



## **CALLER TRAINING BY USE OF A MENTORING SYSTEM**

A Mentor is an experienced caller who is prepared to give day-to-day support and advice to a new caller. He or she should be prepared to be on hand to answer questions and provide a regular opportunity for the student caller to practice. If properly structured this can be an effective background to a more formal caller training scheme. There is no doubt that a full Callers School is essential at some point in the student's development but an on-going relationship with an experienced, friendly, club caller would be invaluable.

A Mentor should be aware of the subjects being taught at a callers school in order to prepare the student efficiently. Attending a school before taking on a student would be an excellent plan and can only stimulate an experienced caller into achieving greater skills too.

If you feel that you would like to take on the role of Mentor or even if you have just a passing interest in the idea of mentoring, please contact us at RPM and let us have your details.

If you are not yet a Caller but are interested in finding out more about what is involved in becoming a Club Caller, again, contact us at RPM. We can give you the information you require and if necessary put you into contact with an experienced Caller who might be prepared to become your Mentor.

## **AFFILIATING TO YOUR COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE**

Your local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS), in some areas called the Social Council, is the umbrella group for all voluntary organisations in your borough. Services include training (usually free), help with fundraising and marketing and, most importantly, networking opportunities, enabling your club to reach thousands of people of all ages. Given that the average CVS has over 200 affiliated groups, if you can contact them all, you only need to attract one person from each group to have 200 new dancers. In most boroughs, the local authority subsidises the CVS so that membership is very inexpensive. If you can't find your local CVS in the telephone directory, look it up by visiting <http://www.navca.org.uk/liodir>.