

Lads a Bunchum

Origin: Traditional.

6 dancers in two lines of 3 or

8 dancers in two lines of 4. Face up.

Music: William Taylors Table Top Hornpipe composed by Dave Shepherd

We usually play it in E minor.

Formula:

Once to yourself (8 bars).

Foot up twice

----- Chorus doubles

Half gyp

----- Chorus singles

Tops down

----- Chorus highs

Hands around

----- Chorus doubles

Bottoms up

----- Chorus singles

Hey

----- Chorus highs

Finish:

All face up at end of final chorus. Brief show.

At the end of the dance odds walk off, evens turn out singly and follow odds off.

Choruses:

Sticking

Doubles:

All face across set. Evens hold stick horizontally by the ends and present stick at about chest height. LH grip with knuckles over stick, RH cradles stick. Odds hold their stick with two hands at one end and strike middle of even's stick for 3 strikes. Odds then present and evens strike 3 times.

Then evens strike middle of odd's stick with tip of their stick, odds strike middle of even's stick with tip of their stick. Repeat for 6 strikes in total. RH grip needs to move to about a third of the way from end for this. RH grip is safest without knuckles wrapped around stick. Hold the sticks at 45° to horizontal, with the right hand higher than the left. Finish with both sticks striking final clash with the tips. Total of 13 clashes.

Repeat whole sequence.

Singles:

All face across set. All hold stick by the middle. Evens present stick horizontally, at about chest height, (palm of hand is upwards), odds strike to odd's RH end of evens stick 3 strikes. Odds present, evens strike 3 times. Then tilt sticks to 45° (right end higher) and strike tips and butts for 6 strikes, then 7th strike clashing tips. Total of 13 clashes.

Repeat whole sequence.

Highs:

Evens turn sharply right shoulder back to present stick over head, gripped at ends. Odds strike middle of even's sticks 3 strikes holding stick at end with 2 hands.

Odds turn out and present stick overhead, evens turn back and strike middle of odd's stick 3 times.

Odds turn back, all face opposite and strike tips and butts for 6 strikes, then 7th strike clashing tips.

Repeat whole sequence.

Note:

In 'highs', turn out needs to be very quick. Keep stick well above and behind head to avoid injury, or to the side, if easier.

Written by JM edited by EE March 2018 and JM Dec 2024

