

WASATCH CONTRAS POLICIES

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

No commercial (profit-related) or political activities or presentations are acceptable at Wasatch Contras dances. Exception: the band contracted to play at a dance may offer their own CDs, books of tunes, etc., for sale.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Participants are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that respects and considers the welfare of other dancers and the dance community – a community that includes families and children. Please, no alcohol, smoking, or strong perfumes.

Smiling, eye contact, and flirtatious looks are all part of the fun of contra dancing, and are not usually considered inappropriate or harassing. However, dancers should take into account the experience and comfort level of each new partner, and adjust their style accordingly. One should never impose a dance move, such as an aggressive swing, on an unwilling or inexperienced dancer. Partners are equal participants, mutually deciding what is acceptable. If you are uncomfortable, speak up. (For example: "Please swing slower", "Move your hand up a little"). A smile and 'thank you' will soften the blow. Children require special consideration. For example, in most cases a gentle two-handed swing is preferable to picking the child up.

Contra dancing is a fast-paced and exuberant activity that is done in close quarters. Occasionally this can result in accidental improper contact, which becomes unacceptable if part of a pattern of repeated 'accidental' contacts. There is always a possibility of inadvertent bumps, but individual dance styles that risk injury to other dancers are never acceptable.

Every dancer has the right to decline interaction with any other dancer without explanation or repercussion. Disregarding an expressed unwillingness to interact is considered harassment and is not acceptable.

Anyone who feels harassed, intimidated, or at risk of injury is encouraged to speak to the caller, other staff, or a board member, one of whom will investigate and offer suggestions for correcting the problem. We reserve the right to refuse admission to anyone whose behavior is considered harassing, intimidating, disruptive, or dangerous.