

# THE SWORD DANCE UNION

encouraging and maintaining traditional sword dancing

[www.sworddanceunion.org.uk](http://www.sworddanceunion.org.uk)



## A little bit about the Sword Dance Union



The Sword Dance Union (SDU) was founded in 2005 with the aims of encouraging, developing and maintaining the traditional sword dances of England, both longsword and rapper. The Union seeks to provide useful support to sword dance teams across the UK.

The SDU is run by a small but dedicated group who work hard to support rapper and longsword teams with a communication network, practical and personal advice, archive material, competitive opportunities and rapper or longsword loan.

The Union runs events and competitions all over the UK, giving teams the chance to perform in front of their peers, sharpen up their dance skills and deepen their personal understanding of the linked sword tradition.

Membership of the SDU is open to all individuals and sword dance teams who support the Union's aims and objectives, without restriction by locality, age or gender.

## The benefits of Sword Dance Union membership

- Reduced DERT and SDU event entrance fees
- Advice on risk assessments and child protection issues
- Facility to borrow rappers and longswords
- Assistance with promotion of your sword team and your events
- Access to The Sword Dance Union Archive including dance and music notations
- Expertise in improving team dances and joining your Development Days
- Advice on team member recruitment and event marketing
- DERT and other competition judge recruitment and training
- Voting at the AGM to influence the sword dancing community
- Involvement at Committee level to further shape and direct the SDU
- Take part in the next Digital Sword Project and join in with the world of sword dancing!

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*"During the recent SDU survey, we found that over 41% of respondents said they didn't know anything about the work of the SDU, and that over 40% were interested in learning more about being members"*

*- The SDU Committee*

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## The aims of the Sword Dance Union

- To encourage and maintain the tradition, evolution and development of sword dancing
  - To strive together for excellence of performance
  - To provide a social network giving support for any interested parties
  - To widen the public understanding of sword dancing
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### 2013-2014 membership rates

Teams—£5 joining fee and £10 p/a

Individuals—£5 joining fee and £5 p/a

Organisations—£10 joining fee and £10 p/a

Youth teams (under 16) - FREE



Sallyport Sword Dancers (longsword and rapper team, founded in 1969 and members of the SDU)

## Joining the Sword Dance Union

To join the SDU, simply visit [www.sworddanceunion.org.uk](http://www.sworddanceunion.org.uk) and download the membership form. Fill it in and send to Jenny Day (Treasurer) with your payment.

If you have any questions or comments you can email a Committee Member through the website, ask a question on the [Facebook](#) page or tweet the SDU [@sworddanceunion](#)

The Sword Dance Union is run by volunteers, all working to support sword dancing teams across the UK and is reliant on your support.