

Basics of Calling

Seminar content

This seminar should give leaders from other branches an overview – **no** training - about the basics of square dance calling.

- Mechanics of Square Dance Choreography
- Methods of Choreographic Management for Callers
- Smooth Dancing & Bodyflow
- Singing Call Techniques
- What to teach Square Dancers
- Showmanship

Mechanics of Square Dance Choreography

A detailed analysis of Formation, Arrangement, Sequence and Relationship (FASR)

Examples for FORMATIONS

- Lines (in- and outfacing lines, two faced lines, inverted lines, and others)
- Ocean Waves, Mini Waves
- Columns
- Alamo Ring
- Allemande Thar
- Static Square
- Other formations

Methods of Choreographic Management for Callers

Explanation of the methods of choreographic methods to include memory, modules, mental image, sight calling. **Explain**, that detailed training means guidance in at least one method, and training includes formation awareness, formation management and resolution.

Examples for METHODS

- Memory calling (includes **cue-cards** or **Power-point** Presentations)
- Module Calling (like Chickenplucker)
- Mental Image Calling
- Sight Calling (like Rubber Band, Isolated Sight and others)

Smooth Dancing & Bodyflow

A detailed analysis of the choreographic elements of square dance calls with emphasis on body momentum, hand sequence and availability, and the smooth transition from call to call in the correct timing

- Knowledge of definitions, starting and ending formation, timing
- Knowledge of body momentum
- Hand availability & Awareness
- Dancers anticipation

Singing Call Techniques

Training and guidance in the mechanics and presentation of singincalls to include memorized words in traffic patterns, interchange ability and improvisation of choreography showmanship

- Knowledge of original text and the meaning of words
- Setting Mood with singing call selection
- Singincall Music and Patter Music should fit together
- Ladies should rotate clockwise or counter clockwise during the singing call

What to teach Square Dancers

An examination of basic learning theory, styling, timing, communication and the importance of strict adherence to the approved CALLERLAB definitions. It includes also rules and regulations of square dance rituals and square dance etiquette.

- CALLERLAB Definitions and its sense
Different programs
- Rules and regulations of square dance rituals
Flyersmaps, Friendshipbooks, Century books, square dance games, Clubbanners, etc
- Square Dance etiquette (clothes, what is a workshop, how to wear your badge, etc)
- Function of workshops and special dances
- Function of Clubs, EAASDC, ECTA, Regional Leader Groups, etc

Showmanship

Difference of showmanship in calling to other branches in ECTA

Musical Showmanship with music selection and ability to use leaders voice

- Yodelling singincalls
- Imitate big known showpersons (Louis Armstrong, Elvis, Mickey mouse, etc)

Wearing Costumes to fit the theme of the dance

Choreographic Gimmicks / Crowd Pleasers

- One now, one later
- If you want to, but you do not have to
- Hexagon and Real Hexagon
- Progressive Squares
- Tandem/ Twins / Siamese Dancing
- Kaleidoscope
- Big Circles, Sizilian Circles
- Fun with surprize getouts



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Revisions

Nr.	Changes	Release	Contrib.	Date
1.	First merge		EH	2012/01/21
2.	Review – no changes		EH	2014/09/18
3.	Review – no changes		EH	2015/04/24
4.	Update for website	1.5	EH	2018/05/01
5.	Review: no changes	1.7	EH	2022/Mrz