

Dance Parties

A dance party is not similar to an open house. You might be asked as a kind of dance entertainer. There is no need for demo-dancers.

Seminar content:

- Accepting the booking
- Information in advance
- Preparation in advance
- On the night – first actions, first decisions
- Making the night a success
- Essential things to watch
- Finding appropriate material

Accepting the booking

- Who is the organiser – what is their objective
- What is my objective – does it match
- Contract, GEMA coverage, get-out clauses, check booking 3 weeks in advance
- About the participant guests: kind of event
- Is Alcohol involved? Do you accept starting your topic 21:00 h or later?

Information in advance

- Type of group expected, age, language, experience
- Facilities, equipment needed; floor structure – adequate space, directions to venue
- Time available, other program items

Preparation in advance

- Type of program – fun/introduction/recruitment
- Level of program – simple/demanding/flexible have more than 1 plan be flexible
- Selecting suitable movements/dances – limit movements variety in formations
- Choosing music to fit the group
- Be prepared to react whenever there are line dancers as well – they might stand up and start line dancing choreography

On the night – first actions

- Travel, arrival, checking organiser's program; who will MC
- Equipment set up, dance area, seating, exits in emergency
- Play music in the background (check the booking in beforehand!)

On the night – first decisions

- Who has really come – does your planned program fit? is space adequate?
- English knowledge – program implications (especially Square Dance)
- Deciding/agreeing on integration of excess women/men
- Unexpected participants – children, seniors, handicapped, "just watchers"
- Pre-knowledge in group – effect on program – effect on beginners

Making the night a success

- All who want to dance should be able to
- Making contact with the group
- show positive attitude
- Establishing and maintaining an atmosphere
- Demonstration of desired movement
- Ensuring atmosphere and music are appropriate
- Creating fun versus personal showmanship
- Ensuring success for all participants use judgement in exchanging or interchanging dancers
- Being an ambassador
- Remember: you are NOT seeking for new dancers – you are here to sell FUN

Essential things to watch

- If FUN does not work – adjusting program to group receptiveness
- Tiredness – ensuring adequate breaks
- Health issues – people getting dizzy with turns and twirls – “remind dancers drinking water”

Finding appropriate material

- ECTA Library
- Colleagues
- Websites

Literatur

Nr ECTA Biblio -thek	Autor	Titel	Verlag/Jahr/Info
159	Calvin Campell	Dancing for Busy People	Castle Rock, CO : Selbstverlag, 1995.
311	Carole A.Howard	Froggin' around with 65 fun games	
313	Gene Trimmer	Plan Afterparty Fun	2. Aufl. Paragould, AR : Selbstverlag, 1987.
702	Longley, Grant Fairbanks:	Solo-Dances. A Collection of Solo Dances, Fun Dances and Mixers.	Lowell, MA : New England Caller, 1979.
---	DRK Ordner	Bewegung bis ins Alter / Tanzbeschreibungen ohne Vorkenntnisse	Dieter Balsies Verlag
	CALLERLAB	CALLERLAB Curriculum	CALLERLAB



ECTA EDUCATION PROGRAM

General
level 3

© EEP Keyword list – Dance Parties

Status: 2021/ Dec

Rev. No.	Changes	Release	Contrib.	Date
1.	First merge		CDB	2014
x.	Separation from documents with all topics in single documents with reviewed layout		CW	2010/01/27
2	Review for Level 4		CDB	2014/02/11
3	Review : no changes		EH	2016/11/19
4	Update for website	1.5	EH	2018/04/29
5	Literaturverzeichnis	1.5	EH	2018/09/25
6	Include "Dance Party is not similar to Open House"	1.7	EH	2021/Dec