

2019 Boston Highland Ball dance descriptions

Boston Hospitality (4x32J) *Couple-facing-couple round-the-room*

Marianne Taylor, Yankee Sampler

- 1-8 All dance Right Hands Across and Left Hands Back
- 9-16 All dance Rights and Lefts
- 17-24 All dance half a Ladies' Chain, then set and turn new partner with both hands
- 25-32 All dance Back to Back with original partner, set to original partner, then pass right shoulders to dance with a new partner to a new couple

The Kissing Bridge (8x32R) *3C (4C set)*

Romaine Butterfield, RSCDS Book 47

- 1-8 1st couple cast off behind own sides and cast up to places
- 9-16 1st, 2nd, and 3rd couples dance one Crossover Mirror Reel, 1st couple finishing on opposite sides
- 17-24 1st couple lead down the middle, change places with 1st woman turning under her partner's right arm, then lead up to the top
- 25-32 1st and 2nd couples dance a Poussette

The Quaich (8x32S) *3C (4C set)*

John Drewry, Rondel Book

- 1-8 1st, 2nd, and 3rd couples take hands on the sides and set, dance a Petronella turn into the middle, set to partners, then dance a Petronella turn to opposite sides
- 9-16 1st, 2nd, and 3rd couples take hands on the sides to set, cross over to own sides with right hands, then 1st and 2nd couples set facing up and down the dance and turn once round, men with right hands, women with left hands
- 17-24 1st, 2nd, and 3rd couples dance Inveran Reels, finish with 1st and 2nd couples facing each other, nearer hands joined
- 25-32 1st and 2nd couples dance a Rondel

Les Remparts de Séville (8x32J) *3C (4C Set)*

Aliénor Latour, RSCDS Book 50

- 1-8 1st couple set, cast off one place while the 2nd couple step up, then 1st woman dances half a Figure of Eight around the 2nd couple while 1st man dances half a Figure of Eight around the 3rd couple
- 9-16 1st couple turn with left hands to face 1st corners, and, as in Hello Goodbye Setting, set to 1st corners, set to partner, then set to 2nd corners to end facing up and down the dance
- 17-24 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples dance Set and Link for Three, then 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples set and cross with right hands
- 25-32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples Circle six hands round and back

Glasgow Highlanders (8x32S) *2C longwise as many as will*

RSCDS Book 2

On the second chord, 1st woman moves to 2nd man's place, 2nd man crosses to his partner's place while she steps up

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples dance Rights and Lefts, ending with 2nd man in the middle between both women with nearer hands joined and 1st man behind facing down
- 9-16 All dance down the middle, turn right about, then 1st man dances both women up, followed by 2nd man, to form a line across the dance with men back-to-back facing partners
- 17-24 All set to partners with simple Strathspey steps
- 25-32 All dance a Reel of Four, with 1st couples progressing down a place and 2nd couples progressing up a place on the final bars

Caberfei (8x32R) *3C (4C Set)*

Jack McConachie, 18th Century Book

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples dance Right Hands Across and Left Hands Back
- 9-16 1st couple, with nearer hands joined, dance down one step, up one step, cast off while the 2nd couple step up on bars 11-12, dance down below the 3rd couple, and cast up to face 1st corners
- 17-24 1st couple set on the right foot to 1st corners, then dance half a Reel of Four with 1st corners; 1st couple repeat that with 2nd corners, ending in 2nd place on opposite sides
- 25-32 All set on the right foot, then Circle halfway round; all turn partners with right hands

The Triumph (8x24R) *2C (4C Set)*

RSCDS Book 1

- 1-8 1st couple lead down the middle and up, with 1st woman crossing to meet 2nd man at the top
- 9-16 1st woman and 2nd man dance down the middle, followed by 1st man. 1st woman retains hands with 2nd man while pulling right shoulder back and crosses left hand over to give to her partner; the men join nearer hands and raise them above the woman to dance up "in triumph"
- 17-24 1st couple dance a Poussette to the bottom of the set, with 2nd, 3rd, and 4th couples stepping up on the final two bars

Flights of Fancy (8x32J) 3C (4C set)

Jeanetta McColl, Boston Celebrate 50

- 1-8 1st and 3rd couples set, then turn three-quarters round with right hands to make a line up and down the middle, then dance half a Reel of Four ending with 3rd man at the top facing out the women's side and 1st woman at the bottom facing out the men's side
- 9-16 1st woman and 3rd man lead partners around the set clockwise in a chase, while 2nd couple turn with right hands for four bars and then joins the chase from original places, all finishing on opposite sides
- 17-24 3rd and 2nd couples dance half Rights and Lefts, then 3rd and 1st couples dance half Rights and Lefts
- 25-32 1st couple dances half a Figure of Eight around the 3rd couple, then 1st and 3rd couples take hands on the sides to set and cross over to own sides giving right hands to partners

My Friend Joe (8x32S) 3C (4C set)

Bob Campbell, RSCDS Book 38

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples dance a modified Bourrel, ending ready for an Allemande
Modified Bourrel: 1st man and 2nd woman set advancing and turn three-quarters round with both hands, pulling right shoulder back to finish back to back in the middle; meanwhile, their partners dance anticlockwise around the set to finish with both couples in a line up and down the dance; set to partners and turn with right hands three-quarters to finish ready for an Allemande
- 9-16 1st and 2nd couples dance the first five bars of an Allemande, then men turn women under their right arms to face up the set with right hands joined, 1st couple cast off to 2nd places while 2nd couple lead up and dance the long way round into 1st place on own side
- 17-24 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples advance for one step, retire for one step, change places with right hands, then 1st and 3rd couples Circle four hands round to the left
- 25-32 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples advance for one step, retire for one step, change places with left hands, then 2nd and 1st couples Circle four hands round to the right

The Compleat Gardener (8x32J) 3C (4C set)

Irene Paterson, RSCDS Third Graded Book

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples dance Set and Rotate
- 9-16 1st couple cross with right hands, cast to their right, cross up and down the middle with left hands, cast to their left, and dance in to face 1st corners
- 17-24 1st couple dance Corners Pass and Turn with their 1st corners, pass right shoulders, then repeat with 2nd corners, passing right shoulders again to finish in 2nd place on their own sides
- 25-32 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples Circle six hands round and back

Twirl of the Kilt (8x32S) 2C (4C set)

Maggie and Duncan Keppie, Gaelic College 5

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples dance Set and Link; 2nd and 1st couples dance Set and Link, but on the final two bars 1st woman and 2nd man turn halfway with left hands to face partners on a diagonal line
- 9-16 1st and 2nd couples dance a Reel of Four diagonally across the set; all dancers end in original places, with 1st woman and 2nd man looping to places at the end
- 17-24 1st man and 2nd woman dance Half Turn and Twirl; 1st woman and 2nd man repeat Half Turn and Twirl
Half Turn and Twirl: turn halfway with right hands, then pull right shoulders back and dance into opposite places
- 25-32 2nd and 1st couples dance Back to Back with partners; 2nd and 1st couples turn with both hands one and a half times to sidelines

Round Reel of Eight (88R) 4C Square Set

RSCDS Book 27

- 1-8 All women pull back right shoulders and cast to dance outside the set clockwise all the way round to places
- 9-16 All men repeat, but pulling back left shoulders to begin and dancing counterclockwise
- 17-24 All dance a Grand Chain for six bars, then set to partners
- 25-32 Repeat Grand Chain back to places, then set to partners
- 33-40 1st and 3rd couples change places, 1st couple dancing between 3rd couple; repeat but with 3rd couple dancing between 1st couple; 1st and 3rd couples turn with right hands into Allemande hold
- 41-48 1st and 3rd couples Promenade inside the square counterclockwise to original places
- 49-64 2nd and 4th couples repeat bars 33-48, 2nd couple dancing between 4th couple to begin
- 65-72 1st and 3rd couples dance half a Rights and Lefts; 2nd and 4th couples dance half a Rights and Lefts
- 73-80 Repeat the half Rights and Lefts of bars 65-72 to original places
- 81-88 All Circle eight hands round and back

New Year Jig (8x32J) *3C (4C set)* Maureen Robson, RSCDS Book 51
1-8 1st couple dance a Figure of Eight on their own sides, passing 2nd couple with right shoulders to begin
9-16 1st, 2nd, and 3rd couples dance right shoulder Reels of Three up and down the sides
17-24 1st woman, followed by partner, dances down behind 2nd woman, up between 2nd couple, down behind 2nd man, and crosses to face out in 2nd place on her own side facing out, with 1st man ending in 2nd place on his own side; 2nd couple step up on the last two bars
25-32 1st and 3rd couples dance Right Hands Across, then 2nd and 1st couples dance Left Hands Across

The Dancing Bees (8x32R) *3C (4C set)* Roy Goldring, 24 Graded and Social Dances
1-8 1st couple lead down the middle and up to face 2nd woman; 2nd couple step up on bars 3-4
9-16 1st couple in Promenade hold dance a Reel of Three across the dance with the 2nd couple, giving right shoulder to 2nd woman; 1st couple end in the middle facing down
17-24 1st couple in Promenade hold dance a Reel of Three across the dance with the 3rd couple, giving left shoulders to 3rd woman to begin; 1st couple end in the middle facing each other up and down the dance
25-32 1st couple set to each other, dance a Petronella turn to 2nd place on their own sides, then 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples turn partners once round with right hands

Irongray (8x32S) *3C (4C set)* Hugh Foss, Galloway Album
1-8 1st couple advance one step, retire one step, cross giving right hands, cast off one place while the 2nd couple step up, then 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples, taking hands on the sides, advance for one step and retire for one step
9-16 Retaining hands, 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples dance a Circle six hands round to the left for six bars, then advance for one step and retire for one step
17-24 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples dance a Grand Chain all the way round, taking one step per hand, then advance for one step and retire for one step
25-32 Six-bar Reels of Three across the dance, 1st man with 2nd couple and 1st woman with the 3rd couple: to begin, the 2nd and 3rd couples pass partners right shoulders while the 1st couple dances up or down the sidelines. On the last two bars, 1st couple turn with right hands to 2nd place on own sides

Joie de Vivre (8x32J) *3C (4C set)* Irene van Maarseveen, RSCDS Book 39
1-8 1st couple set, cast off one place while the 2nd couple step up, dance down between the 3rd couple and cast up to 2nd place
9-16 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples turn partners once round with right hands, then chase clockwise halfway round the set
17-24 3rd, 1st, and 2nd couples dance a Back to Back, take hands on the sides to set, then turn with right hands halfway, ending in the middle facing up the set in Allemande hold
25-32 3rd, 1st, and 2nd couples dance an Allemande

The Lammermuir Hills (8x32S) *2C (4C set)* Roy Goldring, Wells House
1-8 1st and 2nd couples dance a Poussette Right Round
9-16 1st woman and 2nd man cross giving right hands, dance around their partners giving right shoulders and dance back to places, then 1st and 2nd couples dance Right Hands Across
17-24 1st man and 2nd woman cross giving left hands, dance around partners giving left shoulders and back to place, then 1st and 2nd couples dance Left Hands Across
25-32 1st and 2nd couples dance the Knot

Sleepy Maggie (8x32R) *3C (4C set)* RSCDS Book 11
1-8 1st and 2nd couples Circle four hands round to the left, then 1st couple set to each other and cast off while the 2nd couple step up
9-16 1st and 3rd couples dance Right Hands Across and Left Hands Back, with the 1st couple ending facing 1st corners
17-24 1st couple Set To and Turn corners
25-32 1st couple dance six-bar Reels of Three on the sides with their corners, giving left shoulders to 1st corners to begin, then cross over giving right hands to 2nd places on their own sides on the final two bars