

THE SLIABH gCUA SET

Version 2

Study Notes Copyright © William Lynch 2007

First Figure - Introduction (Polkas)		72 bars
1	<p><i>Top couples:</i> Slide and swing: taking waltz hold, couples slide into the set and back (4 bars) and swing at home(4 bars). Ladies chain R hands in the centre, L arm to turn the opposite gent and back R to R to take waltz hold with their own partners. House around each other. Swing, with waltz hold.</p>	8 bars 8 bars 8 bars 8 bars
2	<i>Side couples</i> now dance 1.	32 bars
Second Figure - Introduction All Round (Polkas)		128 bars
1	Slide and swing, all four couples.	8 bars
2	<p><i>Top couples:</i> Balance and cross: with R hand in R, couples dance in towards the centre and back (4 bars) and the lady turns clockwise 1½ turns under R arm into the opposite place, the gents passing L to L (4 bars). The whole movement is then repeated back to place. Swing.</p>	16 bars 8 bars
3	<i>Side couples</i> now dance 2.	24 bars
4	<i>Top couples</i> balance and cross , remaining in the opposite place with R hands held.	8 bars
5	<i>Side couples</i> balance and cross .	8 bars
6	<p>Half chain, ladies clockwise and gents anti-clockwise, back home. Swing.</p>	8 bars 8 bars
7	<p><i>Top couples</i> balance and cross. <i>Side couples</i> balance and cross.</p>	8 bars 8 bars
8	<p>Half chain home. Swing.</p>	8 bars 8 bars
Third Figure - Swing Opposites (Polkas)		152 bars
1	Circle: all join hands in a circle and advance and retire twice.	8 bars
2	Swing.	8 bars
3	<p><i>Top couples:</i> 1st gent and 2nd lady dance in and swing. At the same time, the 2nd gent and 1st lady dance anti-clockwise across to the opposite place and turn in to face centre. <i>Swinging couple</i> finish with their backs to their own partners. 1st gent and 2nd lady dance back-to-back starting R shoulder to R, bow to each other and fall back into place beside their own partners to take waltz hold. Balance and dance back home. 2nd gent and 1st lady dance in and swing, their partners dancing across into the opposite place. 2nd gent and 1st lady dance back-to-back, bow and fall back into place beside their own partners. Balance and dance back home. Swing.</p>	8 bars 8 bars 8 bars 8 bars 8 bars 8 bars
4	<i>Side couples</i> now dance 3 (1 st side couple L of 1 st top couple).	56 bars
5	<p>Circle. Swing.</p>	16 bars
Fourth Figure - Bring Up The Figure (Polkas)		248 bars
1	<p><i>Top couples:</i> Ladies chain. House around each other. 1st couple bring up the figure: the dancing couple slide into the set and back (4 bars) and dance at home, turning once (4 bars). They then repeat the movement. <i>Note - This movement is danced very freely, its form being decided by the dancers. Michael and Eileen, my sources for this version, dance it as a smaller 'square the set' movement.</i> House around each other Ladies chain. House around each other. 2nd couple bring up the figure. House around each other. Swing.</p>	8 bars 8 bars 16 bars 16 bars 8 bars 8 bars 8 bars 8 bars 8 bars
2	<i>Side couples</i> now dance 1.	88 bars
3	<p>Circle. Swing.</p>	16 bars
4	Long quarterhouse: couples slide towards the centre and back (4 bars) and house to the next place on the R, turning twice (4 bars). They repeat this movement into each place and back home.	32 bars
5	<p>Circle. Swing.</p>	16 bars
Fifth Figure - Swing all Round (Polkas)		88 bars
1	<p>Circle. Swing.</p>	16 bars
2	<p>Circle. Swing the lady on the L: ladies dance across to the gent on their R and into waltz hold and new couples swing in the gent's place.</p>	8 bars 8 bars
3	<p>Circle. Swing the lady on the L.</p>	16 bars
4	<p>Circle. Swing the lady on the L.</p>	16 bars
5	<p>Circle. Swing partners.</p>	16 bars

STEP

The step is a very flat polka step.

SOURCES

Eileen and Michael McCarthy at their workshop at the Wimborne Dance Festival, June 2001. Michael is a native of Waterford and has danced this set since boyhood. His style is significantly more free and less stylised than that demonstrated by Connie Ryan, my source for version 1 of this set.