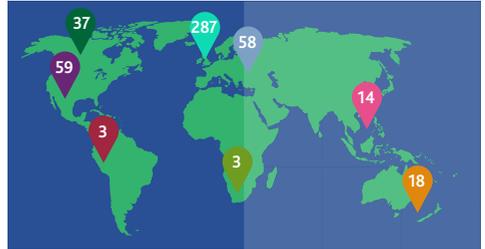


# Affiliates & Branches of

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY



*Be an RSCDS Affiliated Group or Branch... and help us all to keep dancing Scottish*



*Will you join the 450+ Affiliated Groups and Branches around the world?*

Will your Group take the next step and become an Affiliate or Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS)? Your group could benefit from the increased visibility and status this will afford. Also, RSCDS membership will help your members tap into information and opportunities locally and from around the world!

Find out about Affiliate Groups and Branches in your region - or anywhere else - by searching the Branches & Groups page at [www.rscds.org](http://www.rscds.org)

We know you and others with a similar passion, love to Dance Scottish. That is why you dance as a group, club or society.

You have been able to continue enjoying Scottish Country Dancing (SCD) because of the legacy of this dance form handed down over many years through the Society and its Branches. We hope your group wants to help keep it alive and thriving.

## *Reasons to become Affiliated to the RSCDS*



### **Your group will be able to:**

- Have a listing on the RSCDS website which is searchable by the public. The contact details for each Group Secretary are listed alongside the link to each Group's website and so, enhancing your Group's profile locally and internationally
- Increase its visibility online and on social media as we can promote your activities through our growing and active digital presence and reach
- Contact Headquarters for advice on technical matters concerning the Society's dances

- Keep dancers in touch with developments in SCD, network with others and stimulate interest in the worldwide Society
- Receive a copy of the Society's twice yearly magazine, *Scottish Country Dancer*, which is full of news on activity around the world, upcoming events and the latest deals
- Receive tailored communications, sent to your group, to bring important issues and opportunities to the Group's attention; e.g. important dates, new recordings and publications and information on key events
- Provide feedback in surveys which are conducted in line with the Society's aims, activities and development
- Give special Awards to be bestowed to an individual in the Group for outstanding service to Scottish Country Dancing generally in the locality of the Group
- Use the RSCDS Affiliate logo, supplied in different formats along with design guidelines for its use. The logo provides recognition for the Affiliate Group and strengthens its link with the RSCDS

***The affiliation system strengthens the Society and thereby ensures the retention of Scottish Country Dancing to everyone's benefit – join us and be part of that!***

## *Reasons to become a Branch of the RSCDS*



Branch members to be well informed on all aspects of Scottish Country Dancing

- Access an exclusive Members' only area of the RSCDS website for Branches and their members, giving exclusive access to member deals, advance notice of developments and template materials for publicity, policies and good practice
- Secure RSCDS Branch advice and support to help you understand your legal responsibilities (e.g. health and safety, child and vulnerable adult protection, music licencing, etc.), grow your membership, develop your teaching and work with the media and other external allies
- Network with other Branches and learn from what they are doing, through belonging to a worldwide community of Scottish Country Dancers

**Your Branch - in addition to all the listed benefits of being an Affiliate Group, will also be able to:**

- Get cheaper insurance through the RSCDS agreement
- Buy most recordings, publications and other items available through the RSCDS shop in bulk for your members and get a 10% discount and further discounts on bulk purchases, depending on how much your Branch buys
- Apply for and access funds from the RSCDS to develop and improve the teaching and development of Scottish Country Dancing through your Branch
- Receive a regular Branch e-newsletter with news, updates, competitions and offers sent by email, helping your

**RSCDS Branches will remain autonomous and shall be able to:**

- Run independently and have control over their local classes and events
- Recruit members and retain them (though RSCDS is happy to help advise, provide templates and do promotional work to support this)

## FAQs



### What kind of group is Branch or Affiliation open to?

**Affiliation:** organisations, societies, firms, clubs, associations or other bodies interested in the work and activities of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society may apply to become Affiliated Groups; such applications would be welcomed by the Society.

**Branches:** any group of dancers may apply to form a Branch. The Management Board of the Society welcomes applications for Branch formation from groups anywhere in the world wishing to have a closer link with the RSCDS. More details about what is involved in forming and running a Branch can be found on the application form [here](#).

### What if there is an RSCDS Branch in our area?

For both Affiliation and setting up a new Branch, where there is an existing Branch, the Management Board will consult with the Branch for their views prior to making its decision but are not bound by the feedback of the Branch.

### Do we need to have fully certificated RSCDS teachers?

**Affiliated Groups:** It is not essential to have fully certificated RSCDS teachers to be an Affiliated Group. We will be happy to provide information about our teacher training opportunities and hope your teachers might find it useful.

**Branches:** In order to maintain a high standard of teaching, the Society normally expects each Branch to have at least 2 RSCDS trained teachers or teachers who are going through RSCDS teacher training.

### Do members of the Affiliated Group or Branch need to be members of the Society?

**Affiliated Groups:** There is no compulsory requirement for all group members to be RSCDS individual members but a proportion should be individual members of this Society, preferably through the local RSCDS Branch if one is conveniently near. This is something the Society would encourage all Affiliate Group members to consider. Those who wish to become RSCDS individual members can do so through a local Branch or otherwise through the International Branch, Youth Branch or direct through Headquarters, all of which comprise members in many countries.

**Branches:** Under the terms of the Society's Licence Agreement, Constitution and Rules, all members of a Branch must be individual members of the RSCDS as well as of the Branch.

## How does a group apply for affiliation or to become a Branch?

**For Affiliation:** Please use the application form which can be downloaded [here](#).

**For Branches:** Please use the application form which can be downloaded [here](#).

## When should we apply?

Applications may be made at any time for either an Affiliate Group or a Branch, and will be considered at the first meeting of the Management Board following receipt.

## How is our application determined?

The decision of the Management Board, with regard to an application, will be advised as soon as practicable after the meeting.

## Is there a fee and is it an annual charge?

**Affiliated Groups:** The current group affiliation fee is £45\* per annum. However, if at least 50% of the members are under 25 years or in fulltime education, the Youth group affiliation fee of £22\* will apply.

Please do not send a fee with your application; it will be payable upon confirmation of your affiliate status.

**Branches:** Membership fees range from £10\* for under 17's, £16\* for young adults, £20\* for individual adults and £32\* for joint adult membership per annum. Again, do not send fees with your application, they will be payable upon confirmation. Branch members receive a 15% discount on shop purchases and for events (this is not available to Affiliate Group members unless they are individual members of RSCDS).

\* Prices correct as at 1 July 2016.

## Still have some queries? Like to chat about affiliation or branch membership?

Please contact Headquarters on [info@rscds.org](mailto:info@rscds.org) and a member of the team will be happy to assist.



## About us



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS) is a registered Scottish Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, dedicated to promoting Scottish Country Dance around the world. We have a membership of some 12,000 and a global network of over 450 Branches and Affiliated Groups, with a small administrative team at a central office (Headquarters) in Edinburgh. The Branches (also known as Local Associations) are independent, autonomous bodies. Branches and Affiliated Groups are the “grass roots” organisations that run classes, provide training and host social events at a local level in their own areas.

## What we do

Please refer to [www.rscds.org](http://www.rscds.org) for a comprehensive picture of the Society's aims, work and activities. In summary, the Society undertakes the following activities globally:

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY  
DANCE SOCIETY  
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- Raising the profile, visibility and appreciation of Scottish Country Dancing
- Publishing and selling books, dance instructions, music, CDs and other merchandise
- Arranging Residential Summer and Winter Schools plus other Society events
- Undertaking campaigns to further the spread and appeal of Scottish Country Dancing
- Administering a teaching, exams and accreditation system for individual dancers, teachers and schools
- Developing materials to advance instruction in Scottish Country Dancing
- Running training courses and workshops for children, young people and musicians
- Working with schools to increase the uptake of Scottish Country Dancing

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Company No. SC480530

