# Mastering Choreographic Control

Systems to use:

1. Memory

2. Modules

3. Sight Calling

4. CRaMS

All callers use a combination of the above. The acronym CRaMS stands for

**Controlled Resolution** and **Manipulation System**. Last year I learned of a system that predates modern sight calling, called *slot calling*. Replace the word slot with stations and it looks *very* similar to CRaMS.

I suggest that using CRaMS should not be looked upon as a replacement for sight, but more as an enhancement for sight.

Square dancing is a dance with 8 people, with the vast majority of the calls involving 2 groups of 4 in either a line or a box. Note that even a line is a box. 2 people facing 2 other people.

If we gave everybody a special name (say, a,b,c,d,e,f,g,h) and called a combination of standard calls, how many different boxes (as groups of 4 people with out regard to sequences) could we create? The answer is **only 4**.

. Every boy has his "station lady" AKA "group lady" somewhere in that group of 4.

Any group can rearranged to create a primary station, which has everybody in sequence.

The 4 *primary boxes* are the **partner** box, **corner** box, **right hand lady** box and the **opposite lady** box. In each of these situations, a slide thru creations a *primary line*. I use the term stations because it as Jerry Story who made me aware of them. You can refer to them as groups.

4 Get In's 1. Corner Box – Heads Square Thru 4 2, Partner Box – Heads lead Right, Veer Left. Bend The Line, Slide Thru Right Hand Lady. Box – Heads square thru 2, Right and Left Thru 4. Opposite Lady Box – 4 Ladies Chain, Heads Lead Left, Veer Right, Bend the Line, Slide Thru

From a squared set you are at most 1 call away from getting everybody in sequence, then 1 more call to get partner.

The reason is that there are **only 4** possibilities:

1. Everybody is already in sequence

2. Girls are out of sequence

3. Boys are out of sequence

4. Everybody is out of sequence

Any 2 Ladies Chain, changes the sequence for girls. Any 2 Ladies Flutterwheel, changes the sequence for boys. Any 2 opposite couples Right and Left Thru changes both the boy and girl.

Amazingly, the same is true for a square. Take a circle, divide it in half and flatten the curve, and you have a line. If you create a line, any of the above will get everybody in sequence.

## How can we take advantage of this?

First learn how to create all of the primary stations, and how to resolve from them.

Primary box + slide thru = primary line.

To master CRaMS I recommend learning: Consider my system can be a stand alone or a first step in learning CRaMS

Step 1. How to create every primary station. Step 2 Resolve from each station. Step 3 How to go from 1 station to another.

### *Primary box to opposite primary box configuration*

*(That means going from **corner box** to **right-hand lady box**, or **partner box** to **opposite lady box**)* Pass thru, trade by

### *Primary Line to opposite primary line station:*

Square thru, trade by, slide thru

### *Primary line to primary box (station unchanged)*

Right and left thru, slide thru

Moving from one station to another is like playing a video game.

- Every time you go to a new station it is like entering a new room.
- Every room has 4 doors.
- Every wall has another door.
- Straight across is the opposite configuration. Using the example of a static square, straight across is the opposite lady, to the left is the corner, to theright is the right hand lady. Behind you is the Partner Box.  Most callers have great tools at the ready that have *never been used*. For example, everyone uses "Swing Thru, Acey Deucey, Boys Run, Bend the Line" to go from **corner box** to **partner line**. This just moved each box counter-clockwise one station.

From there, "Right and Left Thru, Pass the Ocean" creates a **partner box** [ocean wave]. Repeat the sequence and you have a **right hand lady line**. *(an ocean wave is effectively a box)

Remember that TWO right and left thru's make a zero. So from a corner box call "Right and Left Thru, Swing Thru, Acey Deucey, Boys Run, Bend the Line," and then add your second right and left thru to go from corner box to opposite lady line. See my comments this in the email.  The RLT + <module> + RLT actually has the opposite effect on groupness of the original <module.

You can go either direction, all the way around the square.