous privilege to be completing this QLDA President's report for the seventh year. We have come a long way since we started in 2017.

This year I, along with the following Committee Members, Tracey Daffey (Vice-President), Susan Wright (Secretary), Mary Biles (Treasurer & Membership Officer until October 2023), Cathy Breed, Lorrae Goding, Ruth Goding, Paula Ogilvie, Theresa McFarlane and Teigan Oliver, have been working hard for the benefit of our members and line dancing across Queensland in general. Brigitte Salmon joined the Committee in October/November 2023 as the Temporary Treasurer & Membership Officer to replace Mary. Thank you, Brigitte, for stepping in to help us out.

The Management Committee was formed deliberately so that we would have representation from all sectors of our state, keeping in mind that we were established to be a platform for line dancing across Queensland. In the last 12 months we have continued to promote line dancing across Queensland through a variety of platforms which include our Website, Facebook Page, Newsletter, Queensland Line Dance Ball and the QLDC (Queensland Line Dance Competition). Unfortunately, this year our Synchronised Socials were cancelled – we could not find a suitable date for us all but we are looking forward to their return in the coming 12 months.

The Management Committee meet each month – or as close to as possible – face-to-face or by Zoom. There have been many achievements, both big and small, but we are all dedicated to this wonderful association and what it stands for. Our achievements should be applauded, and we should all feel very proud of what has been accomplished in the last 12 months. I must say thank you to the Management Committee for all their hard work during the year. We all have different roles to play, however we are a team and in the long run – it is a team effort!

Mary Biles, Theresa McFarlane and Paula Ogilvie have not re-nominated for their positions on the Management Committee for 2024-2025. On behalf of QLDA, I would like to thank all of them for their incredible contribution to QLDA.

*Theresa McFarlane* joined the committee in 2018 and has always been ready to step up when needed. She was the MC at our Ball last year, DJ'd the QLDC Social and this year co-MC'd QLDC with John Hughes – effectively learning the ropes from him. Theresa is also responsible for designing a few of our Flyers. She will be sadly missed on our committee as she always made valuable contributions to our discussions. She has promised us that she will help us whenever she can – we will hold you to that Theresa.

*Mary Biles* joined the committee in 2021 and then became our Treasurer and Membership Officer in 2022. She worked tirelessly in this position, setting up our finances in an Accounting Package – not an easy task. In October 2023, Mary resigned due to ill health but continued to be an active member of our Management Committee. She was instrumental (along with Tracey Daffey) in organising and running the incredibly successful North Queensland Event – Day of 100 Dances in March this year in Townsville. This event was her idea, and it was really well received and supported by line dancers in the northern part of our state.

*Paula Ogilvie* has been a member of our committee for the past 12 months. Her attendance at QLDA events and contributions to our meetings and discussions have been very much appreciated.

Now to report on the year that was.

### **Membership**

At the end of the financial year QLDA had 272 financial members, which is an amazing feat and a credit to all the networking and advertising that we do during the year. Thank you to all our members for your continued support of QLDA.

### **OneMusic Blanket Licence**

In conjunction with **OneMusic**, QLDA once again signed off on a Blanket Licence for our instructors. This Blanket Licence is wonderful for our instructors and allows them to copy music for their students, conduct classes, socials and workshops at any venue. For 2023/24 we had 68 Instructors covered under our OneMusic Blanket Licence. That is a record number for us. Thank you to the QLDA Instructors who have come on board with the Blanket Licence.

### **North Queensland Event – Day of 100 Dances**

On March 9, Mary Biles and Tracey Daffey ran an incredibly successful Day of 100 Dances in Townsville. There were over 170 dancers in attendance with a program to suit all levels including lots of split floors. Many thanks to the North Queensland Instructors and dancers who supported this fabulous event. I am sure it will be a “keeper” and we are looking at running this event every second year. Thank you to Lorrae & Ruth Goding who were also in attendance. A total of \$2284 was raised and donated to the Salvation Army Faithworks Branch in Townsville from the event.

### **Queensland Line Dance Competition (QLDC)**

The Queensland Line Dance Competition (QLDC) was held at the Pine Rivers Showgrounds (Lawnton) on Saturday and Sunday 15/16 June. We had a record number of entries this year and extended our competition to 2 days. The whole weekend was an amazing success and the standard of dancing across the entire weekend was wonderful to see. I must congratulate all our competitors on their performances - you are all winners to me.

Jennifer Hughes was our Head Judge for the weekend (with Margaret Parrish and Luke Watson also taking on this role over the weekend). Thank you to the other judges: Melody Tummers, Delwyn Swaisland, Tayla Kennedy and Roxanne Moates for coming on board with the judging this year. There were lots of helpers on the day apart from the Committee Members present – so thank you for helping us make this event the success that it was.

On Saturday night we ran a Social for everyone with Rebecca Ross being the DJ for us this year. It was very well supported by a whole range of dancers from all levels and experience. Rebecca was kept on her toes playing a range of dances from Beginner to Advanced and Old to New. Thank you, Rebecca, for doing this for QLDA.

### **Queensland Line Dance Ball**

We had a change to the structure and venue of our 2023 Queensland Line Dance Ball. We moved the Ball to the Morayfield Sport and Event Centre which was an amazing venue with plenty of room to dance. The Ball which was held on Saturday 7 October was just a “One Night” event starting at 4pm and finishing at 10pm with the theme “Black with Gold &/or Silver”.

It was an enormous success with Travis Taylor from Gunnedah as our Workshop Host. Many, many thanks to Travis for supporting us for this event. We had 2 Stages operating for the first time and from all reports this was well received by dancers. Harder dances being led on one stage and the easier options on the second stage. Thank you to all the instructors who came on board to lead dance brackets. Many thanks to everyone else who helped and supported us for this event.

Our Charity for the event was “Care Kits for Kids QLD” and QLDA were able to donate a whopping \$5,500 to them from the proceeds of our Ball. This actually took the total donated to Care Kits For Kids QLD to \$11,104.70. The extra \$5604.70 was from the previous year’s Synchronised Socials. As I have said many times, line dancers are very generous people.

## **Donations**

QLDA is a not-for-profit association, so each year we donate profits to our chosen charities for the year.

In the 23-24 financial year the following donations were made:

**\$5 500** - Care Kits for Kids

**\$2 284** - Salvation Army Faithworks (Townsville)

## **Facebook Page**

The QLDA Facebook Page has continued to be very popular with lots of likes/engagement/shares etc. The credit for this lies squarely at the feet of our Vice-President, Tracey Daffey – she is the QLDA Moderator for our page. She keeps us amused with her daily little quips, quotes, quizzes etc etc. This is one of those jobs that is ongoing, and I know how many hours Tracey spends getting this page to be so interactive – thank you.

## **Newsletter**

The monthly Newsletter also continues to be very popular with our members. Lorrae is the driving force behind this – she starts it and I finish it. We do need your contributions though. If you have a Workshop/Social etc – send your articles and photos into us. I love seeing what everyone else is doing around the state. We get incredibly positive comments about the information in our newsletter. We offer our members a Newsletter 11 times a year and I think that we have one of the best newsletters in the country – I may be biased though!

The sad news is that Lorrae has resigned from her Newsletter co-editor's position because of her business commitments. On behalf of QLDA I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all the newsletters that she has been a part of – over 70 in total I think. What an accomplishment!!

## **Website**

The Queensland Line Dance Association website continues to evolve and improve. With the help of our tech Anthony, this year we have been able to create a "Class Locator" which can be used to find classes with our QLDA Instructors across Queensland as well as some in NSW, Victoria & Western Australia. There have been many reports that this tool has been useful when dancers are travelling and looking for classes to attend. We will continue to use this website to promote Choreography, Events/Workshops, Class Lists, the Ball and the Competition to name a few of the features.

I hope that the coming year will be a good one for us all.  
Take care everyone and stay safe.

Jo Rosenblatt

QLDA President

25 July 2024