

Please circulate the below information to your members

Planning Underway for 2026 Combined Nationals – Wellington

Following an awesome Senior Nationals, the Executive has already begun planning for the **2026 Combined Nationals in Wellington**.

This week, we met with the Wellington team to discuss their plans and align on our goals and expectations for the event. One of the main topics has been the **competition programme**. We've reviewed previous Junior and Senior Nationals, considered all relevant factors and rules, and have confirmed the overall structure for 2026 to ensure the best possible weekend for everyone.

To help competitors and supporters plan travel and accommodation, here's what you can expect:

Friday Evening:

- Doors open will be confirmed by Wellington at a later date
- The competition will start at **6:00 p.m.**
- Competition will start with **Junior Novice Section followed by the Senior Novice Section**.
- If we have **Junior Novelties** these may also be performed on Friday evening. Senior Novelties will remain on Sunday evening.
- The evening will finish earlier to prepare for the next 2 busy days ahead.

Saturday and Sunday:

- Both days will start at **8:30 a.m.**
- Saturday will feature **couple dancing** for Juniors sections and Seniors sections with **Junior finals and presentations earlier in the evening** and **Senior finals and presentations later** to ensure Juniors aren't competing too late.
- **Junior Sections and Senior Sections will be run together eg:**
 - Junior Novice heats
 - Senior Novice heats
 - *To be clear they will not be dancing on the floor together at the same time

Workshops & Meetings:

- A **Judges Workshop** and **Officials Meeting** will be held on Friday (details to come).
- Following a successful trial this year, the **Team Managers' Meeting** will again be held via **Zoom** in the week before the competition.

While the detailed programme will be confirmed once entries close, we anticipate an inclusive, exciting weekend showcasing both Junior and Senior dancing.

We're looking forward to an outstanding 2026 Combined Nationals and can't wait to see you there!