Dixie Grand - By Dean Rath

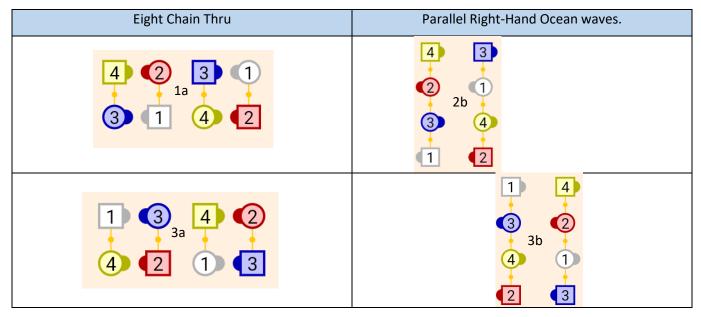
An interesting way of resolving a square is through the use of the call "Dixie Grand". When first created, it was primarily designed used from a circle. By having each man facing his opposite woman and everyone in sequence, the Right-Left-Right pull bys of a Dixie Grand will put each man facing his Corner, and with the appropriate fee hand of each dancer to perform a Left Allemande. The Left Allemande is not part of the Dixie Grand call, but it dances nicely and, as the call ends in a circle, only lends itself to a limited number of follow-up left-handed calls.

The basic Circle formation with all four couples starting with the right hand at the same time is shown in the left column (1a), of the following table. With a little extra manipulation, two additional circle formations can be created where only two couples can perform the first right hand pull by, but then everyone can participate in the remaining left and right-hand pull bys to complete the call. One for the Heads to start is shown in the second column (1b) and for the Sides is shown in the third column (1c).

| Basic Circle | Heads Start "Those Who Can" | Sides Start "Those Who Can" |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 3 4 4 2 2 2 1 3 | 1 3 2 1b 4 4 1 3 | 3 1 4 4 1c 2 |

With time, people realised that it is possible to start a Dixie grand call from other formations. It still ends up as a circle when completed, so its use as a general call, in choreography, is limited, but makes an excellent get-out to a left Allemande for resolving a square. What follows are all of the formation where Dixie Grand can be called and, using the formations, dancer positions and orientations shown, the call will resolve the square, and everyone will be ready to do a Left Allemande at the completion of the Dixie Grand Call. Other dancer combinations are possible, but will not provide the same square resolution.

The next formation is an Eight Chain Thru. From this formation, all four couples start on the first Right-Hand pull by, so this is termed a "Four-Hand" case. There are two of these formations shown as 2a and 3a. The difference is related to whether heads or sides are being used as the primary couple, but either one brings the square to a Left Allemande condition. These can also start from parallel ocean waves, so these are shown in the right-side column of the table (2b, 3b). Application of the "Ocean Wave Rule" shows that the formations will be identical following the first right-hand pull by regardless of which of the two starting formations is used.



The call Dixie Grand can also be started from a Trade By formation, as well as two other similar formations, A ¾ Tag and a T-Bone version of a ¾ tag as shown on the next table. These are also "Four Hand" cases as the center and outside people will all perform the first Right-Hand pull by. As before, after the first right-hand pull by, all of the formations in each row are identical for the remainder of the call.

| Trade By | ¾ Tag | T-Bone ¾ Tag |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 4 1 3 4 2 1 3 2 4a | 1 4b 4 3 4 2 1 2 | 1 4c 4 3 4 2 1 2 |
| 3 4 2 3 1 4 2 1 5a | 3 2 3 1 4 1 | 4 5c 3 2 3 1 4 1 |

The next formation is a Double Pass thru (Zero Tag). From this particular formation, only the center two couples do the first right-hand pull by, and then all of the dancers participate in the subsequent, left-hand and second right-hand pull by. This is referred to as a "Two-Hand" or "Those Who Can" case. The starting formation for these two cases is shown in the left side column of the following table (6a, 7a). the 1/4 Tag formation shown in the right-side column (6b, 7b) are functionally identical to the left side column formation as a result of the application of the Ocean Wave Rule.



These are also two cases beginning from a Completed Double Pass thru (Full Tag) formation that depend on whether the primary couple being used are the Heads or the Sides. These also start with only two couples performing the first right-hand pull by, so these are also still considered Two-Hand cases. It is suggested in this situation that some cue words initially be provided to tell the leaders to turn toward each other to begin the Dixie

Grand call. The alternative formation shown as a T-Bone in the right-side column of the table already addresses this. Again, once the first right-hand pull by is completed, the two formations are identical regardless of which is initially use.

| Full Tag | T-Bone 2x4 | |
|----------------------|--------------------|--|
| 8a 3 2 4 3 1 1 2 4 1 | 3 2 4 3 1 2 4 1 | |
| 9a 4 3 1 4 2 2 3 1 2 | 4 3 1 4 2 9b | |

There is one more formation, and the name for the "Magic Column" formation comes from the Challenge Program. Similar to some of the other formations, only two couples can perform the first right-hand pull by, so it is considered a Two-Hand case. Then all of the dancers participate in the subsequent left-hand and second right-hand pull by to complete the call.

