

CREATING SMOOTH FLOWING CHOREOGRAPHY

By
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LESSON #3

How are we doing with our Zero Box and Zero Line Positions?

In this lesson we will discover many Formations and how we can move the Dancers smoothly, with flowing Choreography from one Formation into another Formation.

For the Ottawa Area Callers you can go to OACA Web Site by Clicking on this link address <http://www.oacallers.ca/index.html>, and Click on Documents, Click on **Callerlab Formations & Guidelines** and download and print off **Formation Pictograms**. Everything you will need for this lesson is there, thanks to the web master. You should now have 3 pages and 79 pictograms of Formations, **note** that the positions in all the Formations are all **circles with a nose** indicating the Facing Direction, and also meaning, **no position is gender specific**.

In lesson #1 and #2 we talked about a few of these Formations shown in these pictograms, which were, (**#6, Facing Couples**), (**#8, Right Hand Ocean Wave**), (**#10, Right Hand Box Circulate**), (**#14, Static Square**), (**#15, Circle**), (**#17, Alamo Style**), (**#18, Promenade**), (**#20, Thar Star**), (**#22, Facing Lines**), (**#23, Eight Chain Thru**), (**#24, Trade By**), (**#25, Double Pass Thru**), (**#28, Parallel Waves**), (**#29, Parallel Two Faced Lines**), (**#37, 1/4 Tag**), & (**#79, Right & Left Grand Circle**).

Your task now, is to read through the Choreography in Lesson #1, #1a, #2, #3, #4, as well as the Breaks and Closer. Write the Formation the dancers will be in following each Call.

Example:

Starting: Static Square.

Heads = **#6, Facing Couples**, /

Square Thru 4 = **#23, Eight Chain Thru**, /

Do Sa Do to a Wave = **#28, Parallel Waves**, /

Swing Thru = **#28, Parallel Waves**, /

Boy Run = **# 29 Parallel Two Faced Lines**, / you continue from here.

Make sure to take your time and push your **Dolls** through each Call, **not** Caller-rama or any such computer type program. The reason being that, by pushing your dolls (*which you may find as a slow process at first*) you will soon see and learn how the body flow works.

Below is a snapshot of my **Dolls**, you can see they are very simply made, just cut out of a piece of cardboard, they are couple numbered and marked L=Left & R=Right, they are also pointed in the direction of the body flow. These dolls have served me very well over my 40+ years of Calling, I carry them with me all the time, so when I think of a Call and its Definition I can quickly check out the answer to my question. Oh, did I mention you must learn every Definition for every Call within the program with which you are working. Basic Mainstream, I would say, for starters.



Using the Dolls is your choice. However, should you elect not to use them, don't waste your time reading any further. You can go back to doing whatever you were doing prior to reading this far.

LESSON #3 Part B:

Below find 4 snippets of Choreography, I would like you to Push your Dolls through these snippets, write in the formation following **each Call** and then tell me any sequence which **did not flow well** or **that did not work**.

Below is an example of how it should look when you finish.

Example:

Heads = #6, Facing Couples, /
 Square Thru 4 = #23, Eight Chain Thru, /
 Do Sa Do to a Wave = #28, Parallel Waves, /
 Swing Thru = #28, Parallel Waves, / *Flow is good smooth easy for Dancers*
 Boy Run = #29 Parallel Two Faced Lines, / *Girl slides to her Right, while the Boy Runs*
 Ferris Wheel = Double Pass Thru, / *Flow very good,*
 Centres Pass Thru = 8 Chain Thru / *Flow straight ahead*
 Veer Left = 2 Face Line, / No Body Flow, Heads are moving forward Sides are standing still.
 Wheel & Deal = 8 Chain Thru, /

Following the Centres: Pass Thru / .Calling, Right and Left Thru / Veer Left / Wheel and Deal or Ferris Wheel. Would have been so much smoother, with lots of Body Flow.

Now it's your turn.

1.
 Heads: 1/2 Square Thru,
 Right & Left Thru,
 Veer Left,
 Couples Circulate,
 Chain Down The Line,
 Star Thru,
 Pass Thru,
 Trade By,
 Square Thru 3/4,
 Trade By,
 L.A.

2.
 Heads: Lead Right,
 Veer Left,
 Couples Circulate,
 Ferris Wheel,
 Pass Thru,
 Veer Left,
 Bend The Line,
 Pass Thru,
 Wheel & Deal,
 Veer Left,
 Veer Right,
 Veer Right,
 Promenade

3.
Heads: Pass The Ocean,
Ladies Trade,
Extend,
Swing Thru,
Boy Run,
Couples Circulate,
Bend The Line,
Star Thru,
Veer Left,
Ladies Trade,
Ferris Wheel,
Centres Sweep ¼.
Home.

4.
Heads: Star Thru,
Pass Thru,
Pass Thru,
Trade By,
Veer Left,
Couples Circulate,
Ferris Wheel,
Zoom,
Half Square Thru,
Partner Trade.

Did you have fun with this? Did you find all of the Formations, Now for the hard part, did you see where the flow from one Call to the next Call was not there, it was abrupt and jerky with no flowing motion, maybe you should go back and check them again just in case you missed a couple. You can e-mail your answers to me. I'll check them and, send the answers.

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End of Lesson #3