

Royal Irish Quadrille

(diagonal version)

20th century Victorian version from the Mallee

Collected from the late Mr. Mick Reilly of Numurkah

Formation: Quadrille. Diagonal – Numbering 1s back to band; 2s facing band; 3s on 1s right and 4s on 1s left

Music: Figure 1 - 4 x 40 bars

Bars	Steps
8	Introduction Salute partners then corners
8	1st and 2nd couples <i>to the right</i> right and left with 3rd and 4th couples respectively
8	Swing Partners
8	Ladies chain to the right across and back
8	Promenade to places
8	Swing Partners
8	1st and 2nd couples <i>by the left</i> right and left with 4th and 3rd couples respectively
8	Swing Partners
8	Ladies chain by the left across and back
8	Promenade to places
8	Swing Partners
80	Repeat whole figure on right diagonal, then again on the left 3rd and 4th couples leading.

Notes: The wonderful version above to the First Set figurework, is arranged so that all couples dance at once. This is achieved by having 1st and 2nd couples dancing on their right diagonal with the respective opposite side couples and then on the repeat swapping to the left diagonal with the relative side couples (figures 1 & 2). When the 1st and 2nd ladies or couples have danced with the respective corner gentleman or lady, then the figure is repeated on the same diagonal with the opposites leading before swapping to the left corner diagonal (figures 3 & 4). All promenades, chains etc. are performed around the diagonal line of dance. This set particularly lends itself to displays because of the 3 dimensional pattern and continuous dancing within each figure. The details above are the literal calls relevant to the movements and with traditional quadrille numbering, but are difficult in reality to remember and instruct. An easier method is to call to the right diagonal (1st) and repeat on the left diagonal (2nd). On the right diagonal the opposites are 1st couple with 3rd and 2nd with 4th. On the left diagonal opposites are 1st with 4th and 2nd with 3rd. Eg figure 1, 1st and 2nd couples right and left etc. on the 1st diagonal with their designated opposites. Repeat the figure on the 2nd (left diagonal) and then repeat 2 more times. In figures 3 and 4 the procedure is repeated on the 1st diagonal for the opposite lady or couple leading as the case may be before swapping to the 2nd diagonal. Tom Dean has an easier method of numbering with respect to the diagonals and this lends itself also to sets with more than 4 couples for demonstrations, ie 6, 8 or more couples. This is explained in Tommy's Country Dance Quadrille. Tom's own Quadrille is based on the Royal Irish pattern.