



Swing Syndicate

Rulebook

President Casey Jackowski

Overview

Founded in 1998, Swing Syndicate moves to traditional Swing-Jazz music, primarily through the dances of Lindy Hop, Charleston, and Blues.

We are the only Miami org that dances like the worldwide swing community today. Our dancing is quite different from "ballroom swing". Many ballroom studios have a standardized curriculum; over time, much of ballroom swing's "flavor" was lost in favor of blending well with established ballroom traditions. We, on the other hand, dance to the original jumpin' big band sounds as experienced in Harlem in the 1920s through 1940s.

Swing Syndicate is run by elected student officers who promote our organization through monthly social dances, weekly lessons, a performance/competition team, social activities, and other forms of outreach. Since our founding over 22 years ago, Swing Syndicate has grown and continues to create excitement about vintage Swing Dancing throughout Miami University.

Our lessons and events are beginner-friendly and open to all!

Dancing

2 Dancers

2 – 4 minutes/dance

Components

1 Lead

1 Follow

Lessons

Show up every Tuesday night from 7 pm – 9 pm in Armstrong rm 2084! Come have a good time learning the classic art of swing dancing.

Written Rules

1. Respect your fellow dancers
 - a. Swing Syndicate is a safe space so there will be no threatening or pressuring behavior.
2. Respect all venues during events
 - a. If you make a mess, please clean it up
 - b. If you damage something, let an executive member know immediately.
3. Practice social dance etiquette
 - a. Ask before dancing with someone and respect their response.
4. All Swing Syndicate events are dry
 - a. There shall be no drugs or alcohol present
5. Respect all guests
 - a. For some events we will have professional instructors or live bands.
 - b. Respect their time, work, and equipment.

Spoken Rules

1. Always ask for consent
 - a. Even after someone has said yes to a dance, does not mean the consent to certain moves.
 - b. Ask for consent before:
 - i. Closed position
 - ii. Dipping
 - iii. Any complex move
2. Ask people to dance
 - a. Our Swing Monthly isn't fun if no one is dancing. Everyone who is there came to dance.
 - b. Don't be afraid to ask someone if they would like to dance, as long as you respect their answer if they say no.
3. Ask your partner for their preference
 - a. If you asked someone to dance, let them choose which part they would like to play.
 - b. Some people have only learned to lead or to follow or just prefer one of them.

Unspoken Rules

1. Respect the instructors
 - a. Give full attention to the executive members during the weekly lessons. They work hard every week to come up with a new lesson.
2. Respect the culture
 - a. We are an ode to a classic way of dancing. Respect the culture we are learning about.
3. Meet new people
 - a. Every lesson you will switch partners after every move learned. Introduce yourself, get to know each other.
4. Sign in
 - a. For the sake of the club staying alive, please sign into every lesson.
 - b. You don't have to be at every lesson but when you do come, help us keep track.
5. Be supportive
 - a. Everyone has different experience levels of dancing.
 - b. We are all trying to learn, so if someone you are dancing with needs help, lend a hand where you can.
6. Be creative
 - a. This is a dance environment for freedom of expression.
 - b. There are plenty of ways for you to add your own flair.
 - c. Experiment and create something new.
7. Have fun
 - a. You should be here because you want to be.
 - b. Even if you come here for one lesson, try us out and see if you like it.

Swing out!