

Jim MacLellan's Strathspey

32-bar strathspey for four couples in a four-couple longwise set

- 1-8 1st man and 2nd woman set to each other. They "pass right then join left" (see Note); giving left hands, they turn approximately half way round, and then 1st man passes 2nd man by the right and casts up to place, while 2nd woman passes 1st woman by the right and casts off to place. 3rd man and 4th woman dance similarly.
- 9-16 1st woman and 2nd man set to each other. They "pass right and join left"; giving left hands, they turn just over half way round, and then 1st woman passes 2nd woman by the left and casts up to place, while 2nd man passes 1st man by the left and casts off to place. 3rd woman and 4th man dance similarly.
- 17-20 2nd and 3rd couples set to partners and then, giving both hands, turn partners. 2nd couple finish facing up with nearer hands joined, while 3rd couple, similarly, finish facing down.
- 21-24 1st woman and 2nd woman, also 3rd man and 4th man, giving right hands, turn one and a half times,
WHILE 1st man and 2nd man also 3rd woman and 4th woman, giving left hands, turn one and a half times.
 (i.e. the 2nd and 3rd couples use their free hands for the turning).
 The order is now 2, 1, 4, 3.
- 25-32 1st and 4th couples set and rotate. The order is now 2, 4, 1, 3.
 Repeat from new positions.

Note: "Pass right then join left" – This movement takes two bars of music. The dancers dance just past one another passing by the right – they should be slightly further apart than when making a wide turn with the right hand.

On the second bar, they turn towards one another and join left hands.

Devised by John Drewry. For Jim MacLellan of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia.

Recommended music: "Jim MacLellan's Strathspey" on the CD *Spark O' Water*,
Music for Scottish Country Dancing by Keith Smith and Muriel Johnstone.

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