



WORLD MANIFESTO FOR EXCELLENCE IN COUPLE DANCESPORT

The International Vision of IDSF Fondazione Heritage

---A DECISIVE MOMENT FOR DANCESPORT---

Dear colleagues, teachers, athletes and dancesport enthusiasts,

Today, couple dancesport stands at a decisive moment in its history.

This is not simply a question of names, acronyms or organisations. It is a choice of vision. It is the responsibility to decide what future we want to build for our discipline and what values we want to pass on to future generations.

Couple dancesport is born from the encounter between art, technique, culture, discipline and passion. It is one of the few forms of expression in which movement becomes emotion and where two people, through years of sacrifice, study and pursuit of perfection, succeed in transforming music into a universal language capable of moving the world.

At the heart of this extraordinary discipline is the couple, in which the lady represents the flower of artistic interpretation, while the gentleman expresses its strength, leadership and technical construction. Together, they are not simply two athletes, but one artistic and technical identity. Two individual journeys that merge into harmony, connection, interpretation and excellence of movement.

In recent years, our world has undergone a major transformation. The spread of new disciplines and the evolution of competitive formats have created new opportunities, but they have also raised a fundamental question:

What direction do we want to give to the future of dancesport?

---THE ROOTS OF OUR DISCIPLINE---

The history of organised dancesport originates from a specific foundation: the two great disciplines that built the international prestige of our movement:

Standard and Latin American Couple Dancing.

Upon these foundations were built the great world competitions, the most important teachers, the most prestigious schools and the generations of champions who made dancesport recognised throughout the world.

Over time, many historic federations have chosen a development model based on horizontal expansion, broadening the number of disciplines offered through individual categories, Solo Dance, Duo, Team, Groups, Pro-Am and many other competitive forms. At the same time, other organisations have steered Standard and Latin American dance teachers towards the development of alternative models, introducing simplified formats and entertainment-oriented initiatives, often based on individual performances and following an approach distinct from the discipline's traditional technical and artistic pathways.

This evolution has undoubtedly enabled many people to discover dancesport and has contributed to the growth of the movement.

But today, this evolution requires us to consider a fundamental question:

Who will undertake the responsibility of protecting, enhancing and taking couple dancesport to the highest levels in the world?

---TWO MODELS OF GROWTH---

Because increasing the number of disciplines does not automatically raise the level of the discipline that represented the historical foundation of international dancesport.

There is a path based on horizontal growth: growth founded on quantity, mass participation and the continuous expansion of the base of participants and events.

But there is also another vision.

Vertical growth.

Growth founded on quality, excellence, education, technical culture and the pursuit of perfection.

The history of art and sport teaches us that the highest level of a discipline is not always determined by its numerical size or by its affiliation with a recognised federation.

Elite classical dance, one of the highest artistic expressions of human movement, does not build its value on the number of its practitioners, but on the quality of its training, the transmission of knowledge, scientific research, daily discipline and the constant pursuit of perfection.

The greatest classical dancers are recognised throughout the world for their talent, technique and artistic journey. They train and develop within the most prestigious international foundations, academies and institutions dedicated to excellence, rather than being recognised simply because of the number of people involved or their affiliation with a sports federation.

This represents a fundamental principle for couple dancesport as well: excellence is born from depth, culture and the quality of the journey, not solely from quantitative expansion.

---THE CHOICE OF IDSF FONDAZIONE HERITAGE---

IDSF Fondazione Heritage chooses this second path.

Our mission is not merely to pursue large numbers.

Our mission is to elevate the value of couple dancesport.

We want to build an international project dedicated to the athletes, teachers and couples who wish to reach the highest possible level.

We do not measure our success exclusively by quantity, but by the depth of our education, the technical level of our athletes, the knowledge of our teachers and adjudicators, and our ability to create excellence.

---THE UNIQUENESS OF COUPLE DANCESPORT---

Every discipline deserves respect and recognition.

Solo Dance and the new forms of individual expression have contributed to the growth of the dancesport movement and have introduced new people to our world.

But couple dancesport represents a unique and unrepeatable dimension: the meeting of two human beings who together create a higher artistic language.

IDSF Fondazione Heritage was born from this awareness.

Not simply an alternative.

A choice of vision.

Not an opposition to the past.

A responsibility towards the future.

---A GLOBAL MODEL OF EXCELLENCE---

IDSF Fondazione Heritage aims to represent for dancesport what the Champions League represents for football:

the highest international level, the place where the world's finest performers come together, where talent is valued and where quality becomes the true criterion for selection.

Just as football has millions of participants and enthusiasts, while the Champions League brings together the absolute elite of the game, dancesport also needs a global stage dedicated to its greatest protagonists.

But our vision does not end with competition.

IDSF Fondazione Heritage aims to represent for dancesport what Ferrari represents in the world of motoring.

A global symbol of excellence, passion, innovation and technical perfection.

Just as Ferrari does not simply build cars, but represents a philosophy founded on continuous research, attention to detail, prestige and the desire to surpass ever-new limits, IDSF Fondazione Heritage seeks to become a benchmark for couple dancesport.

Not an organisation built on quantity, but on quality.

Not a system focused solely on numbers, but on creating value.

Not simply a competitive organisation, but an international home where talent, culture and technique can reach their fullest expression.

---EDUCATING, PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE, CREATING VALUE---

Our vision is to build a movement in which excellence is not a privilege reserved for the few, but the result of a merit-based journey open to those who demonstrate talent, discipline, dedication and passion.

Through our events, technical forums and international training centres — such as the International Training Camp in Caorle — we want to create an environment where history meets the future.

A place where the great champions of the past become mentors.

Where young talents find inspiration.

Where knowledge is passed from one generation to the next.

We do not pursue growth based solely on size.

We build growth based on value.

Because a discipline does not become great simply by involving many people, but by expressing the highest human, artistic and technical level of its protagonists.

---FREEDOM, IDENTITY AND THE FUTURE---

As a non-profit foundation, every resource is reinvested in the development of the discipline, education, transparency and practical support for the athletes, teachers, adjudicators and professionals who dedicate their lives to dance.

Through our international dimension and our collaboration with the CSIT circuit, we aim to build bridges between nations, cultures and generations, while defending a fundamental principle:

the freedom to learn, grow, exchange ideas and compete.

Because dance does not belong solely to one organisation.

Dance belongs to those who respect it, to those who study it and to those who pursue excellence every day.

Let us remember the message that accompanies our journey:

“When you want to be special, choose a recognised federation. When you are special, choose IDSF.”

It is not merely a slogan.

It is a declaration of values.

The future can only be shaped by those who possess the knowledge, experience and responsibility required to preserve and pass on the deepest values of couple dancesport: technique, elegance, the culture of movement and the emotion of art.

To build a new era, having a vision is not enough.

It is necessary to bring together those who have truly experienced and achieved excellence.

The first step is to unite the greatest minds in the discipline: the champions who have written its history, the teachers who have reached the highest international levels, the most highly qualified technical experts, the legends of dancesport and all those who possess an authentic and profound knowledge of couple dancesport.

Because an elite discipline can only be guided by those who truly understand its essence.

Those who have not experienced excellence at the highest level cannot lead excellence.

Couple dancesport cannot be entrusted solely to those who possess organisational skills, to those who are respectable individuals, to those who promote the values of fair play, or to those who understand regulations, numbers and management models.

All these qualities have value and are important, but on their own they are not sufficient to determine the direction of a discipline born from the pursuit of technical, artistic and cultural perfection.

Guiding the future requires first-hand experience, profound knowledge and an understanding of the journey that leads to the highest levels: years of sacrifice, daily discipline, competitive pressure, the continuous pursuit of perfection and the responsibility of representing dance in its highest form.

For this reason, the future of the discipline must be built by those who have experienced competition at the highest levels, by those who have transformed talent and dedication into knowledge, and by those who possess the ability to pass this legacy on to future generations.

Leadership must belong to the champions and to those who have known how to create champions: to those who have reached the greatest heights, to those who have developed generations of excellence and to those who have demonstrated that they possess the profound knowledge required to preserve, innovate and pass on the heritage of couple dancesport.

Because the future does not belong to those who simply want to administer dance.

It belongs to those who possess the expertise, culture and vision required to elevate it.

Only by uniting talent, experience, culture and vision will it be possible to create a model capable of restoring couple dancesport to the position it deserves: one of the highest expressions of human excellence.

Preserve the tradition.
Elevate excellence.
Inspire the future.