

[illegible]

TIPS FOR AN AMAZING DANCE EXPERIENCE

Group Class Etiquette:

1. **The first rule of group classes is to BE ON TIME!** Missing out on even the first FIVE minutes of group classes can set you back for the rest of the class and you will feel behind and confused as to what is going on.
2. **Rotate partners.** What if I told you the fastest way to dance well together is to dance with other people besides your spouse/significant other every now and then? Switching partners allows you to grow in ways that you couldn't by just dancing with one person.
3. **Introduce Yourself!** Chances are that they are new and feeling uneasy about being in their first group class, be encouraging just as you would want for any group class.
4. **Pay attention to the teacher!** You would think this is an obvious one, but we have taught many group classes, and we know who is listening and who is not. Many times, we will throw in tips that are perfect for you, so take everything into account, even if you are an advanced student in a Newcomer class.
5. **Don't point out other's mistakes!** Your teachers are fully aware of who's getting it and who's not. Try not to embarrass your classmates in ANY way.

Practice Parties & Social Dancing

- Always try to dance with a wide variety of dance partners at a social dance event.
- A strong lead is measured by how decisive your movement is, not by physical pressure in your hands or dance frame.
- Apologize if you step on, or get stepped on, by your partner or anyone else.
- Reassuring someone who is feeling bad about their dancing works best when supporting evidence instead of criticism.
- **Don't give unsolicited advice to other dance students.**
- Advanced students should never attempt advanced dance patterns with a newer student.
- Thank every person that you dance with, regardless of the caliber of the movement.
- Don't fix your dance partners frame (unless you are a teacher).
- The only obvious dance mistake is stopping on the dance floor to talk about a less obvious mistake.
- There is a BIG difference between turning someone down and asking them to save you a dance later.
- Great followers will follow their patterns even when the music doesn't match.
- Followers should avoid giving pattern suggestions to the leaders.
- Never perform lifts while social dancing