



General Dance Program (“GDP”)

“90% of the fun of Plus in *half* the time.”

December 19, 2013

What is the General Dance Program?

- An Easy & Fun Way to Get More People Square Dancing
 - Reduced Teach Time Can Make It Easier to Commit to a Class
- A List of Calls Selected from the Basic, MS, and Plus Lists
 - Not Just a Halfway Point, but a Standalone “Destination Level”
- A Series of GDP Dances Sponsored by SCVSDA
 - (Mostly) Monthly Saturday Night Dances, Starting With:
 - January 11, 2014 with Harlan Kerr & Keith Ferguson
 - February 1, 2014 with Keith Ferguson & Rich Reel
 - April 5, 2014 with Bob Elling & Harlan Kerr
 - Classes Can End Year-Round and Feed Into Monthly Dances

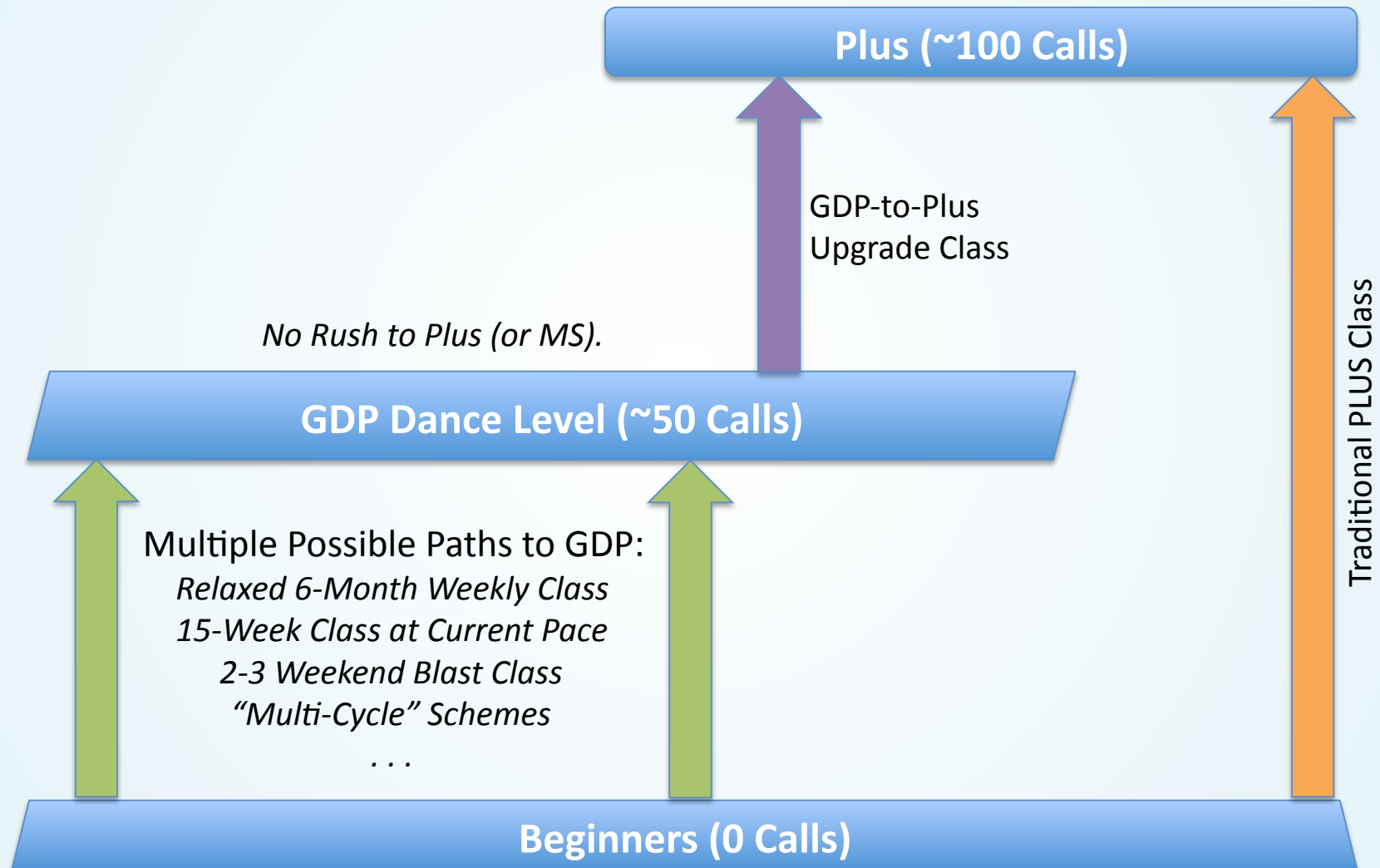
Where Did GDP Come From?

- **Committee of Silicon Valley Callers & Dancers**
 - Led by Joe Dehn, who wrote the initial proposal to SCVDSA
 - Developed GDP List & overall Dance Program in late 2013
- **Contributors to GDP Call List Design:**
 - Joe Dehn Louis Bookbinder Jim Davis
 - Keith Ferguson Mary Gingell Kurt Gollhardt
 - Jim Osborne Roger Smith
- **List Derived from CALLERLAB “ECTO” Proposal**
 - We also analyzed other regional “short” lists
 - Calls selected for danceability, “fun”, ease of learning

Why Do We Need GDP?

- Attendance at Square Dance Activities is Down
 - Many clubs are struggling to keep afloat
 - Dances & classes are more fun with more squares
- GDP Addresses Some of the Many Causes:
 - Length of time commitment to learn
 - Prospects lose interest waiting for next class to start
 - Square dancing perceived as hokey or old-fashioned
 - GDP helps a little, by downplaying “traditional” attire
 - GDP is *not* the whole answer; creative marketing is required

How Does GDP Relate to Plus?



Who Are GDP Dances For?

- Dancers who have *completed* a GDP class
- Plus Dancers (GDP is a strict subset of Plus)
- Plus Students that have learned all GDP calls
 - Near end of traditional CALLERLAB teaching order
 - OR a Plus class could put GDP calls earlier in order

What's the Dance Format?

- The SCVSDA GDP Dances will be GDP Only
 - No Star Tips, No Rounds
 - Standard Applications, not DBD or APD
- Both Solos & Couples Welcome
 - Solo Rotation managed by Kurt Gollhardt
- Square Dance Attire Optional
- Saturdays, 7:30 – 10:00
- Typically 1 or 2 Popular Local Callers

Where Do I Learn More?

- SCVSDA GDP Website:
 - <http://www.scvsda.org/gdp>
- Includes:
 - GDP Dance Schedule
 - FAQ, Mini-FAQ, Detailed Proposal
 - GDP Call List, Sample Teaching Orders
 - GDP Calling Guidelines & Teaching FAQ
 - This Presentation