

Connemara Barndance (Ireland)

Some form of the Barndance was danced all over Eire at one time. This version from Connemara was learned by Danny and Joan Hathaway by observing a variety of couples. It was presented by them at the 1991 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

MUSIC: Any appropriate Barndance, Schottische (not of Scottish origin),
or Hornpipe. 4/4 meter

FORMATION: Couples facing CCW in open ballroom pos*. Free hands at sides.

STEPS and Schottische*, step-hop*.

STYLING: Closed Ballrom Pos*: As described except that M L, W R elbows are bent and held down so that joined hands are close to shoulders. This is natural since the dancing area is usually crowded.

* Described in Steps and Styling, published by the Folk Dance Federation of Calif., Inc.

Music	4/4 meter	PATTERN
-------	-----------	---------

Measures

INTRODUCTION Start dancing at the beginning of a musical phrase.

I. FORWARD AND BACK

- 1 Beg ML, WR walk fwd in LOD (CCW) two steps (cts 1,3).
- 2 Continuing in LOD, step fwd on ML, WR (ct 1); step fwd on MR, WL bending the knee a little (ct 2); step bkwd on ML, WR (ct 3); hold (ct 4). Counts 2,3 may be light stamping (accent) steps.
- 3 Beg MR, WL walk bkwd in RLOD (CW) two steps (cts 1,3).
- 4 Continuing in RLOD, step bkwd on MR, WL (ct 1); step bkwd on ML, WR near supporting ft (ct 2); step fwd on MR, WL (ct 3); hold (ct 4).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

II. COUPLE TURN

- 1-6 In closed ballroom pos turn as a cpl three times with 6 schottische steps. Beg ML, WR and progress in LOD.
- 7-8 Continuing in LOD, turn twice CW with 4 step-hops. End facing in LOD in open ballroom pos.
Variation: Instead of step-hops, turn once CW with 2 schottische steps.

DANCE SEQUENCE: Repeat dance as written until music ends. When dance is repeated, ML, WR hands are usually kept joined and held in front about waist level during Fig I.