

Arthur's Reel by Julia Smith, June 2014 (updated 7 Sep 2014)

Inspired by *One o'clock canon*.

Formation: 5 couple longways set [12345]

Music: Scottish reels 5x32 bars

Couples 1 and 3 both start and dance the same pattern for the first 16 bars. At the end of the first iteration (32 bars) the order is now [24153] and the set is renumbered [12345].

Bars

1-8 1s and 3s set once to partner (2b), cast off behind own line 2 places while 2s and 4s move up one place (2b), cross over giving R hand to partner (1s cross between 4s and 5s, 3s cross below 5s, 2b) and dance up outside partner's line to 2nd and 4th places respectively (2b).

9-16 1s and 3s dance in and up one place (taking nearer hands), separate and cast around 2s and 4s to 2nd and 4th place resp. (4b), dance in and down and do a full turn with couple below (4 and 5 resp.) using R hands on Gents' line and L hands on Ladies' line. 1s finish facing in and up, 3s finish facing in and down.

17-24 2s, 1s and 4s dance mirror reels by L shoulder on Gents' line and R shoulder on Ladies' line; 2s finish by curving out and facing down, 1s face 2s.

Meanwhile:

3s and 5s dance a double figure of eight across the set, starting with 3s crossing down. (Note: Ladies cross down ahead of their partners).

25-32 1s and 2s dance 3 changes of Rs and Ls starting along the line (6b), then 2s complete the Rs and Ls changing places across the set by L hands while 1s do a half turn with 4s by L hands to change places along the line (Lady 1 and Gent 4 do polite turns) (2b).

Meanwhile:

3s and 5s set and link to change places (4b) and 3s, now at the foot of the set, birl (swing) 1 1/2 times around to correct sides of the set using R hands to partner's elbow and L hands joined above (4b).

Alternate, simpler, version

10x32 with a 5 couple set. Only one dancing couple at a time.

Using the same elements as above, couple 1 starts and dances 32 bars with couples 2&3, finishing [231]. Then from 3rd position, the same (1st) couple dances 32 bars with couples 4&5, finishing at the foot of the set. The order after the first 64 bars is [23451]. Repeat with the other couples leading 4x64.