

## IJswals

(The Netherlands)

IJswals (ICE-vahls), meaning *Ice Waltz*, was recorded by Mrs. A. Sanson-Catz in 1925 as one of the traditional dances of The Netherlands. The music originally was entitled *Oude Passepie* and performed in the theater in Amsterdam from 1696 to 1716. The dance reflects the movement of couples skating on ice. IJswals was taught by Jaap Leegwater at the 1988 Camellia Festival Institute in Sacramento, CA. Tineke van Geel presented it at the 1996 University of the Pacific Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

Cassette: Stockton'96 Tineke van Geel Side A/4; 3/4 meter  
Dances of the Netherlands JL 1988 03 Side A/10.

Formation: Couples in a circle, facing in LOD (CCW), hands joined in varsouvienne\* pos.

Steps and Waltz\*.  
Styling:

Running Waltz: Three steps per meas with an accent on the first step. There is no closing step on ct 3.

Skater's Waltz (moving fwd): Step on R across in front of L, on a fwd L diag as the body turns slightly to L (ct 1); small step on ball of L ft to L side as the body turns slightly to R (ct 2); step on ball of R ft a little fwd on the R diag (ct 3).  
Next step would beg with L crossing in front of R on a fwd R diag.

Skater's Waltz (moving bkwd): Ftwk same as for moving fwd except that R ft crosses in back of L on a L diag as the body turns slightly to R (ct 1).

The Waltz steps are danced with a long step (ct 1) and two short steps (cts 2,3). They have a "down, up, up" feeling caused by stepping on the full ft while bending the knee (ct 1) and then up on the balls of the feet (cts 2,3).

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

---

Measures 3/4 meter

PATTERN

---

16 meas INTRODUCTION No action. (Cassette JL 1988 03 has 8 meas Intro.)

I. SKATER'S WALTZ FORWARD AND BACK; TO CENTER AND OUT

1-4 Both beg R, dance 4 Skater's Waltz steps moving fwd.

5-7 Both beg R, dance 3 Skater's Waltz steps moving bkwd. Cross R ft behind L to start.

8 M dance 3 steps (L,R, touch L with no wt) turning 1/4 CW while raising joined R hands on the 1st ct. W dance 3 steps (L,R,L) while turning 1/4 CCW and backing under joined R hands. End with ptrs facing, M back to ctr. M L, W R ft free. Hands are crossed (R on top) and held above waist level.

- 9-12 Dance 4 Skater's Waltz steps twd ctr of circle. M start with L ft across behind R, W with R ft across in front.
- 13-15 Dance 3 Skater's Waltz steps away from ctr of circle.
- 16 With 3 steps turn to face LOD in varsouvienne pos as before. M touch R beside L (no wt) (ct 3). Both end with R ft free.

II. SKATER'S WALTZ IN LOD; WOMAN DANCE AROUND PARTNER

- 1-10 Both beg R, dance 10 Skater's Waltz steps fwd in LOD.
- 11-12 With 2 Running Waltz steps, W dance CCW around ptr without releasing hands. W end behind and slightly to R of ptr. M dance in place but move sdwd R or L to accommodate ptr.
- 13-14 Dance 2 Skater's Waltz steps fwd in LOD.
- 15-16 With 2 Running Waltz steps, W reverse action of meas 11-12 dancing CW around ptr to return to varsouvienne pos as in the beginning. M dance in place but move sdwd R or L to accommodate ptr.

III. SEPARATE CIRCLES; BALLROOM WALTZ

- 1-4 Beg R, ptrs circle away from each other with 4 Running Waltz steps, M moving CCW, W CW. W may hold skirts, M may have hands at sides or clasped behind his back. End facing ptr.
- 5-8 On ct 1 of meas 5 push away from ptr by briefly touching palms with ptr (R with L) at shldr level. With 4 Running Waltz steps, ptrs retrace the circles (M move CW, W CCW). On meas 8, ct 3, M touch L beside R (no wt). Join MR, WL hands in V-pos.
- 9 Beg M L, W R, dance 1 Waltz step in LOD, turning back-to-back on ct 1 as joined hands swing fwd.
- 10 Dance 1 Waltz step in LOD, turning face-to-face on ct 1 as joined hands swing bkwd.
- 11-12 With 2 Running Waltz steps, circle away from ptr (M move CCW, W CW). End in ballroom pos, M back to LOD.
- 13-16 Beg ML,WR, dance 4 Waltz steps turning CW and moving in LOD. End with M back to ctr.
- 17-32 Repeat meas 1-16 but M beg L ft instead of R. End in varsouvienne pos facing in LOD, R ft free.

64 meas REPEAT DANCE ONCE AGAIN.

On the repeat Fig III can be replaced with Fig IV.

IV. SKATER'S WALTZ IN ONE LINE

- (1-8) M stand behind ptr, hands on W hips. W fists are on own waist. Both beg R, dance 8 Skater's Waltz steps in LOD.
- (9-24) Continue dancing Skater's Waltzes in LOD as cpls join into groups of 2 cpls (one behind the other) and then into lines of 4 cpls.
- (25-32) With 8 more Skater's Waltzes, dancers continue to group until all are in one line. Continue dancing in LOD until end of music.