

Kawagoe Matsuri Strathspey

A 4 x 32 Strathspey for 4 couples in a 4 couple set.

The dance is in honour of the Alba Scottish Country Dance Groups in Japan, taught by Masako Nomura and who made me so welcome.

Recommended Tune: Masako Nomura's Strathspey (Iain MacPhail)

Recommended Alternative Tune: Miss Fay Sharp (Sandy Nixon)

Recommended Recording of Alternative Tune: James Coutts "The Joy of Sets" CD, 3TRCD02, Track 12 Skyte Neuk

Bars

1-8 1st and 2nd couples, also 3rd and 4th couples, dance a diamond poussette.

9-16 4 couple espagnole danced as follows:

9-10 All cross the dance to the opposite side: 1st man dance above 1st lady; 1st and 2nd ladies lead across and change up/down; 2nd and 3rd men lead across and change up/down; 3rd and 4th ladies lead across and change up/down; 4th man dance below 4th lady

11-12 All cross the dance to their own side: 2nd lady dance above 1st man; 1st and 3rd men lead across and change up/down; 1st and 4th ladies lead across and change up/down; 2nd and 4th men lead across and change up/down; 3rd lady dance below 4th man. Order is now 2, 4, 1, 3 on ladies' side and 3, 1, 4, 2 on men's side.

13-16 All turn opposite person once round, 2nd lady and 3rd man with right hand, 4th lady and 1st man with left hand, 1st lady and 4th man with right hand and 3rd lady and 2nd man with left hand.

17-24 All 4 ladies pass opposite person by the right shoulder and dance clockwise half way to own side of the dance.

Order is now 3, 1, 4, 2 all on own side of the dance

25-32 All join hands and set to partner, turn partner once round with both hands, and then 3rd and 1st couples (at top), also 4th and 2nd couples (at bottom), circle 4 hands round to the left.

Repeat the dance three more times from new positions.