

Santa Clara Valley Square Dancers Association
General Dance Program

SITUATION: Relatively active area with Plus as entry level (no Mainstream clubs), but too few new dancers are coming through beginner classes and ready to dance full Plus.

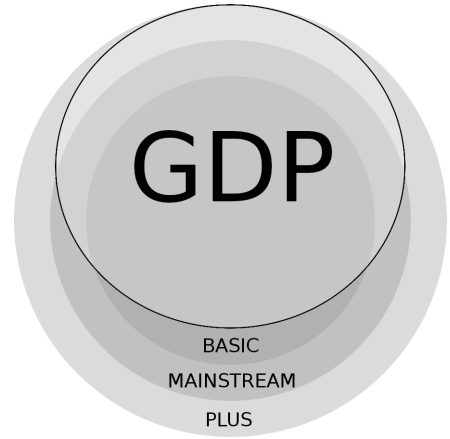
DIAGNOSIS: Classes take too long, can't start frequently enough, Plus just too much for some people, etc., etc. – we've all heard this before!

STRATEGY: Introduce a new program about half the size of Plus but including some "fun" Plus calls and support it with frequent dances, to allow new teaching approaches and schedules to develop and to allow people to feel they can be active members of the square dance community without dancing Plus.

IN CONTRAST TO: (1) Attempting to change the general club/dance level (a la ACA) – we are presenting this as an additional program, *not* as a replacement for Plus. (2) Using Mainstream for this purpose – Mainstream is too far from zero, too close to Plus, and past attempts to introduce it in this area have failed.

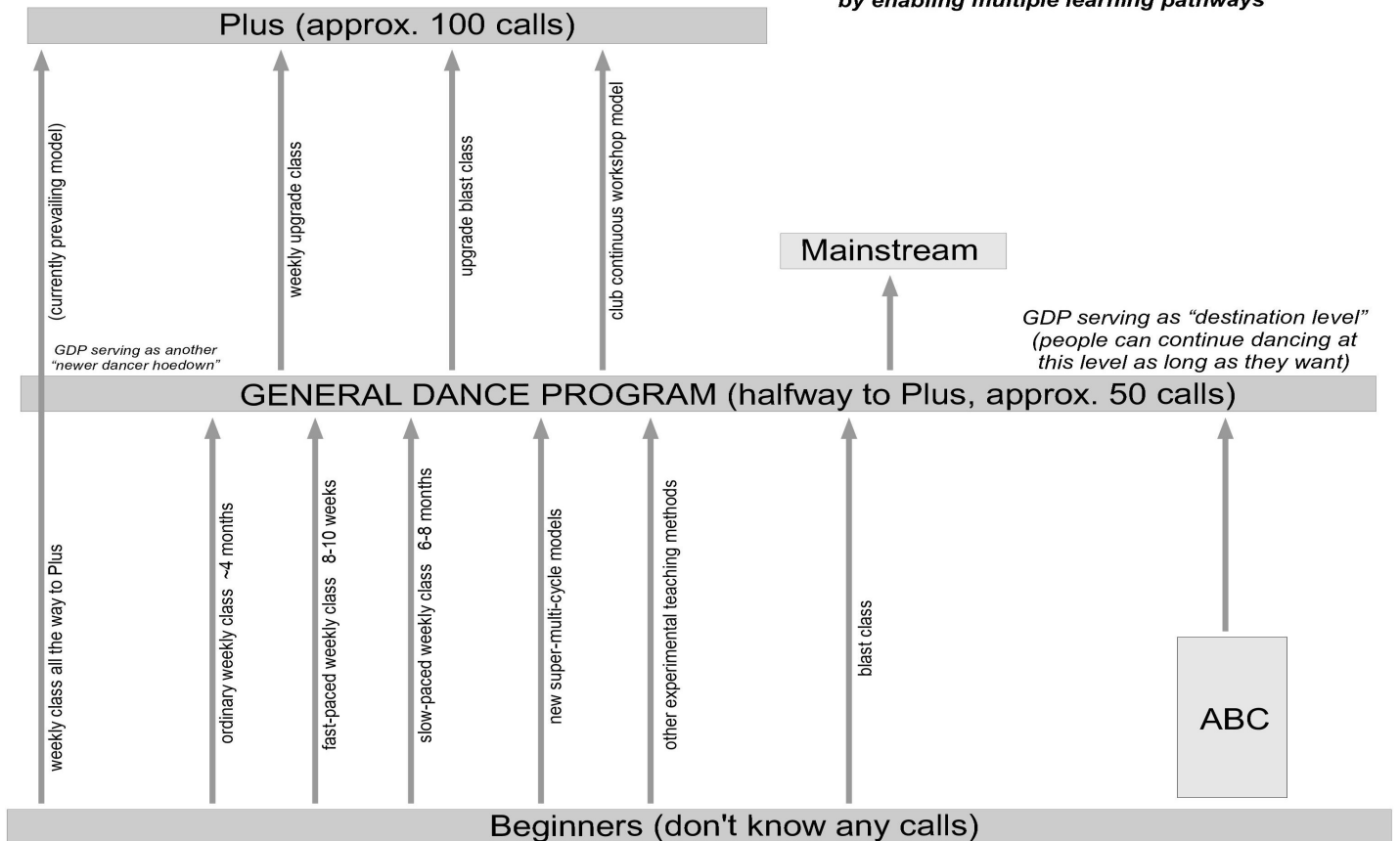
HISTORY: August 2013, initial concept; Fall 2013, development of detailed proposal and list; November 2013, plan adopted by SCVSDA; January 2014, started holding dances (four held so far – serving combination of current Plus dancers, not-quite Plus dancers, and new dancers far enough along in zero-to-Plus classes); Summer 2014, list reviewed and updated.

FUTURE PLANS: September 2014, GDP hall at annual festival ("Jubilee"); October 2014, reach target of holding dances at least once per month.



Growing Our Dancer Population

by enabling multiple learning pathways



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For more info: <http://www.scvsda.org/gdp>

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General Dance Program

The SCVSDA GDP approach combines a call list about half the size of Plus with a regular schedule of dances making use of relatively simple applications of these calls and designed to be maximally friendly to newer or more casual square dancers (active solo rotation, no dress code, no rounds or star tips) while treating them seriously as part of the local square dance community.

Calls

Circle Left/Right
 Forward and Back
 Dosado
 Swing
 Promenade (incl. Single File)
 Allemande Left
 Arm Turn Left/Right
 Right and Left Grand
 Weave the Ring
 Star Left/Right
 Pass Thru
 Rollaway
 Ladies In Men Sashay
 U-Turn Back
 Courtesy Turn
 Ladies Chain (incl. all 4, 3/4)
 Lead Right/Left
 Veer Left/Right
 Bend the Line

Circulate (named dancers, Couples, columns, All 8, Box, Split)
 Right and Left Thru
 Grand Square
 Star Thru
 California Twirl
 Square Thru
 Trade (named dancers, Partner)
 Step to a Wave
 Alamo Style
 Swing Thru
 Run
 Pass the Ocean
 Extend (from ¼ tag)
 Wheel and Deal
 Double Pass Thru
 Zoom
 Flutter Wheel (incl. Reverse)
 Sweep ¼
 Trade By

Touch ¼
 Ferris Wheel
 Cloverleaf
 Pass to the Center
 Hinge (single)
 Cast Off ¾
 Spin the Top
 Walk and Dodge
 Slide Thru
 Fold (incl. Cross)
 Tag the Line
 Half Tag
 Scoot Back
 Recycle
 Ping Pong Circulate
 Load the Boat
 Track 2
 Roll
 Diamond Circulate
 Single Circle to a Wave
 Cut the Diamond

Dancer Identification

Boy/Girl
 Partner/Corner
 Head/Side
 Couple numbers
 End/Center
 Leader/Trailer

(Note: GDP does not include a “teaching order”. Calls are listed here in the same order as in CALLERLAB lists for the convenience of those who are familiar with CALLERLAB programs, but this is not a recommended teaching order and classes are free to teach the calls in any order. This is simply “what dancers are expected to know” when they come to a GDP dance.

Rules

Facing Couples Rule
 (step to a wave)
 Passing Rule
 (passing right shoulders)

Miscellaneous Terms

Home
 Bow to Your Partner/Corner
 Pull By
 Step Thru
 Face Left/Right/In/Out/
 partner/corner
 Heads/Sides Wheel Around
 and Make Lines
 Square Your Set
 Thank Your Square

(List as of 25 Aug 2014)

List Size Comparisons

by CALLERLAB call numbering

