



159 N. 25th Street, Camp Hill, PA, USA, 17011-3609

January 10, 2022

Associate Members and Directors,

Congratulations to our new World Champions and all of our associate members who were able to participate in this year's World Championships of Country Dance! Kudos to all involved, especially Worlds Director Anthony Lee and his team, for their monumental efforts to bring together so many of us under less-than-ideal circumstances.

Whether we attended in person or watched via livestream, Worlds 29 provided a way for us to celebrate our shared love of dance. From amateur newcomers to our most experienced professionals, your dancing was an inspiring and joyful example of what it means to be a country dancer.

The UCWDC remains committed to the safety of all dancers in light of the continuing COVID crisis. The latest medical evidence suggests that the Omicron variant generally causes milder symptoms and cases, with vaccinations and boosters appearing highly protective against serious illness. We're also learning that individuals are testing positive with Omicron approximately three days after their symptoms begin or after a high-risk exposure, while at times testing negative in the days before.

We encourage everyone who attended the World Championships to monitor your health, watch closely for COVID symptoms, get tested and cooperate with local public health guidelines.

The beginning of a new dance season is always a time of optimism and change. I want to thank outgoing VP of Rules, Beth Emerson, and Secretary, Mona Brandt, for their many contributions over years of service. Our organization is stronger because of your hard work. I want to welcome the incoming VP of Rules, Randy Jeffries, and Secretary, Noelle Linch. I look forward to working with them in their new roles.

Like all of you, we hope that more of our regional events will return in 2022. As we have done over the course of the past two years, the UCWDC continues to monitor the situation and adjust our actions and procedures as necessary to keep people healthy.

Best wishes for the new year and new dance season. I hope to see you on a dance floor, soon.

Kind Regards,

UNITED COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE COUNCIL

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Armbruster", followed by a colon.

Keith Armbruster - UCWDC President