

## NOTES ON DANCE INSTRUCTION AT MWCC (as of January 2020)

For those who may not be familiar with our instruction format at MWCC, we felt it might be advantageous to bring you up to speed. We are blessed to have volunteer instructors as club members who have the abilities to teach several different dances at different levels of accomplishment.

Each Sunday that classes are scheduled (4-7 pm), we split the dance floor for the 4 o'clock and 5 o'clock classes.

- One end of the floor is reserved for BASIC instruction. This includes a short discussion of the fundamentals of couples dance, e.g. frame, hold, connection, and the footwork for each respective dance, followed by 3 or more of the basic school figures for that dance as noted in the syllabus established for each dance by our instructors. This primary syllabus is designed to give every beginning dancer a good foundation on which they can build their dance skills and progress at their own speed. Dancers may repeat as desired in this level before progressing.
- One end of the floor is reserved for INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 1 or "more basics" instruction in the same dance style as the Basics end of the floor. This typically includes a continuation of the above-mentioned syllabus for each of the respective dances which typically involves an additional 5-10 school figures. This allows learning dancers to pursue a logical, progressive method of gradually improving and polishing their dance skills. This class may move beyond the established syllabus as needed, based on the learning level of dancers in attendance at each respective class.

At the 4 o'clock class time, the same dance style will be presented for 3 consecutive Sundays. We hope that beginning dancers might be able by the 3<sup>rd</sup> week to move through much of the syllabus for each dance and intermediate 1 dancers may be able to even progress past the figures listed in the syllabus. At the 5 o'clock class time, a different dance style will be presented each Sunday so that dancers, both beginning and intermediate 1 may learn skills in a variety of dances over a 6-week period.

At the 6 o'clock INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED class time, the dance style presented will change each week and will offer more difficult figures as well as figure groupings (amalgamations) and possibly even choreography, depending on the learning level(s) of the members in attendance at any given class.

We hope this clarifies for anyone who might have been unclear and for anyone who is unfamiliar with the way we do things at Midwest Country Connection (MWCC).