

## 2009 Blackpool Junior Festival

Sant Cugat, 12 March 2009

Refuting the allegations made by the World Dance Council AL and the British Dance Council in press statements circulated earlier this month, the International DanceSport Federation (IDSF) points out that:

- IDSF has never been against the Blackpool Junior Festival;
- IDSF policy requires that teams entering a Team Match in representation of a country are selected by the body holding the official authority over DanceSport in that country – not by the organisers of the event;
- IDSF athletes take part in DanceSport because it is an organised and structured sport, subject to basic norms and regulations, and not considered commercial entertainment;
- IDSF calls on the organisers of the Blackpool Junior Festival to implement the corresponding changes to the team selection procedures.

IDSF regrets that incorrect, misleading and even defamatory statements – arguing against what is standard policy in all international sports – have been published by the usual critics, who use this festival as an excuse to pursue their own agenda and political ambitions.

**ENDS**

### **International DanceSport Federation**

The International DanceSport Federation (IDSF) is the sport's world governing body recognised by the International Olympic Committee. The mission of IDSF is to regulate, administer and develop DanceSport for the benefit of millions of athletes at every level and on all continents. IDSF has 86 National Member Federations.

### **IDSF Websites**

[www.idsf.net](http://www.idsf.net)

[worlddancesportfederation.org](http://worlddancesportfederation.org)