

A Quaker Mixup

Dance for 3-couple triangular sets throughout the room 32 bar Jig

This dance starts with three couples to a set, arranged in a triangle with one couple on each side. Man is on the left of each couple, lady on the right, both facing towards the centre of the set. Sets can be scattered around the room in any configuration.

This dance refers to "corners". Your corner is the person next to you in the set who is not your partner (i.e. on a man's left and a lady's right).

- 1-2 Joining nearer hands with partner, advance towards the centre.
- 3-4 Join free hand with corner and drop hands with partner; retire with corner.
- 5-8 Turn corner once round by the right hand.
- 9-10 Joining nearer hands, advance towards the centre.
- 11-12 Join free hand with partner and drop hands with corner; retire with partner.
- 13-16 Turn partner once round by the left hand.
- 17-20 Ladies dance right hands across (in a wheel/star) 2 places, and turn the man they meet once round by the right hand.
- 21-24 Ladies dance right hands across (in a wheel/star) 2 places, and turn the man they meet once round by the right hand. This is your new partner.
- 25-32 Take promenade hold with new partner (side by side facing forwards, right hand in right, left hand in left in front of you) and promenade at will around the room, finding another two couples in time to start again.

Repeat ad lib.

Note: Although the description assumes three couples in a set, it is not a disaster if there is a different number of couples in some sets - and this is probably quite likely to happen based on my experience with similar dances. With either 2 or 4 couples you will end up with the same partner as before, with any other number you will end up with a new partner.

This dance is a more complex variant of "A Quaker Meeting" which involves partner-swapping as well as mixing of couples. I hope Michael and Nessa's marriage isn't a mixup, so we didn't dance this at the wedding...

This dance was published in "Dance On!" in August 2005.

Tune: Merrily Danced the Quaker's Wife (*Traditional*)

(cc) Ian Brockbank, June 2004