

Mission: To educate and to show paths and conduct through sport and dance, without losing the essence of human movement.

History

In 2003, recognizing the need for a body that could assist in the development and popularization of the sport, Professor Cláudio Franzen (Porto Alegre) and Professor Terezinha Isobe (São Paulo)—who was technically responsible for organizing the Feira Fitness Brasil—began the process of establishing the Brazilian Aerobics and Fitness League (LIBRAF).

The first board of directors was then established, presided over by Cláudio Franzen and also comprising Terezinha Isobe, Regina Cavalcanti (Ribeirão Preto), Clotilde Tonial (Porto Alegre), and Eliane Dutra (Porto Alegre). In the state of Rio Grande do Sul, various organizations championed the sport. From the League's inception, the Porto Alegre City Council—through Councilman Professor Garcia—offered unconditional support for its creation. The Municipal Sports Department and FUNDERGS assisted in hosting the inaugural Brazil Cup and South American Aerobics Championship, demonstrating the state's commitment to developing the discipline. Featuring around 140 athletes, this competition marked the beginning of a new era in Sports Aerobics. Porto Alegre was represented by the Franzen Fitness Sports Center, with athletes Richard Rodrigues (3rd place in the Brazil Cup); Vinícius Toniolo, Patrícia Amorim, Kim Samuel, Deburah Schnarczk, and Jaqueline Moor (South American Champions in the team category); and Cláudio Franzen (South American Champion in the men's individual category). LIBRAF—this league provides official qualification for the South American Championship held annually in Porto Alegre each October, and also qualifies athletes for the Hip Hop World Championship and the International Aerobic Championship (ANAC).

The 5th Brazil and South American Cup brought together 700 athletes and dancers at the AMRIGS theater, making it the largest event of its kind and uniting Aerobic Gymnastics, Hip Hop, Step, Arabic dance, and Jazz. In 2008, we affiliated the new LIBRAF Paraguay—with its first event held on August 22–23—and scheduled the 6th Brazil and South American Cup for October 9–12 in Porto Alegre. Furthermore, LIBRAF underwent significant transformations regarding the technical directors for each discipline; the new regulations and general rules were set to launch by March 2008!

The 6th Cup in 2008 was truly a milestone for LIBRAF. Demonstrating the competence of the administration, judges, and athletes, the event displayed a level of maturity to be expected after six years. In addition to Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay, the Cup welcomed Paraguay for the first time; they brought a substantial delegation, helping to set a record during the three days of competition across the categories of aerobics, hip hop, jazz, Latin dance, step, Arabic dance, and aerobic fitness. In 2009, we achieved record-breaking attendance and excellence in our operations. The city of Nova Petrópolis not only welcomed our athletes and teams with great hospitality but also confirmed it would host the 8th Brazil and South American Cup in 2010, from October 7 to 12!

In 2010, aiming for new goals, LIBRAF divided its staff into three divisions: LIBRAF Judges, LIBRAF Director & Education, and LIBRAF Commercial. In 2011, Franzen Fitness—in partnership with the Nova Palma Foundation of Faxinal do Soturno (represented by its President, Ms. Mariza Bozzetto)—launched a school project to promote GAE (Aerobic Gymnastics) and National Hip Hop in the region. We are now joined by a prominent figure in the discipline, Professor Eliseu Correia (São Paulo), who will coordinate educational events alongside Professor Rodrigo Araújo (Ribeirão Preto). Minas Gerais is represented by choreographer Washington's team, "Enigma Of Charme." Instructor Tamara Panziera is launching the LIBRAF STEP project in schools within the São José community of Porto Alegre. Mexico will be represented at the 2011 9th Brazil Cup & South American Championship—taking place in Nova Petrópolis from October 20 to 23—by Instructor Mayla Padilla's team. In 2012, we celebrated LIBRAF's 10th anniversary and held the 10th Brazil Cup & South American Championship for Aerobic Gymnastics and Dance in Porto Alegre. We are on the right track toward growth and the development of citizenship through sport and dance!

The year 2013 has been marked by LIBRAF's inclusion in various events in Brazil and abroad. Highlights include the "Pro Esporte RS" projects and the International Aerobic Gymnastics Circuit. The 2013 South American Championship took place in Nova Petrópolis from October 3rd to 6th, drawing an excellent turnout of spectators and athletes; the event also incorporated the 2nd Franzen International Open and the Top 3 Arab Dance competition. The year 2014 is off to a strong start: the Gymnastics and Dance Festival in Xangri-lá (RS) is scheduled for January 10–11; the Recife (PE) and São Sebastião (SP) legs of the International Hip Hop Circuit Brazil will take place in February; and March marks the start of the qualifying rounds for the Brazilian Hip Hop Championship—offering qualification for Las Vegas 2015—as well as the national and international phases for Aerobics and Dance. The 12th Brazil Cup & 2014 South American Championship will be held in Tramandaí (RS) from October 16th to 19th.

For 2015, LIBRAF has signed agreements with FUNDERGS and the municipal governments of Xangri-lá, Tramandaí, and São Sebastião, while also reaffirming the Gymnastics Center of Excellence project at CETE in Porto Alegre. The 13th Brazil Cup & South American Championship (Aerobics, Dance, and International Hip Hop) was also held, qualifying national champions for their respective world championships. We also presented the Belly Dance (Arab Dance) disciplines in Kobe, Japan, launching the 2016 World Championship in partnership with the Japan Dance Federation, Happy Dance, and LIBRAF. The year 2016 will mark a milestone in quality and mass participation across the various disciplines LIBRAF promotes throughout the country. In 2016, we demonstrated our mission to educate and engage new generations by providing opportunities across various disciplines: the 14th Brazil & South American Cup in Tramandaí (October 18–24, 2016); the qualifiers for the 1st World Arabic Dance Championship in Kobe, Japan—conceived, regulated, and supervised by LIBRAF—which produced our first World Champion, Francielle Passos; the national qualifiers for Hip Hop International Brazil, seeking the country's best teams to represent Brazil at the discipline's World Championship; and various other social projects fostering youth inclusion through culture and dance.

In 2017, our goals were to further refine the *Circuito Hip Hop Internacional Brasil* (International Hip Hop Circuit Brazil), dance disciplines in general, and aerobic gymnastics, while also boosting the overall visibility of LIBRAF as it marked 15 years of existence and excellence.

2018 marked the start of a new phase looking toward the organization's next 15 years; we held the 16th Brazil Cup & South American Championship in Porto Alegre and increased our presence in cities and countries not yet affiliated with the League.

In 2019, we hosted the largest event for this discipline ever seen in Porto Alegre.

In 2020, the pandemic changed all our lives; after 18 years, we had to cancel the scheduled South American Championship and instead held LIBRAF's first online event.

In 2021, our activities were once again suspended while awaiting full vaccination of the population.

In 2022, a major celebration in Capão da Canoa marked the return of our in-person events. Athletes from Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil—totaling around 700 participants—showcased the best of our disciplines. Qualifiers for the 2023 World Championship in Europe were determined at the Hip Hop Unite South America event.

In 2023, we held one of the League's largest events in Capão da Canoa; the inclusion of new disciplines and the Hip Hop Unite Brazil qualifier significantly raised the profile of our activities. At the World Championship in Óbidos, Brazil placed in the global Top 10 for the first time.

Year 2024

22nd Brazil Cup & South American Championship 2024 – Capão da Canoa / October

Hip Hop Unite Brazil (Capão da Canoa / October)

Brazil Qualifier – Joinville, SC / July / Hip Hop Unite Brazil

In 2025, Capão da Canoa set attendance and participation records for the 23rd Brazil Cup & South American Championship, confirming the event's status as a powerhouse across the Americas. Our teams' participation in the Hip Hop and Aerobic Gymnastics World Championships in Prague, Czech Republic, was a success; for the first time in Brazilian history, they secured the world title in the Cadet Duo category, as well as a silver medal for the Junior group and a bronze medal for the Master Duo.

2022–2026 Cycle – Board composition:

President: Claudio Franzen

Vice President: Claudia Nara

Secretary: Maria Lucia Kroeff Barbosa

Treasurer: Eduardo Richtofen

President Claudio Franzen