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 STYLING:

Schottische*, step-hop*.

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

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 bkwrd on ML, WR (ct 3); hold (ct 4). Counts 2,3 may be light stamping (accent) steps.
3 Beg MR, WL walk bkwrd in RLOD (CW) two steps (cts 1,3).
4 Continuing in RLOD, step bkwrd on MR, WL (ct 1); step bkwrd on ML, WR near supporting ft (ct 2); step fwd on MR, WL (ct 7); 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.

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