

CALLERLAB Committees

Almost all the work done by CALLERLAB is carried out by its committees. Only CALLERLAB members can serve on a working committee and by doing so they directly contribute to the primary reasons for the existence of CALLERLAB. There are about 30 committees that work to identify and investigate concerns within the square dance activity. They discuss the issues and vote to select from recommended solutions. Committees cover a range of topics, from the Program Committees, to Public Relations and Marketing, to International Liaison, to Music, and so much more. Each one needs YOU, the member, to contribute your time and effort to the successful completion of their mandates. Also, all callers love to *talk shop* and being on a Committee is an opportunity to do so with the added benefit of having that talk *affect how square dancing evolves!*

DIRECTION Newsletter

DIRECTION is emailed to all members bi-monthly. It includes a report from the Chair, updates on committee work, details about the upcoming convention, Press Releases, information about Awards and Board elections, and articles about the global square dance activity.

Pride and Camaraderie

All the things listed in this document can be considered “tangible” benefits. There are also two important “intangible” benefits: PRIDE and CAMARADERIE. Pride in knowing that you, the members, are the people who are responsible for all

that CALLERLAB accomplishes year after year or has accomplished. Everything that has been written, discussed, published, distributed, and implemented is the work of the members. And then there is camaraderie – knowing that with a fellow CALLERLAB member, you have a friend with whom you share a mutual trust and affinity because you believe and share a common goal: the betterment of caller skills and the growth of the activity.

Global Membership Makes CALLERLAB Strong

CALLERLAB currently has members in the following countries:

Australia	Belarus
Austria	Belgium
Canada	China
Czech Republic	Finland
Denmark	Liechtenstein
England	Malaysia
France	Norway
Germany	Philippines
Japan	Russia
Netherlands	Serbia
New Zealand	Slovak Republic
Sweden	
Switzerland	
Taiwan	
United States	

CALLERLAB, The International Association of Square Dance Callers

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CALLERLAB: Why be a Member?

Mission Statement:

To foster the art of square dance calling and improve caller skills.

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9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Monday - Friday

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Website: www.CALLERLAB.org

What is MEMBERSHIP?

Merriam-Webster says membership is *the state of belonging to or being a part of a group or organization*. And professionals, whatever they do, understand the value of that membership. But what does membership really mean? There is more to it than just paying dues or carrying a card.

Membership involves both duty and privilege and is a badge of honor to be worn with pride. A member's *duty* is to be involved in helping their association, and themselves, improve their skills and purpose. The *privilege* is in having input and knowing that you are making a difference.

As callers, we are professionals and CALLERLAB is our "industry association." CALLERLAB's mission is "***to foster the art of square dance calling and improve caller skills***" and a membership is our path to fulfilling that mission. Members are bonded together as they search for solutions, advocate for their peers, and share their challenges and triumphs. Joining CALLERLAB provides you with an "industry" advantage because you become an active and informed member of the square dance activity.

Voting Privileges

CALLERLAB is the heart of square dancing internationally and only members can vote and thus have a direct say in decisions that affect the global activity. Participation gives insight into how and why certain decisions are made. Attending the Annual Meeting gives you a broader perspective on all aspects of the activity.

CALLERLAB is International

Welcoming, encouraging and working with callers from around the world has allowed square dancing to expand and become an international activity. In turn, CALLERLAB members now benefit from this worldwide network of colleagues and friends. We share the common language of Square Dancing and the knowledge that we have created a positive international activity that brings people together.

Being able to say *you are a member* of the International Association of Square Dance Callers garners respect.

Certification and Accreditation

Members with some years of experience in calling may apply to be recognized as a "Certified Square Dance Caller". Those teaching lessons to new dancers may complete requirements to be recognized as a "Certified Square Dance Teacher".

Certified Callers may study to become an Accredited Caller Coach (ACC). The program assures that an ACC has the knowledge and experience to help teach and train callers globally. Rigorous written and oral exams are part of the process. Once accredited, he/she becomes part of an elite group of trainers who are in demand to be on staff at caller training schools.

Music Licensing in the USA

CALLERLAB members who call in the United States have access to BMI/ASCAP music licensing as part of their membership. Non-members pay an administration fee.

Members-Only Materials

CALLERLAB committees and members have produced countless pages of manuals and instructional releases for both experienced and newer callers. These documents continue to be THE source for all callers seeking training materials and up-to-date information. As a CALLERLAB member, you are in a unique position to utilize all the educational resources available to you on the website www.callerlab.org, many of which are accessible only by members via a personal login. Certain documents are also for sale at a reduced price for members only.

Home Office Support

Membership dues help to pay for the full-time office and staff that serve CALLERLAB members and the square dance activity. The home office handles thousands of emails and phone calls each year as they support the members and others in the square dance world. Without membership, none of this would exist.

CALLERLAB Board of Governors

Only CALLERLAB members can be on the Board of Governors. It is an honor to be elected to the Board and to serve the international caller community with a "hand on the tiller". The Board meets every year in conjunction with the convention. Any member is welcome to attend and listen to discussions about issues of interest to callers and the functioning of CALLERLAB. Members can take personal concerns to a BOG informal session during the Convention knowing that their input will go to the Board for discussion.