

Square Fixing 101 - by Bryan Clark

1. Identify the problem

Which Dancers have caused the problem?

Switched dancers - did you see it happen?

Call not completed as called

Is the square too far gone?

Is it Sex related or Position Related?

2. Arrange the dancers so that the dancers that have made the mistake are together in a right handed wave (just for ease. It will work left).

Create Normal

Using your basic calling skills try and get the dancers into a formation where they should be in Normal arrangement . Basic calling skills are a must. No need to kill them you have already done that now you are trying to fix the square so keep it simple. Use the other squares as a guide to let you know what is normal. ie... right handed Waves with all boys or girls as centers

3. Now Sex or Position related call.

Go from Normal to Standard

This is all about forcing the dancers to create a couple ship where you are in full control of who will become the Beau or Belle

Use the following to create this.

Boys / Girls Run

Heads / Sides Run

4. Use a Conditional Call.

This is a call that only based on a condition could someone complete.

ie... Boys run is conditional based on boys being identified. But in this case we will get more creative with the conditionals. Once you have done step 3 all the dancers are in lines of some sort or another because you had the Boys/Girls/Heads/Sides run. Each of the couples has the designated dancer on the left hand side of the couple. Now you are only one step away from fixing the symmetry with the Conditional call.

4. Use a Conditional Call. (Continued)

“If you are facing out - Trade” if the couples are arranged with opposite sex I use California twirl. You could use a bend the line from here but that sometimes creates bad flow for some.

When should I use this?

Sparingly... You do not want all the bad dancers thinking that they can dance everything you call. If at the end of every tip they are home it is not you that is the miracle worker it is them and they think that maybe they should go to the next level since they are soooo proficient at this one.

This should be used for the times when you are watching a square and you know exactly what went wrong. It is easier to fix if you know who to fix.

What not to do...

Do not point out dancers by name unless you are sure that they don't mind.

Do not fix squares all night. It takes the magic away from the trick. If you use the conditionals too much the dancers start to notice.

Calls that are your friend.

Mainstream

<anyone> Fold.

Bend the line

Cast of $\frac{3}{4}$ (presuming they can do it)

Hinge

Dixie Style to a wave

Plus

Cut or Flip the Diamond & Roll

Advanced

Single Wheel

Challenge

Vertical Tags