

# **ScotDance Canada - Code of Professional Conduct**

## **Purpose:**

A Code of Professional Conduct promotes high ethical and professional behaviour and provides members with a frame of reference for judgement in complex situations.

When an individual acts in an unprofessional manner it reflects not only on the individual but also on the organization(s) to which the individual is a member. In order to ensure the integrity of Highland Dancing in Canada and around the world, each member of ScotDance Canada must conduct themselves in a professional manner. Professional misconduct will only create a sense of mistrust within the organization, the community as a whole and within dance schools. In time, this “mistrust” will hurt our profession.

**A Professional** is a distinguished individual who by means of specialized training has acquired a body of knowledge fundamental to the occupation.

**Professionalism** involves conducting oneself in a manner that reflects honesty, integrity and dignity of character and spirit. Professionalism respects the rights, interests, and welfare of those affected by a decision.

**Professional Misconduct** occurs when members engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation or commit any act that reflects adversely on their honesty, trustworthiness or professional competence.

## **Key Elements of Professional Conduct**

Professionals should:

- Conduct oneself with integrity and dignity and act ethically in all dealings
- Perform all dancing activities, and encourage others to do similarly, in a professional and ethical manner that reflects credit on oneself and the profession.
- Act with competence and strive to maintain and improve competence in oneself and others<sup>i</sup>
- Not solicit other teachers' students.
- Consult the other teacher when students have moved schools.
- Respect the competence of other Professionals and not engage in public criticism
- Seek to engage other qualified experts and professionals as necessary (e.g., medical care)
- Recognize and respect the authority of officials and treat them with courtesy

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<sup>i</sup> Association of Investment Management and Research, “Good Ethics: The Essential Element of a Firm’s Success”, page 1, 1994