

The Case for a 50-call MWSing Entry Program

Author: Rio Grande Valley Callers Association

It takes a long time to teach Mainstream. CALLERLAB recommends 56 hours of class. Today's lifestyles do not accept long classes. Even if we're lucky enough to start a nice-sized class, many students won't stay until graduation. The class simply lasts too long. New dancers' eyes glaze over, they suffer from information overload, they can't absorb more new material, yet the class drags on and on. Our negative image gets exploited.

For those few students who survive to the Mainstream plateau, Plus is too easy to reach. It's hard to resist the rush to Plus. All attempts to significantly alter the existing lists have failed. Yet there's got to be a better way.

We propose a 50-call Experimental Entry Program which can be taught, standard application, in 12 weeks. This program is fun and easy for dancers to learn and for callers to teach and call. Because class is easier, you have more dancers instead of few survivors. Because the 50-call level is substantially below Plus, the Plus clubs cannot easily cherry-pick your new dancers. We propose to build a new base of new dancers at the 50-call level.

This program is NOT a stepping stone to Plus. It's designed to be a stand-alone experimental destination program, supported and endorsed by successful callers worldwide. We ask callers who participate in this experiment to teach the proposed 50-call Experimental Entry Program, then encourage dancers to dance at that Club Level for a couple years, learning Extended Applications along the way, before they even think about moving up.

Dancers who learn this program are NOT "halfway to Plus". Instead, they are ALL the way to the 50-call Club Level. Instead of classes lasting 30 weeks, let's teach a very reasonable 12 weeks. Instead of rushing dancers through the levels and out the door, let's allow people to dance and enjoy the 50-call Club Level. "IF" these NEW dancers decide to go on then Extended Application becomes a pre-requisite. Either way let's ask the new dancers to share the Fun, Fitness and Friendship of square dancing by bringing in other new dancers. We should consider having 3 classes per year. The new dancers will be much more apt to bring their friends in a few weeks, rather than wait an entire year before they can get involved. Multiple Classes a year is the secret.

If you choose to participate in this project, you'll get lots of help and support. We will collect and publish teaching techniques, choreography, entertainment methods and marketing strategies. We will publish a worldwide directory of callers and clubs who offer the Experimental 50-call Club Level. We will share our successes with each other and with the world.

Rio Grande Valley Callers Association

Club Level 50

Rio Grande Valley Callers Association *(Revised Oct. 19th 2014)*

1. Dancer Naming:
 - A. Partner / Corner
 - B. Heads / Sides
 - C. Couple #1,#2,#3,#4
 - D. Boys / Girls
 - E. Centers / Ends
2. Circle Left / Circle Right
3. Forward & Back
4. Dosado
5. Swing
6. Promenade family
 - A. Couples (*Full, 1/2, 3/4*)
 - B. Single File Promenade
7. Allemande Left
8. Right & Left Grand family
 - A. Right and Left Grand
 - B. Weave the Ring
 - C. Wrong Way Grand
9. Left Hand Star / Right Hand Star
10. Pass Thru
11. Split Two / Separate Around 1 or 2
 - A. to a line
 - B. and come into the middle
12. Star Thru / Slide Thru
13. California Twirl
14. Courtesy Turn / Right and Left - Quarter More
15. Wheel Around / Reverse
16. Ladies Chain family
 - A. Two Ladies Chain (*reg. & 3/4*)
 - B. Four Ladies Chain (*reg. & 3/4*)
 - C. Chain Down the Line
17. Dive Thru
18. Lead Right / Lead Left
19. Veer Left / Veer Right
20. Couples Circulate
21. Bend the Line
22. Flutterwheel / Reverse Flutterwheel
23. Sweep a Quarter
24. Grand Square
25. Circle to a Line
26. Square Thru / Left Square Thru (*1,2,3,4*)
27. Wheel & Deal
28. Double Pass Thru
29. First Couple Go Left/Right, Next Couple Go Left/Right
30. Zoom
31. Ferris Wheel
32. Rollaway / Half Sashay
33. Box the Gnat
34. Ocean Wave family
 - A. Step to a Wave
 - B. Dosado to a Wave
 - C. Allemande Left in the Alamo Style
 - D. Balance
35. Trade family
 - A. (Named Dancers) Trade
 - B. Couples Trade
 - C. Partner Trade
36. Swing Thru / Left Swing Thru
37. Run / Cross Run
38. Pass the Ocean
39. Extend (*from 1/4 tag only*)
40. Circulate family
 - A. (Named Dancers) Circulate
 - B. All 8 Circulate
41. Trade By
42. Touch 1/4
43. Single File Circulate, Split / Box Circulate
44. Centers In
45. Cast Off 3/4
46. Tag the Line (*In/Out/Left/Right*)
47. Half Tag
48. Fold / Cross Fold
49. Scoot Back
50. Recycle (*from a wave only*)

This program and suggested teaching order can be easily and successfully taught, Standard Application, in 18 to 24 hours of class time. One and a Half or 2 hour lessons once per week = 12 week course. Two lessons per week = 6 week course, etc. For Questions Contact Any of the Authors Below.

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