

## Familjevals Sweden

Familjevals (fah-MEEL-yuh-vahls), meaning "Family Waltz," is a circle waltz mixer which gets everyone acquainted in "one big family." Although the dance described here is Swedish, dances almost identical to this one are popular throughout Scandinavia. In 1948 Lawton Harris taught a similar dance which he learned from Danish groups. In Norway the spelling is "Familievals;" in Denmark it is "Familie vals."

The Swedish Familjevals described below was learned and danced in Sweden by Gordon Tracie. It has been taught at Skandia Folkdance Club in Seattle since 1948, and was also taught by Tommy and Ewa Englund at the 1991 University of the Pacific Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

Cassette: Swedish Dances at Stockton 1991 Side A/7. 3/4 meter  
Any appropriate waltz (tempo shouldn't be too fast).

Records: Aqua Viking 830; Swedish RCS FAS 663; RCA LPM 9910 Side B/2.

Formation: Couples, W on M R, in a closed circle facing ctr. Hands joined in W-pos.

Steps: Waltz balance\*, waltz\*.

Swedish Waltz Position: Same as Closed Ballroom Pos\* except that M L hand grasps outside of W R hand. Both palms are down and M L and W R arms are extended nearly straight out from shoulder.

Styling: This dance is done with a relaxed, happy feeling. The balance steps give the opportunity for eye contact and an exchange of smiles with corner and partner.

\*Described in Steps & Styling published by Folk Dance Federation of CA., Inc

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Measures	3/4 meter	PATTERN
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INTRODUCTION Depends on the recording. Two or four meas would be typical. No action.

### I. WALTZ BALANCE TO CORNER AND PARTNER

- 1 Beg M L and W R dance one waltz balance twd corner (M to L, W to R).
- 2 With opp ftwk and direction, dance one waltz balance twd ptr.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

II. WALTZ TURN WITH CORNER

1-4 Take Swedish Waltz Pos with corner. Dance 4 waltz steps making 1 1/2 turns CW while moving CCW along the big circle. On meas 4 reform the original circle, each M with a new ptr on his R.

SEQUENCE: Repeat dance to end of music, changing ptrs every 8 meas.