



**NEW ZEALAND
RECREATIONAL
DANCE INC.**



DANCESPORT GRADES

PROPOSAL AND REFERENDUM

BACKGROUND

New Zealand Recreational Dancesport division currently has 5 grades in each age group (4 grades in Junior and Juvenile).

With changes to lifestyle, working environments, family commitments and career aspirations many dancers and supporters feel time poor. This has resulted in feedback for shorter competitions and a desire to have more competitors in each grade.

Feedback has been that level 4 and 5 events are not run at many competitions due to a lack of competitors in the higher grades.

It has been shown that robust competition helps to improve dancer's performance and provides a more entertaining event for supporters and spectators alike.



END GAME

On review of other countries grades and the number of active competitors dancing in New Zealand, we believe there is a benefit in reducing the number of grades to align with the number of competitors in each age group.

We believe that there is merit in redistributing the competitors across the grades to balance the talent. This result should provide greater competition at each level.

We still want to ensure that the fundamental basics are encouraged at the beginning of a dancer's dance journey.

We want dancers to have the opportunity to stretch themselves by competing with dancers in the grade above.

By working with several dance community stakeholders, including members from NZDA, NZFDT, NZFATD who are dancers, teachers, coaches, competition organisers and adjudicators, this proposal has been prepared for our dance community to consider.



CURRENT AND PROPOSED GRADING

CURRENT



5 Levels

- Level 1 - 1 Dance event (Approved Syllabus)
- Level 2 - 2 Dance event
- Level 3 - 3 Dance event
- Level 4 - 4 Dance event
- Level 5 - 5 Dance event

(Junior and Juvenile 4 Levels only)

Open as a 4 or 5 dance event

Different number of competitors and wins required to upgrade

PROPOSED



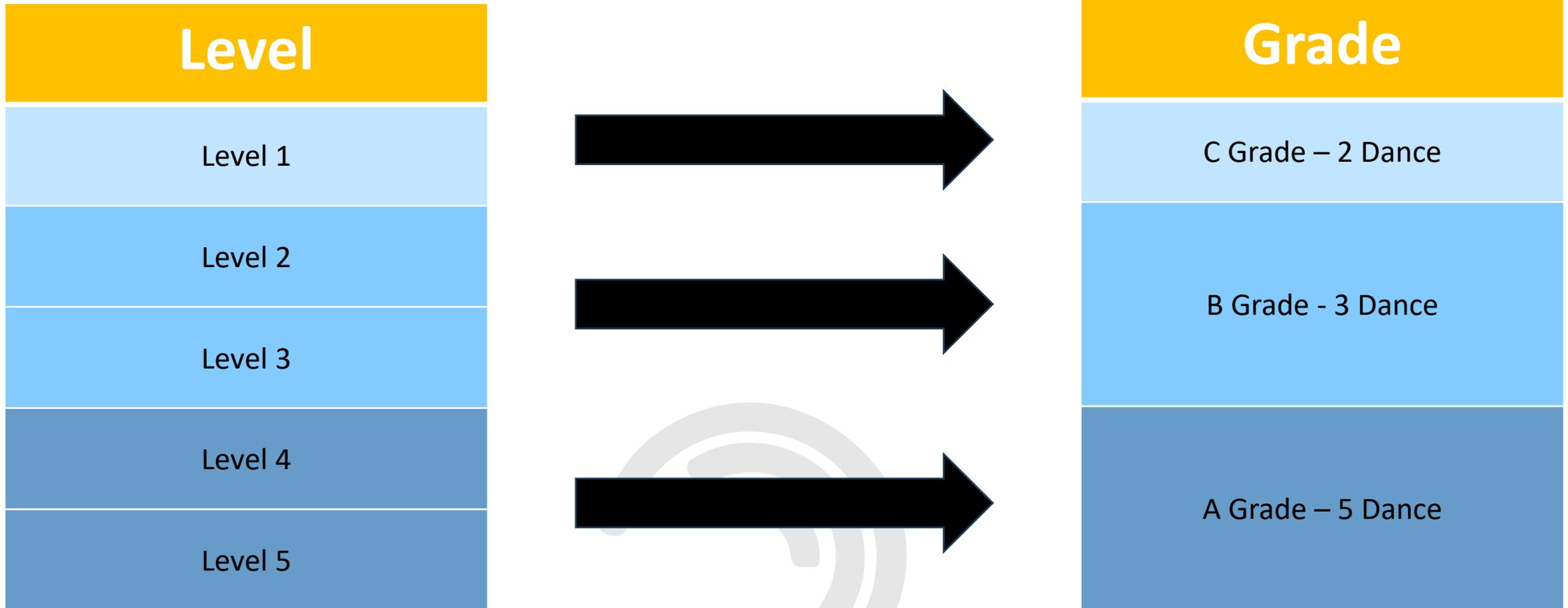
3 Grades

- C - 2 Dance event (Approved Syllabus)
- B - 3 Dance event
- A - 5 Dance event (Junior and Juvenile 4 dance event)

Open as a 4 dance event

5 wins with 5 competitors required to upgrade

HOW WOULD THIS IMPACT CURRENT GRADES?

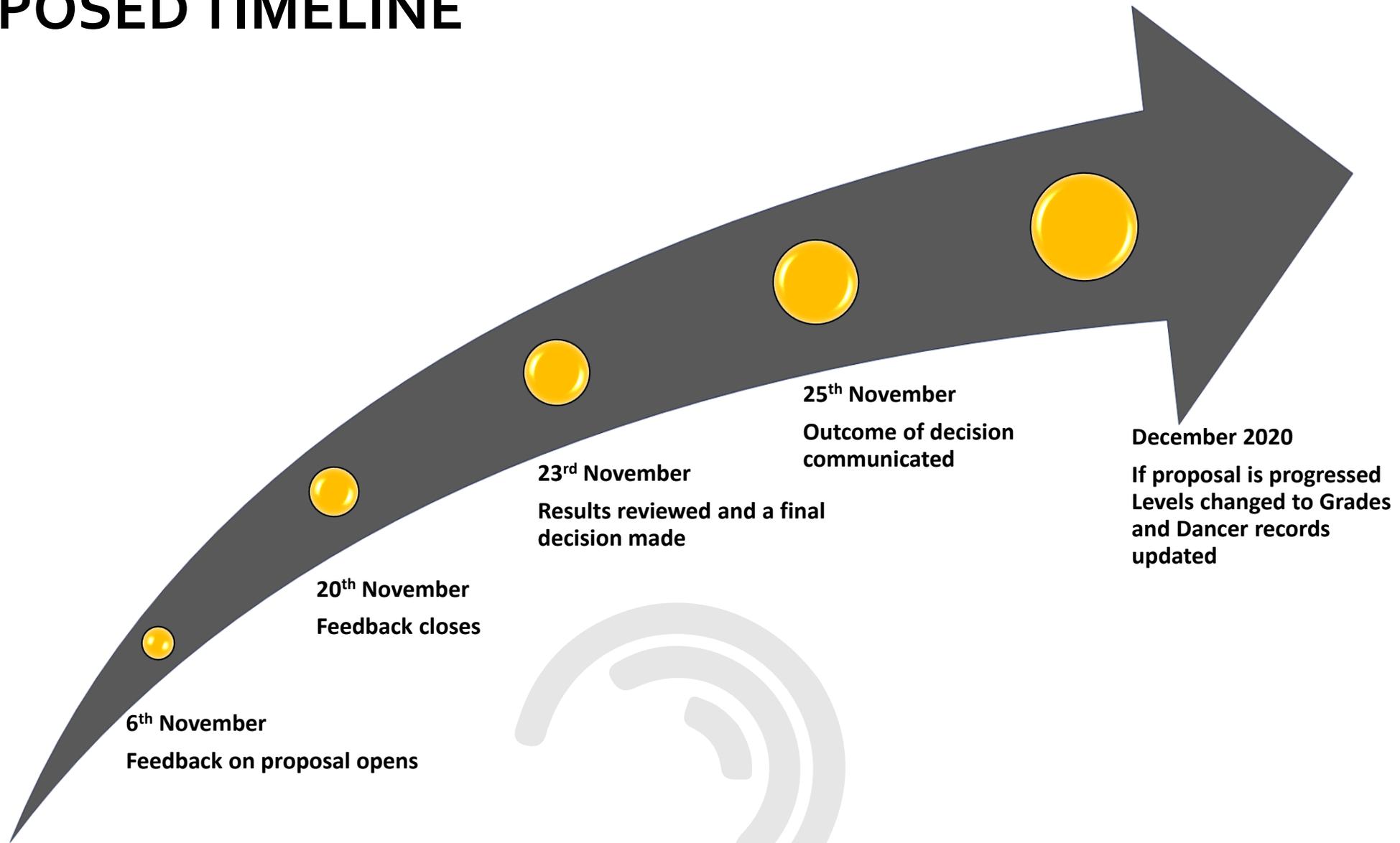


WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THIS CHANGE?

- More competition at each grade and age group.
- Less events to be run resulting in shorter competition event times with more rounds per round.
- Consistent number of wins required to upgrade at each level
- Aligned with other countries



PROPOSED TIMELINE



QUESTIONS?

Is this proposal final?

No – we are seeking feedback on this proposal from all stakeholders before any final decision is made.

Can we still dance the Grade above?

Yes – If this proposal goes ahead dancers may dance their own grade and the grade above.

Do we have to upgrade?

No – If the proposal goes ahead, we will automatically move you to your new Grade based on your existing Level. However Level 2 and Level 4 dancers can request to start in Grade C and Grade B respectively.

Do I have the same new Grade in all styles?

No – If the proposal goes ahead you will move based on your current level in each style.

How does this impact our grading with The NZ Ballroom Dance Council?

These proposed changes are not related to the grading system used by the NZ Ballroom Council.

When would these grade changes take effect?

If the proposal goes ahead, the new grading will come into effect from 1st January 2021.

QUESTIONS?

How do I make my views known?

We will be sending a link via email to all registered Dancesport Dancers, Professionals and Members of NZDA, NZFATD, NZFTD. You will be able to share your thoughts and vote on your preference of adopting the new proposed grades or to keep the current 5 levels. This link will be shared from the 6th November.

When do I have to respond by?

You will need to have responded by 11pm Friday 20th November using the links available.

What if I don't get a link to give my views?

We will be providing an alternative link on Facebook and via our Website. You can use this link to submit your views.

What if I want to suggest other changes to the rules such as age groups?

You will have the opportunity to suggest other ideas for consideration in the future as part of the referendum.

QUESTIONS?

Which competitions would this impact?

All competitions run under the NZRDI rules would be subject to these changes. This includes the NZFDT NZ Open and Closed Dancesport Championships (i.e. The Nationals), The NZFATD One Dance Championships and any local competitions.

Do these changes affect the Recreational Division events?

No – These grade changes only impact the Dancesport Division events.

Where can I get more information about these proposed changes?

We know that more ideas and questions may happen through this process, so we will keep information updated on our Website: www.nzrecreationaldance.co.nz. We will also be answering questions on our NZRDI facebook page NZ Recreational Dance Inc

When will we know if the proposed changes will happen?

Depending on the amount of feedback, we intend to be able to share the results of the referendum and the outcome on the 25th November.

I don't dance myself, but my children do. Can I give my feedback?

Yes. We recognise that Dancesport is a family activity. If your children are under the age of 16 you can submit feedback on their behalf or use the generic link to provide your own views.

PROUDLY WORKING TOGETHER FOR NZ DANCESPORT





NEW ZEALAND
RECREATIONAL
DANCE INC.

THANK YOU!



INFO@NZRECREATIONALDANCE.CO.NZ



[HTTP://WWW.NZRECREATIONALDANCE.CO.NZ/](http://www.nzrecreationaldance.co.nz/)