

Drop Dead Blues Club & CP Swing Club

Safer Space Policy

The CP Swing and Drop Dead Blues Clubs are dedicated to providing a safer dance experience for everyone regardless of gender, sexual orientation, (dis)ability, physical appearance, body size, age, or race. We do not tolerate safer space violations in any form. By attending a DDB or CP Swing Club venue or event, event participants are agreeing to abide by the Attendee Agreement below. Event participants violating these rules may be sanctioned or expelled from the event - without a refund if applicable - at the discretion of the DDB or CP Swing Club organizers.

Safer space violations include offensive verbal comments related to gender, sexual orientation, (dis)ability, physical appearance, body size, culture, or race; deliberate intimidation; stalking; following; non-consensual photography or recording; sustained disruption of events; unwanted physical contact; and unwanted sexual attention or contact. Participants asked to stop any behavior are expected to comply immediately. We expect participants to follow these rules at all DDB or CP Swing venues and scene events.

If a participant engages in behavior which violates this policy, DDB or CP Swing organizers may take any action they deem appropriate based from actions outlined in this policy, including warning the offender or expulsion from the event (with no refund if applicable). If you feel unsafe, notice a violation of this policy, or have any other concerns, please contact a member of DDB or CP Swing Club Executive Committee immediately.

A DDB venue host or CP Swing Organizer will be happy to help participants contact local law enforcement, provide escorts, or otherwise help participants feel safe for the duration of the event (see harassment protocol). To identify a venue host or organizer, please ask a DJ hired for that event (or someone who is working at the "Door" at larger events). The officer who makes the announcements for that week is one of the venue hosts for the evening. We value your attendance and your presence in the community.

Email: cpswingclub@gmail.com

Emergencies: **911**

University Police Department: **805-756-2281**

San Luis Obispo Police Department: **805-781-7317**

SLO County's 24-hour domestic violence and rape crisis line: **805-545-8888**

The Cal Poly Counseling Center: **805-756-2511**

Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities: www.osrr.calpoly.edu **805-756-2794**

Cal Poly's Sexual Harassment Policy: policy.calpoly.edu/cap/100/cap160.htm

Cal Poly Office of Equal Opportunity *Title IX*: <http://equalopportunity.calpoly.edu/content/title-ix>

(Extensive list of contact information and resources)

Drop Dead Blues Club & CP Swing Club

Attendee Agreement

Cultivating a Healthy Dance Scene

1. INTRODUCTION

By attending a Drop Dead Blues or CP Swing Club venue or event, I am agreeing to abide by the Safer Space policy and do my part to create a safe venue and a harmonious dance community.

2. GENERAL

I will practice model dance etiquette because that is one of the keys to having a safe and enjoyable venue in which to dance. I realize if I do something inappropriate, whether or not it's mentioned in the safer space policy or this agreement, there may be consequences. These consequences may range from an organizer talking to me about my behavior to legal action against me. I will always comply with whatever a Drop Dead Blues and CP Swing Club organizer or Venue Host asks me to do; which, for serious or repeated offenses, may include temporary or permanent ejection from the event (without a refund) and being banned from future events.

If I experience or witness any behavior that's inappropriate or makes someone feel uncomfortable, I know that an organizer is available to hear about an issue and will appreciate my help by reporting it. So, if I feel comfortable, I will do my part by bringing it to an organizer's attention immediately. If something like this happens during a class or practica, I will bring it to the attention of an instructor as well as an organizer.

I will respect everyone at the event, regardless of their age, race, religion, nationality, creed, sex, gender expression, sexual orientation, weight, ability, dance skill, politics, lifestyle, and personal boundaries. I will be courteous to everyone (unless it compromises my own safety and wellbeing), which means I will do things like happily dance with people who are less experienced than I am, or be cool with it if someone doesn't want to dance with me.

I will obey all applicable laws. I'll also follow the rules of all Drop Dead Blues and CP Swing Club venues, ASI affiliated events, Cal Poly and any requests made by the Drop Dead Blues or CP Swing Club organizers. I understand that the venues and the Drop Dead Blues and CP Swing Clubs permit no alcohol or drugs, or the use of alcohol, drugs, or cigarettes/cigars in or around the premises. If I need to smoke, I will take precautions to ensure that the smoke does not enter the venue, and if I am asked to move, I will do so graciously. I realize that, as a participant in this event, I'm representing the event and my actions have the potential to impact the event and its future.

3. ASKING FOR A DANCE

I know that asking a dancer what role they would prefer is a great way to start a dance, especially since gender expression does not always indicate preferred dance role. If our roles do not align, I will respect that and accept it amicably.

I am aware of the many completely legitimate reasons to decline to dance with someone, so I will be gracious and not pressure someone to dance or explain. I will try to understand my reasons to decline, and be sure they are virtuous and personal (not judgmental or based on social pressure). I will assume others are thinking in the same fashion because everyone has agreed to this as well.

4. DANCING

I realize that my Number One responsibility during any dance is to make sure that I, my partner, and those around me are all safe and comfortable. I will do my best to make sure that my dancing does not cause anyone else any injury or discomfort. This is not limited to, but may include asking my partner if I notice physical feedback, listening to my partner and adjusting my dance if they tell me of an injury, applying floorcraft to respect the dancing space of other couples, and asking before doing dips or supported lifts or restricting these moves to familiar partners.

I will strictly respect the physical and personal boundaries of my fellow attendees on and off the dance floor. I realize that I can make others uncomfortable even without intending to, which is why I will always ask for consent from others before touching, hugging, cuddling, or other seemingly innocent forms of physical contact. I realize that only verbal “yes” gives consent.

I understand the difference between expressing your sexuality through dance and engaging in sexual behavior while dancing. I will *never* engage in sexual behavior on the dance floor.

If my partner is causing me some kind of physical or psychological discomfort, it is entirely appropriate for me to call their attention to the fact that their actions are making me uncomfortable. I know that every person has the right to stop a dance, especially if the dance is causing discomfort. If I need to stop a dance I will do so politely and, if possible, constructively. If I feel uncomfortable speaking directly to my partner, I know that a venue host will be more than happy to help me. Also, if my partner asks to end a dance I will not be offended, defensive, or pressure them for an explanation.

I will never, *never* critique someone’s dancing on the social floor (or even during a class) *unless*:

- a. My partner *explicitly* asked for feedback during this dance or lesson
- b. My partner is causing me some kind of physical or psychological discomfort

5. CONCLUSION

I realize that the Safer Space Policy, this agreement, and the Harassment Protocol cannot and does not outline every type of acceptable or unacceptable behavior or resulting consequences. In the end, I will use common sense, treat others the way they would like to be treated, listen to the Drop Dead Blues or CP Swing Club venue organizers, and accept any consequences of my actions.

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Protocol for Harassment

If you have an issue, report it to any of the Venue Hosts. Drop Dead Blues will mediate between both parties and use these guidelines when an issue is brought up. **This procedure may be altered if requested by the reporter or other parties involved.**

When an issue is brought up, the Venue Host will collect the details about the situation. An Incident Report Form will be filled out by either the reporter or the officer and signed by both parties. If any witnesses were present, another Incident Report Form will be filled out. In extreme circumstances, or if requested, the University Police will be contacted.

The officer will then approach the accused and any other parties involved and collect the details of the situation from their points of view in order to better assess the situation. The other parties will also fill out/be present for the filling out of an Incident Report Form that will be signed by them and the officer. Depending on the severity of the incident, the accused party may be removed from the premise and surrounding areas to complete the report form and asked to leave for the night.

The reporter will then have the choice to either have the incident reported to the University immediately or go through the organizers. If the second route is chosen, the officer will then present a summary of the incident at the next Executive Council Meeting (not in the open meeting). The Council will choose two officers best suited to follow up on the incident. Detailed notes of this discussion will be taken in the minutes and this section will be printed.

The officers will mediate a discussion, either in person or not, between the two parties to gain an understanding between the two. The officers will try to find a suitable course of action that will allow the reporter to feel comfortable returning to the venue without excessive action taken against the accused.

Possible actions taken include:

- the accused will be banned from speaking to, approaching, touching, or otherwise interacting with the reporter
- the accused will be placed on probation
- the accused will be banned from the venue
- turning the case over to the University or Police

The officers, reporter, and accused will discuss what detail will be made public and what will be confidential (only available to executive officers). A public summary will be written that includes all details that are not confidential and distributed to all executive officers, so they will know what details they can disclose if a community member inquires about the incident.

If the above policies are not abided by, the situation will be taken to the appropriate university officials as dictated by the Cal Poly Campus Administrative Policies.

Selected Cal Poly and ASI Policies

“Equal Access Cal Poly clubs shall not discriminate either in the content of bylaws or in practice against any person on the basis of age, disability, gender, gender identity, genetic information, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, citizenship or veteran status. All members shall be natural persons. In contract law both human beings and corporations are persons; a "natural person" refers to a live human being” (ISO Handbook, p 7)

“Alcohol As a matter of institutional policy, alcohol is generally prohibited on the Cal Poly campus. Alcohol abuse, including possession of alcohol by a minor, binge drinking, or drunk driving, is not tolerated. View the complete Cal Poly Alcohol Policy online” (ISO Handbook, p 7)

<http://www.osrr.calpoly.edu/alcohol-policy>

“Alcohol Policy for On-Campus Events Alcohol is not allowed for any on-campus event without a licensed third-party vendor (e.g., University Catering) and prior approval from the University President’s office” (ISO Handbook, p 36)

“Campus Community Values The University is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy living and learning environment for students, faculty, and staff. Each member of the campus community should choose behaviors that contribute toward this end. Students are expected to be good citizens and to engage in responsible behaviors that reflect well upon their university, to be civil to one another and to others in the campus community, and contribute positively to student and university life” (OSRR, Title 5.2 §41301)

“Cal Poly's Perspective

The California Code of Regulations Title 5.2 §41301(b)(9) and the Cal Poly University Housing contract both prohibit the possession of and use of illegal drugs or drug-related paraphernalia on campus, including marijuana. This means that a medical marijuana card is not a defense for using or possession of marijuana on campus. Valid medical marijuana cards are only used as a defense to a criminal charge.

Campus Administrative Policy 171.2 (Smoking Ban)

On campus, in order to protect the rights of the nonsmoking community to breathe smoke-free air on campus, smoking is prohibited in all campus buildings, leased space, and all state-owned passenger vehicles. The only exceptions to this prohibition are private residences on campus. Resident students should refer to the housing license and the University Housing Resident Handbook for specific policies.” (OSRR, Marijuana Policy)

“Sexual Misconduct Harassment and sexual misconduct are prohibited by the Standards for Student Conduct. Sexual harassment as a form of sexual discrimination is also prohibited by federal law, Title IX. University and criminal complaints may be filed for the same incident. The University's process is

separate from the criminal process, applying different procedures, standards of proof, and possible penalties.” (OSRR, Sexual Misconduct)

<http://www.osrr.calpoly.edu/sexual-misconduct>

For Full Policies, see:

<http://policy.calpoly.edu/cap/100/cap160.htm>

http://www.asi.calpoly.edu/club_resources

<http://www.osrr.calpoly.edu/standards>