



## **Code of Ethics & Conduct**

**Last updated May 2022**

Biodanza is based fundamentally on the biocentric principle, prioritising respect and reverence for life. The Code of Ethics & Conduct assumes this value perspective in providing a framework of principles to guide the practice and ethical reasoning of Biodanza Association UK Registered Biodanza Facilitators.

### **Contents**

- 1 Introduction and purpose
2. What do we mean by ethics and ethical practice?
3. Fundamental values and principles for practice
- 4 Responsibility towards participants of Biodanza
5. Relationships between Biodanza Association UK professional members
6. Continuing Professional & Personal Development
7. Publicity
8. Professional & legal issues, complaints and declaration
9. Declaration Form
10. Appendix: List of weblink addresses in document

**Biodanza Association UK**  
**Code of Ethics & Conduct**

May 2022

**1. Introduction and purpose**

- 1.1. This Code of Ethics & Conduct (CEC) is intended to establish, maintain and safeguard professional and ethical standards for Biodanza Association UK (BAUK) Registered Facilitators. The code also applies to International Facilitator, Student-under-Supervision and Student members as well as to the roles of Tutor, Didactic facilitator and School Director insofar as these categories or activities confer the same professional and ethical responsibilities as for Registered Facilitators. In this document, the term “facilitator” is used broadly to refer to any of the above membership categories where a particular section is relevant to that category of membership or position of responsibility. Directors of the Schools of Biodanza in the UK may use the CEC to guide the ethical conduct and teaching of Students-under-Supervision.
- 1.2. The CEC promotes the core values and principles of Biodanza, as agreed by the BAUK membership, and to which members commit to ensure the highest standard of Biodanza practice and leadership within groups. It is a condition of BAUK membership that members agree to conduct themselves in accordance with this code with the exception of those in the ‘Friend of Biodanza Association UK’ membership category. An ethics committee, appointed by the BAUK Committee, will review any complaints that are received about a member's conduct against this code. Having said this, the CEC exists as a supportive resource for facilitators and students-under-supervision. It is not intended as a system of policing within Biodanza and so far as possible BAUK looks to address disputes and complaints with a view to enhancing the professional and ethical practice of individuals and the broader membership.
- 1.3. Through facilitator registration founded on the principles provided in the CEC, BAUK seeks to enhance professional standards and to protect members of the public from poor or unethical practice and teaching behaviour (in Biodanza classes and schools) that does not accord with the Biodanza ethos. It also aims to guide professional relationships between peers.
- 1.4. It is not possible for the CEC to provide specific solutions to all professional dilemmas. It provides value-based principles which should be used to shape the practice and ethical responsiveness of facilitators, enabling them to consider specific situations and dilemmas through the lens of those principles. Facilitators should exercise their own professional judgement and discretion, seeking advice from colleagues where appropriate. However, in situations where concerns of ethics or conduct arise, peer discussion and advice, drawing on BAUK or other professional expertise, is strongly recommended in order to ensure facilitators are acting in a manner which accords with relevant law as well as with the norms and values of the profession.

# Biodanza Association UK

## Code of Ethics & Conduct

May 2022

- 1.5. The CEC will be formally reviewed, and where necessary updated, at a minimum of every five years, although changes in legislation may lead to updates at other times

### 2. What do we mean by Ethics and Ethical Practice?

As an Association, we believe that 'ethics' emerge when we are alive to the reverence and sacredness of life. Our ethical awareness and actions are born out of integrated and evolved human capacities for empathy and compassion. BAUK members commit to values of integrity, transparency, authenticity, welcoming care and fairness for all participants. We seek to demonstrate, and are willing to explain to our participants, what these values mean in practice.

### 3. Fundamental Values & Principles for Practice

3.1 The primary task of the Biodanza facilitator lies in stimulating well-being in individuals, relationships and groups: it aims to nourish the organic, vital resources of people, facilitating an improvement in quality of life by encouraging an integrated lifestyle that is respectful of others, of the environment and of life itself.

3.2 In keeping with the Biocentric Principle, facilitators should express themselves to others with honesty, and in a straightforward manner that conveys warmth, respect and equality.

3.3 Particular mechanisms of action of Biodanza include: the experience of *vivencia*; music; integrative movement; physical contact and nurturing touch; trance and expansion of consciousness; and the Biodanza group. In harnessing these powerful mechanisms for organic and existential renovation, facilitators base their actions on the Biocentric Principle and respect for the integrity of the Biodanza System, as created by Rolando Toro Araneda and maintained by the international community of Biodanza schools.

3.4 Awareness and respect for difference and diversity are essential attributes for Biodanza facilitators, who must create a healthy and intentionally non-discriminatory space of welcome, where participants are accepted regardless of age, ethnicity, religion, gender, disability, nationality, sexual orientation or socio-economic status. They should respect the dignity, right to privacy, self-determination and autonomy of participants and others with whom they work. There is much that we don't know about participants in our classes, for example in terms of sexuality, gender and cultural background. It is therefore important that facilitators develop their cultural knowledge, self-awareness and self-reflective capacities, recognising any attitudes, blind-spots or potential for defensiveness with regard to working with any particular groups or individuals where they may perceive 'difference'. BAUK welcomes and encourages the development of training within the Biodanza Schools in respect of inclusion and diversity.

# Biodanza Association UK

## Code of Ethics & Conduct

May 2022

3.5 Maintaining the integrity of the Biodanza system is of the highest priority in order to provide protection to group members and the public. While Biodanza facilitators will use their own creativity to explore diverse areas of experiential enquiry, it is important not to dilute the Biodanza System by combining it with different means of enquiry within the Biodanza class. Biodanza facilitators have a responsibility to ensure that they conduct their classes within the terms of this Code and abiding by the principles and methodology of Biodanza as created by Rolando Toro Araneda.

Specifically, within their teaching of Biodanza, facilitators should refrain from:

- Creating their own version of Biodanza;
- Changing the methodology or theoretical model of Biodanza;
- Eliminating or adding lines of vivencia, applications or archetypes, principles of Biodanza;
- Creating exercises or using music which causes dissociation;
- Diluting or altering Biodanza by mixing it with other techniques;
- Claiming, directly or indirectly, Biodanza qualifications they do not have.

### 4. Responsibilities towards participants of Biodanza

4.1 **Ensuring the safety of participants.** It is the facilitator's responsibility to familiarise themselves with their statutory responsibilities to the general public concerning health and safety ([HSE](#)). This should include understanding their responsibilities with regard to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults ([OPG](#)). In general terms, facilitators should assume a Duty of Care for their participants, taking an active, protective stance towards group members, settings and boundaries, being alert to the well-being of the group and individuals within it. Awareness and sensitivity in this regard promotes the safety of participants within the classes and workshops of Biodanza and communicates biocentric values and security.

Biodanza facilitators should take account of the needs and rights of their participants in the following ways:

#### Risk assessment & adjustment

- Ensuring an appropriate and safe class environment;
- Gathering information (e.g., through intake questionnaires) about participants' experience of Biodanza, physical capabilities and health, mental/emotional health;
- Adjusting class instructions, or suggesting modifications where necessary, to meet the needs of individual participants;
- Providing participants with the information they need to progressively take responsibility for their own wellbeing, safety and security within the Biodanza class situation;
- Recognising that where you cannot safely teach a participant, you should not do so and that this should be explained to the participant in terms of the limits of your knowledge and competence in relation to a specific concern;
- Where you teach specialised classes, such as those for children or vulnerable

# Biodanza Association UK

## Code of Ethics & Conduct

May 2022

adults, you should normally have undertaken further specialised Biodanza training. You should be acting in accordance with any and all requirements for safeguarding for that specific group;

- Acting to remove or mitigate risks, where these have been identified;
- Have a pre-planned procedure for emergencies, ensuring participants are aware of this;
- Have an understanding of the Health & Safety requirements of, and potential actions needed by, the premises where Biodanza sessions are being carried out, for example reporting of serious injuries ([RIDDOR](#)).

### Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and Children

- Safeguarding refers to the protection of people's health, safety, wellbeing and human rights. A vulnerable adult may be defined as: anyone over the age of 18 years who may be unable to look after themselves or protect themselves from abuse, harm or exploitation, which may be by reason of illness, age, mental illness, disability or other types of physical or mental impairment.
- Within open Biodanza classes, it is likely that vulnerable adults may be in attendance. Facilitators should be alert to the possibility of harm arising to an individual, whether that be outside or within the class or premises, offering support and signposting other relevant services to participants.
- Six principles underpin adult safeguarding:
  1. Empowerment – People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent;
  2. Prevention – It is better to take action before harm occurs;
  3. Proportionality – The least intrusive response as appropriate to the risk presented;
  4. Protection – Support and representation for those in greatest need;
  5. Partnership – Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities also have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse;
  6. Accountability – Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.

The same principles (with slightly different implications) also apply to the safeguarding of children. It is essential for all facilitators to develop their knowledge of safeguarding principles and from that knowledge, to consider developing a specific safeguarding policy, appropriate to the context(s) in which they work. Such a policy will detail how you protect the groups you work with and how you will respond to concerns or a disclosure made to you.

Depending on the context(s) in which you work it may be necessary or appropriate to obtain a convictions disclosure check or become part of a disclosure database. This is achieved through the *Disclosure & Barring Service* in England and Wales - [DBS](#), and through: [Disclosure Scotland](#) (Scotland) and [Access NI](#) (Northern Ireland).

# Biodanza Association UK

## Code of Ethics & Conduct

May 2022

More detailed information on safeguarding and developing a safeguarding policy (for adults or children) can be found through the following web pages:

[People Dancing](#)

[Ann Craft Trust](#)

[NSPCC](#)

### **4.1.2 Biodanza works with physical contact among other human potentials.**

This aspect of our human nature and conditioning can be complex and sensitive. Biodanza encourages the affective and sensual expression of ourselves. We support participants in the healthy integration of their identity, including sexual identity and the instincts for sustaining affective, vital, creative, pleasurable and intimate relationships in life.

Facilitators must be aware of the power and authority imparted to them by the nature of their role, and therefore the potential for influence they have on their participants. It is easy to overlook or underestimate this power, which therefore imparts an additional responsibility to develop self-reflective capabilities and act with care and affective intelligence with regard to the well-being of all participants. Facilitators must avoid actions which exert power over another, are coercive, or detract from the reasonable autonomy of participants in the setting of a Biodanza class.

For some populations, post-qualifying specialisation is normally expected in order to carry out Biodanza facilitation. For example, there is a specific training to work with children and adolescents, and the specialisation of Clinical Biodanza is a usual prerequisite to work with, for example, with groups of people with disabilities or those experiencing mental health problems. However, facilitators should not assume that a disability or other experienced difficulty would prevent an individual from engaging in a regular Biodanza group and discussion with the individual concerned will help to establish how any specific needs may be met. At the same time there may be occasions where circumstances, including a facilitator's limits of competence, mean that they cannot work with someone within the context of a regular class or workshop of Biodanza. In most situations, such situations should be managed outside the functioning of a class/school itself. In urgent situations, if the facilitator has good reason to ask a participant to leave the class / school, they should explain the reasons in a considerate, empathic way and be clear about the reasoning through a private communication, preferably in person.

**4.1.3 Boundaries in relationships with participants.** Strong feelings can be generated in *vivencia*, both between participants themselves, and between participants and the facilitator. Since a facilitator is likely to be in physical and emotional contact with participants, it is essential that facilitators are continually

# Biodanza Association UK

## Code of Ethics & Conduct

May 2022

aware of the need for accurate empathy and feedback as well as the potential for misunderstandings to occur. Facilitators should therefore demonstrate sensitive and skilled verbal and non-verbal communication, as well as an awareness of appropriate safeguards for participants, especially in the areas considered below. When needed, facilitators should seek guidance and support from an experienced colleague.

**4.1.4 Boundaries in intimate relationships with participants.** Facilitators must be very clear to differentiate between the facilitator / participant relationship and any more intimate relationship with a participant. The facilitator must have a clear professional relationship with participants in order to offer equal opportunities and possibilities for development of all members within a group.

Biodanza Association UK does not explicitly prohibit the formation of intimate relationships between a facilitator and a participant of their classes, where both are informed and consenting adults. Biodanza is not psychotherapy. However, the possibility of such relationships will usually present difficult questions in relation to ethical awareness and conduct, not least in terms of the relative power and authority that the Facilitator unavoidably embodies. For the reasons given below, it is strongly recommended that such relationships are avoided in the great majority of circumstances.

a). Intimate feelings may be generated frequently in *vivencia* with many different people. When such feelings are generated with someone we are also physically attracted to, it is not uncommon for participants and/or facilitators to believe such feelings are *significant* in a way that transcends the Biodanza context. The available evidence suggests that in most situations this is not the case. Many such relationships are short-lived, since the feelings generated are based on ideas about the other gained solely (or mainly) within *vivencia*, developed as part of what is *desired* to be true about the other, whilst in reality knowing little about them.

b). Facilitators should be aware of their own potential for developing such feelings and must ensure that they do not act in ways that may be detrimental for an individual participant or for the group.

c). In a situation where a facilitator is considering entering into a relationship with a participant, they should be aware of the power and authority vested in their position, the potential responsiveness of some participants to that authority, and therefore the strong possibility for vulnerable individuals to be harmed either by the relationship or its ending.

d). The ending of such a relationship is likely to mean that the participant feels unable to attend a class from which he or she has previously derived

# Biodanza Association UK

## Code of Ethics & Conduct

May 2022

benefit. This may also entail the loss of significant affective relationships with others, and the loss to the group of the presence of that individual. In such situations the actions of the facilitator may be seen to have brought harm to a participant, contrary to expectations of ethical conduct and the Biocentric Principle.

e). There are additional potential hazards: the Biodanza group being adversely affected as a result of the relationship; the facilitator being the subject of a formal grievance.

### **4.1.5 The boundary between the Biodanza session and other contexts.**

Relationships between people who are experienced in Biodanza should be grounded in affectivity and respectful feedback. Sometimes, as a result of experiences in vivencia, participants form expectations of the behaviour of others outside the Biodanza context (see 4.1.4a for example). The facilitator should be alert to this possibility, and the issues that may therefore occasionally arise between class participants. To minimise such occurrences, the affective education which is normally delivered within Biodanza classes should include some focus on this. The facilitator should be able to communicate clearly and sensitively, with individuals and the group, taking account the potential vulnerability of others who will vary in the awareness of their own needs, expectations and boundaries.

**4.1.6 Personal friendships with participants.** If a facilitator / participant relationship is or becomes personal, every effort should be made to ensure that, when in the Biodanza context, the Biodanza ethos stands before other priorities. Particular care must be taken that the nature of a personal relationship between the facilitator and participant does not adversely affect the dynamic of the class, for example through demonstrating favouritism or being distracted from the group process.

### **4.1.7 Taking the above points into account, a Biodanza facilitator needs to:**

- Educate and demonstrate to group members their responsibilities in maintaining personal boundaries that are life-enhancing;
- Educate and demonstrate the role and importance of affective feedback (with oneself and others) throughout classes;
- Take particular care to ensure they remain in appropriate feedback with group members, both when demonstrating any exercise and in any situations of contact within a class;
- Prioritise professional and ethical conduct in being respectfully aware of the potential for some participants to develop intense feelings towards someone in the facilitator role, and the potential for a facilitator to develop feelings towards a participant.

**4.2. Punctuality at classes.** As a gesture of respect to the participants and the



# Biodanza Association UK

## Code of Ethics & Conduct

May 2022

wider community, facilitators should arrive at the class venue in good time to set up and welcome early participants. It is also good practice to finish on time, as to overrun will not only inconvenience participants but will also affect the process of the class if participants become aware of time pressure. Facilitators should consider ways of encouraging participants to also be punctual as this offers respect to the group. Where a cancellation is unavoidable, all possible steps should be taken to inform participants before their arrival at the venue.

**4.3. Personal Interviews.** It is recommended that facilitators make themselves available for personal interviews when needed to discuss participants' experience and process in their Biodanza journey. The facilitator may decide the amount of time they can give, as well as whether (and how much) they charge for this service, which must be clear to the participant in advance.

It is important to distinguish a personal interview from a meeting that stems from managing a specific situation, such as an emotional crisis during or after a vivencia. A fee is not appropriate to the latter circumstance and no fee should be applied retrospectively. It is considered part of the facilitator's normal role to give reasonable support to participants who need to discuss a particular experience, or the impact of an experience, in Biodanza.

#### **4.4 Competence.**

- Facilitators should recognize the limits of their own competence and should not attempt to practice an aspect or extension of Biodanza for which they do not have appropriate preparation or, where applicable, specialist qualification.
- Facilitators should maintain professional competence through Continuing Professional & Personal Development (see Section 6).

**4.5 Fitness to Practise.** Facilitators should refrain from undertaking or continuing their professional activity where their personal well-being or a personal issue is likely to interfere with their professional effectiveness, resulting in potentially inappropriate or harmful actions towards others.

**4.6 Exploitation.** Facilitators must not exploit participants financially, sexually, emotionally or in any other way.

#### **4.7 Confidentiality within the Biodanza group**

**4.7.1** Facilitators are required to observe professional confidentiality and privacy before, during and after a class and should not reveal information about participants to third parties. This includes individual and group processes, contact numbers and addresses, biographical details, histories and booking form data. They should be familiar with their responsibilities under current data protection legislation (Data Protection Act, 2018), and ensure that this is appropriately applied in their work.

# Biodanza Association UK

## Code of Ethics & Conduct

May 2022

### **Exceptions to confidentiality are:**

- 1) When a facilitator or student-under-supervision needs to seek professional guidance from a colleague or mentor.
- 2) Where a group experiences an individual as disruptive, and that participant moves from one group to another without the agreement of the facilitators, that person's name and the nature of their disruptive behaviour can be shared between those facilitators affected. If an individual's name is to be shared in such a way, this action should also be communicated to the individual concerned, in advance.
- 3) Exceptional circumstances can arise where a facilitator believes a participant may be at risk of causing harm to him or herself or to others. The person concerned may need to be accompanied out of the group, to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the participant and/or the group. In such circumstances confidentiality may need to be broken in order to take appropriate action - for example to make an urgent phone call, to take a participant to Accident & Emergency or a local mental health crisis team (see [How to access mental health services](#)). The participant's consent for any actions should be sought where this is possible. If there are grounds to believe that the participant is no longer able to take responsibility for his or her own actions, confidentiality may need to be broken without consent.
- 4) If a facilitator has non-urgent on-going concerns, they may consult with a senior facilitator or the Association. To be able to act effectively in such circumstances the facilitator should understand the appropriate local pathways of care for referral to medical or other services in crisis situations.

**4.7.2** Where a facilitator asks other Biodanza facilitators to cover their classes in their absence, they should ensure that they have appropriate levels of competence and are adequately informed about the purpose of the session and any information that is considered important about the group.

## **5. Relationships between Professional Biodanza Association UK Members**

**5.1 Personal and Professional Respect.** Relationships between facilitators should be guided as far as possible by principles of mutual respect, professional acknowledgement and good faith. This includes refraining from communicating gossip or malicious comment or opinion to others regarding the work and personal or professional behaviour of colleagues.

**5.2 Cooperative Practice among Facilitators.** Facilitators within a locality are recommended to work closely together, for example through sharing a website or facebook page, joint advertising, teaching together and providing peer support and consultation. In accordance with the Biocentric Principle, the Association believes that such actions provide the most fertile environment within which Biodanza can grow and thrive, to the benefit of all.

# Biodanza Association UK

## Code of Ethics & Conduct

May 2022

Facilitators need to be aware of which other BAUK facilitators in their locality may be affected by their activities. Cooperative practice suggests the need to give care and consideration to other facilitators when planning where events or new classes are held. It is essential that facilitators communicate and operate in agreement with each other so far as is possible. Open discussion, prior to taking action, goes a long way towards avoiding conflict and bad feeling amongst facilitators, although agreement may not always be possible. In the event of conflict between facilitators in a locality, the help of the BAUK can be requested.

A facilitator should not knowingly encourage participants from other groups to attend his or her classes, unless a specific arrangement has been agreed with another facilitator. If a participant wishes to change facilitator and/or group, this should be discussed between the facilitators involved in order to consider any advice that may be offered to the participant (see also 5.3 below).

**5.3 Migration of participants between different classes.** Regular rotation of participants among different groups invites low levels of affective group integration. Intermittent participation and attendance at various groups without commitment to one is therefore not usually encouraged. However, it should be recognised that weekly attendance is not possible for some people and an individual's life circumstances sometimes presents obstacles to regular attendance. Participants who tend to move from group to group should be encouraged to commit to one group or facilitator. At the same time, assuming problems are not being created for the group, it is important to allow individuals their own developmental process - i.e., by not insisting that they have to choose one group or another.

**5.4 Suspected misconduct of another facilitator.** Where misconduct is suspected, this should be addressed directly with the facilitator concerned where possible. Where no agreement or resolution can be reached, the Association should be consulted to establish if the conduct in question should be investigated further. All details should then be given to the Association to allow for further investigation under the BAUK Grievance Procedure (*see Constitution*), and, if necessary, referral to a further governing body of Biodanza.

**5.5 Acknowledgement of research or other intellectual property.** Facilitators should refrain from claiming credit for the research and intellectual work of others and give due credit to the contributions of others in individual as well as collaborative work.

**Biodanza Association UK**  
**Code of Ethics & Conduct**

May 2022

## **6 Continuing Professional & Personal Development - (CPPD) & Supervision**

**6.1 Continuing Professional & Personal Development and supervision post-qualification.** Facilitators should be aware of the need to maintain and enhance their professional skills and knowledge, including vivencial learning. This may be addressed through attendance at classes, training events, festivals and experiential workshops, such as those organised through a Biodanza School, Biodanza Association UK or other facilitators. CPPD may also include personal study, research, giving talks, workshops & demonstrations plus joint teaching and discussions with other facilitators whether as a formal or informal “peer supervision” process, evaluating and reflecting on own work. It may not be viable for the member to participate in all of these so it is recommended that **a total of at least 30 hours each year** or any combination of the above is acquired.

**6.2 Reporting CPPD & Supervision.** While there are currently no formal requirements for reporting CPPD or supervision to the Association, it is expected that all facilitators will ensure their practice is adequately supported by appropriate on-going learning and by their professional peers. Where breaches of this Code are being investigated, the CPPD and any supervisory arrangements of members may be requested and considered as part of a grievance process.

**6.3 Conduct of Facilitators outside Biodanza Events.** In their everyday lives, members should endeavour to incorporate the integrity and coherence linked to the practice of Biodanza and through such behaviour promote Biodanza as a system that fosters a healthy, loving, caring and supportive life (the radicalisation of vivencia).

**6.4 Students-under-Supervision.** Students-under-Supervision (SUS's) are expected to consult and work closely with their School Director or a mentor approved by them, for example in planning any public events, whether or not these are for supervision purposes. This includes approval of the structure of classes, publicity and advertising. All relevant names, logos, images and other materials associated with Biodanza are authorised for use by SUS's through their membership of an approved Biodanza School and named director(s). This material is stored in the Resources section of the Support Unit (RSU) of the Biodanza Association UK website.

## **7 Publicity**

**7.1. Claims for Biodanza's effectiveness.** Facilitators must avoid making claims for the healing of specific medical or psychological conditions, unless clearly supported by published research evidence.

**7.2. Marketing** an event to the general public should be undertaken with sensitivity,

# Biodanza Association UK

## Code of Ethics & Conduct

May 2022

and awareness of the intimate nature of Biodanza around contact and caress – misunderstandings about the system are common if photographs or video footage are used without a relevant context. Facilitators should be mindful of the way they are presenting the Biodanza system.

**7.3. Advertising** should be transparent and clearly reflect the status of a facilitator, the intention and level of classes and workshops i.e., whether they are for beginners or deepening participants' experience of Biodanza.

**7.3.1 Presenting Biodanza at Major Public Events & Festivals.** Facilitators are ambassadors of Biodanza, and should present the system in a clear and unambiguous manner (e.g., not combining it with any other system). Advertising should show Biodanza in its widest context, with routes for finding classes and/or schools clearly available (e.g., through the Biodanza Association UK website). Biodanza Association UK publicity cards are available from the Secretary to use at such events.

**7.4 Fee structure.** Biodanza facilitators need to ensure that the fee structure for classes is clear and transparent.

**7.5 Communication with public institutions and other organisations.** When planning work within an organisational context, facilitators should always bear in mind that they are representatives of the whole Biodanza movement. It is recommended that they **inform other local facilitators and BAUK prior to any formal approach to an organisation, in order to avoid duplication and confusing communications.** There may be many routes into a large organisation and it is easy to create friction with that organisation through uncoordinated communications. Students-under-Supervision must discuss such initiatives with their School Director.

**7.6 Correctly attributing the method as “Biodanza.”** Biodanza classes, workshops and events should ideally be publicised under the name Biodanza. However, if for some reason this is not desirable, the name Biodanza should normally appear prominently beside the alternative name on publicity material, and should be used verbally within the classes, workshops and events. The term “Biodanza” should not be used by members to describe events which are not Biodanza, as defined, taught and practised in the Rolando Toro System.

**7.7 Adverse publicity.** Should there be any media or governmental investigation of a Biodanza facilitator or their group(s), the Biodanza facilitator member must immediately inform the Chair of the BAUK Committee.

## 8. Professional & Legal Issues, Complaints & Declaration

**Biodanza Association UK**  
**Code of Ethics & Conduct**

May 2022

**8.1 The Law.** Facilitators must operate within relevant law (normally UK law) and should take reasonable steps to be aware of the current law affecting their work. Ignorance of the law is no defence against legal liability.

**8.2 Response to Legal Action.** In a police action involving a participant, a facilitator has no duty to give information unless instructed to do so by a court. (There are rare exceptions, e.g., the prevention of terrorism). It is good practice to ask police personnel to clarify their legal right to an answer before refusing to give one. Only a court can require an appearance or answers to questions, in which case refusal to do so is punishable as contempt of court. Solicitors and lawyers have no rights to information. In the case of legal action involving a facilitator, the Biodanza Association UK committee can be consulted. **It is strongly recommended that you ensure your Professional Indemnity Insurance provides you with a free 24-hour legal support helpline.**

**8.3 Specialist Qualifications and Misrepresentation.** Facilitators must not claim, directly or indirectly, Biodanza qualifications (or qualifications in other areas) which they do not have. Facilitators should therefore take all reasonable steps to ensure that their qualifications, capabilities or views are not misrepresented, by themselves or others, and to correct any such misrepresentations. Any awareness of misrepresentation should be brought to the attention of the individual(s) concerned and to the BAUK.

**8.4 Insurance.** For membership to be current, all teaching members (i.e., Registered Facilitators, International Facilitators and Students-under-Supervision) are required to hold current Professional Indemnity Insurance appropriate to their activities.

**8.5 Dealing with Ethical Conflicts.** Facilitators may occasionally find themselves caught between conflicting ethical priorities. In these circumstances they are encouraged to discuss the situation with colleagues, or with a representative of the Association Committee. In the case of Students-under-Supervision, the appropriate person is usually their School Director in the first instance.

**8.6 This Code of Ethics and Conduct** is subject to on-going revision and refinement and members should ensure they are familiar with the most recent version which can be found on the BAUK website. Enquiries about the code should be directed to the BAUK Secretary via the website Contact Form. The names of Officers of the Association are published on the BAUK website. Any member of the public or of the Association who wishes to bring a grievance or conflict with a member to the attention of the Committee should follow the **grievance procedure** detailed in the Biodanza Association UK Constitution which can be obtained via the website Membership Form.

## **9 Declaration**

**Biodanza Association UK**  
**Code of Ethics & Conduct**

May 2022

Every Registered Facilitator, Affiliate Facilitator and Student-under-Supervision is required to indicate that they abide by this code upon joining or renewing Biodanza Association UK membership **either**:

a) on-line by dating the joining form,

**OR**

b) if unable to join or renew on-line to sign and send this declaration page with their subscription to the Biodanza Association UK Treasurer.

**I have read and understand the Biodanza Association UK Code of Ethics and Conduct (CEC) published May 2022 and affirm that I will abide by it:**

**Signature .....****Name.....**

**Date.....**

**Biodanza Association UK**  
**Code of Ethics & Conduct**

May 2022

## 10. Appendix

List of weblink addresses provided in document:

HSE (Health & Safety Executive): <https://www.hse.gov.uk>

OPG (Office of the Public Guardian):

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-policy-protecting-vulnerable-adults>

RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations):

[https://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/index.htm?utm\\_source=hse.gov.uk&utm\\_medium=refferal&utm\\_campaign=riddor&utm\\_content=home-page-info](https://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/index.htm?utm_source=hse.gov.uk&utm_medium=refferal&utm_campaign=riddor&utm_content=home-page-info)

DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service):

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service>

Disclosure Scotland: <https://www.mygov.scot/organisations/disclosure-scotland>

Access NI: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/accessni-criminal-record-checks/apply-accessni-check>

People Dancing: [https://www.communitydance.org.uk/DB/blogs-and-voices/news\\_and\\_views/developing-your-safeguarding](https://www.communitydance.org.uk/DB/blogs-and-voices/news_and_views/developing-your-safeguarding)

Ann Craft Trust: <https://www.anncrafttrust.org/resources/a-guide-to-safeguarding-adults/>

NSPCC: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/writing-a-safeguarding-policy-statement#heading-top>

NHS - how to access mental health services: <https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/social-care-and-your-rights/how-to-access-mental-health-services/>