

**Subject:** BDC Party Fee Increase

**From:** Ballroom Dance Charleston, SC - USA Dance Chapter 6021 (connievance10@gmail.com)

**To:** bdc.charleston@yahoo.com;

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## General Information

We are Chapter 6021 of USA Dance. Since the fire on February 23, the Ballroom Dance Charleston SC is temporarily located at St. Andrew's Fitness Center, 1642 Sam Rittenberg Blvd. The St. Andrew's Fitness Center is located behind Charleston Lighting, which is approximately 100 yards across the parking lot from our old location on Ashley Hall Road.

Our main website is [www.ballroomdancecharleston.org](http://www.ballroomdancecharleston.org) for the newsletter, calendar, and general information. We also have pictures and videos posted on [www.charlestonballroomdanceclub.shutterfly.com](http://www.charlestonballroomdanceclub.shutterfly.com).

## Party Fees

Party fees have been the same \$5 rate for members for a very long time. As you already know, everything has increased in price especially utilities. Even without the additional expenses at Pier Pont, a party fee increase would have been necessary because we had operating losses in 2011, 2012, and 2013 while we were in our own facility.

Last Saturday the board voted to increase the party fees to \$10 for members and \$15 for guests starting November 1. We hope to be in our beautiful new facility in November or early December -- just in time for the holidays, a grand opening, and a 25th ANNIVERSARY party!.

The board also agreed to offer discount packages for multiple parties, we welcome your input on what would work best for you. Discount cards for first-time guests are available now for the asking. If you would like to invite friends to a dance, please reply to this email and we will get cards to you. It is as easy as that!

Many of our new guest dancers tell us that an hour lesson with a professional instructor, several hours of open dancing, and refreshments is a huge bargain at \$10. We all receive a lot of value for our admission fee.

This is an exciting time but we have to make sure we remain financially stable. In addition to the party fee increase, we will retain at least \$25,000 of current reserves, explore alternate sources of income such as rentals and sponsorships, and will also insure the floor against loss. The floor has been selected and will be ordered soon so that when the building is ready, it will be as well. If you have questions concerning the financial information or budget, please contact Connie Vance, Treasurer at 843-754-5087. No question is off limits!

Thanks to Raymond for taking these great photos of our new facility. Note on Photo 4, this shows a front to back shot of only one of our 2 units (J and K).