

Punjabi Folk Dance Association Brisbane

History & Milestones

Foundation

The Punjabi Folk Dance Association Brisbane is the **first umbrella organisation** for cultural organisations in Australia and New Zealand. Initial efforts were taken by various cultural organizations in **January 2023**.

Founding organisations involved in early discussions: **Surtaal Academy, Hip Hop Gold Coast, Folk Blasters** and **Hunner E Regents Park**.

Formation

The first official meeting was held in **Rochedale on 25 March 2023**, at which the name "**Punjabi Folk Dance Association**" was formally decided. The association was subsequently registered as **Punjabi Folk Dance Association Brisbane Inc on 20 March 2024**.

During the one-year period between the founding meeting and official registration, prospective member organisations held folk dance events to prepare for and promote upcoming competitions.

Unification

The second official meeting was held on **14 April 2024** to welcome additional member organisations. Groups from Brisbane and surrounding areas attended; however only the **Ipsaa Group** agreed to join at that stage.

Sarbjeeet Sohi took the initiative to expand membership further, and a reunion meeting was held at **Indian Brothers, St. Lucia on 13 July 2024**. The committee was reconstructed on that day under the leadership of President **Rupinder Singh**.

Integration

Representatives of affiliated organisations in management also served as coaches of their teams. They were unable to assist at the required level for volunteer work and procedures in the 2nd Giddha Cup.

For the **3rd Giddha Cup**, management was divided into three parts:

Base Committee	Coaches and representatives of cultural institutions. Makes laws and frameworks.
Core Committee	Implements the laws and frameworks established by the Base Committee.
Advisory Board	Helps to implement laws and frameworks across the organisation.

All three bodies coordinate to create integrity within the organisation.

■ 1st Giddha Cup 2024

Venue	St. John's Performing Arts Centre, Forest Lake
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Date	24 July 2024
Chief Guests	Amar Noori & Sarbjit Mangat (jointly honoured)
Attendance	Sold-out event — 750+ seating capacity venue
Participation	24 teams across 5 categories in 3 age groups

Lifetime Achievement & Contribution Award: Manjit Boparai and Rashpal Heyar, recognised for their remarkable community services.

■ 2nd Giddha Cup 2025

The meeting for the association's second term was held on **27 March 2025** at **Bhalla's Indian Restaurant, Annerley**. The 2nd Giddha Cup 2025 team is led by **President Sunita Saini**, with only female representatives nominated to the management committee.

Venue	Home of the Arts (HOTA), Surfers Paradise
Date	28 September 2025
Chief Guest	Satwinder Bitti
Attendance	Sold-out event — 1,100+ seating capacity venue
Participation	25 teams across 4 categories in 3 age groups

Lifetime Achievement & Contribution Award: Gurdeep Nijjar and Baldev Nijjar, recognised for their remarkable community services.