

# Keith's Klass

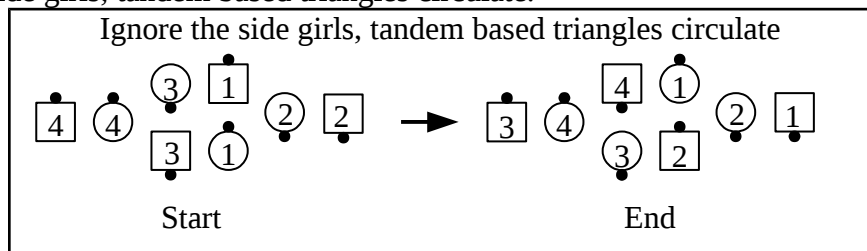
by Keith Rubow

This month we will look at the **Ignore** concept. This simple concept is a little hard to understand, because the Ignore concept can mean different things for the non-ignored dancers.

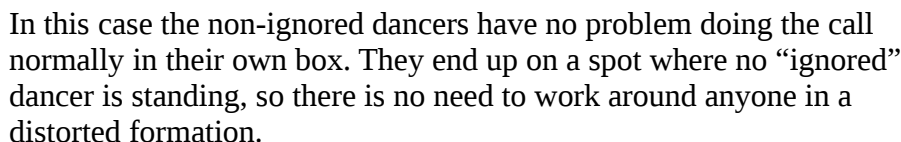
Definition: In the **Ignore** concept, one or more dancers are designated to be ignored, and the other dancers do the given call. The dancers doing the call must do one of two things. Either they do their part of the call normally as if everyone was doing the call, or they do the call in a distorted formation working around the ignored dancers as if the ignored dancers were not there. In either case the ignored dancers do not do the call, and do not move (except maybe for some square breathing in some cases).

So how do the non-ignored dancers know how to do the call? Do they do the call normally (as if the ignored dancers were also doing the call), or do they work in a distorted formation around the ignored dancers (as if the ignored dancers were not there, except for being a little bit in the way)? The answer is simple- only one way will work. Just look at the formation and think about the call. It should be obvious that one way will work, and the other way won't. If doing the call "normally" leads to someone landing on top of the ignored dancer, then that doesn't work. Think about how to do the call with only the non-ignored dancers, working around the ignored dancers as necessary.

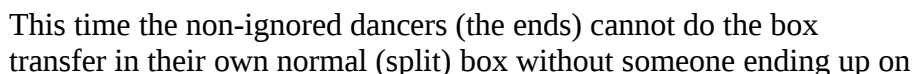
At this point a few examples are probably in order. Consider Ignore the side girls, tandem based triangles circulate.



Here's another example, but this time the non-ignored dancers can do their part of the call normally, as if everyone was doing the call. From right-hand waves, ignore the leads, box transfer.



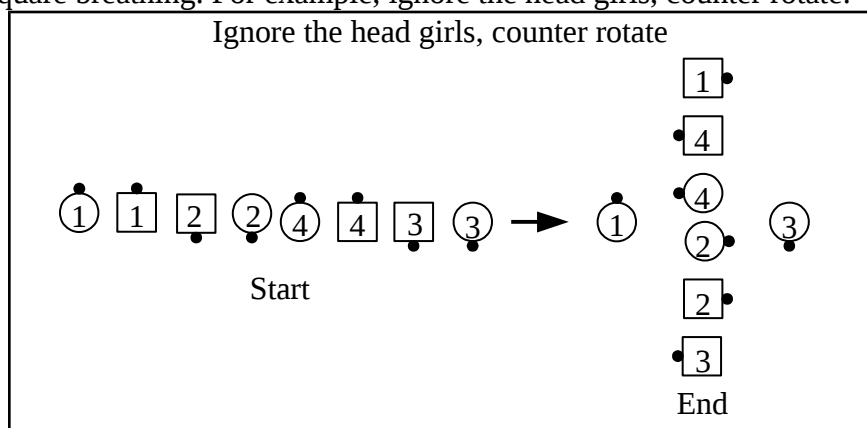
Now let's consider the same starting formation as above, but this time we will ignore the centers, box transfer.





Now that was just weird. The ignored dancer was right there in the middle of the line, in everyones way. The line wasn't even a wave, which is what we usually have for a swing thru. If we ignore the side boys and look at the distorted line we have working around him, it is a line of three. Don't we need a wave of four to do a swing thru. No we don't, just start with the right hand and follow the definition. A wave of three works just fine, even if it is a distorted wave of three working around the ignored dancer.

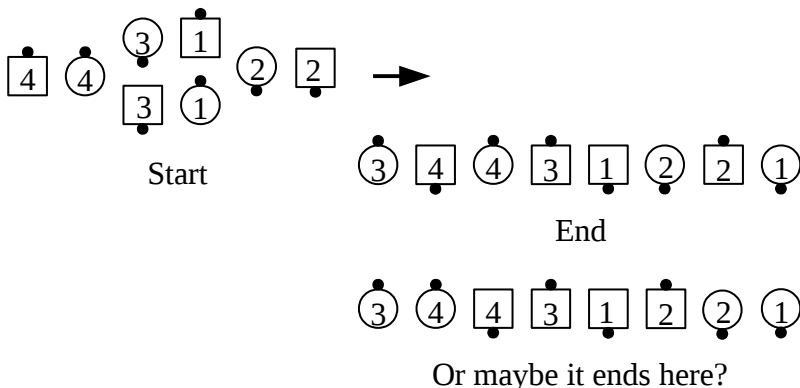
Sometimes the ignored dancer might actually have to move because of square breathing. For example, ignore the head girls, counter rotate:



When the six non-ignored dancers did their counter rotate it resulted in a big shape-changing thing that left the ignored dancers way out in left field someplace. They breathed in to form a nice center diamond. Why, you ask? Well, because squares are very elastic. Sometimes dancers need to breath out to make room for other dancers, or breath in to remove all that empty space.

To demonstrate that the **Ignore** concept can be really messy, consider the following example. It starts in the same formation as our first example. We will do ignore the side girls, tandem based triangles peel and trail:

Ignore the side girls, tandem based triangles peel and trail



Honestly, I have no idea where this one would end. Tandem based triangle peel and trail is a shape changer, and it is being done disconnected around an ignored dancer. The **Ignore** concept isn't well enough defined to handle a situation like this. Let's hope that no one ever calls this. I know I never will.

The **Ignore** concept is a little bit messy and somewhat poorly defined. Happiness is being one of the ignored dancers. Then you can just stand there and watch everyone else figure out what to do. If you have to do the call, see if you can do it normally as if everyone was doing it. If that doesn't work then find a distorted formation not including the ignored dancers and do the call there (and hope it is not a shape changer). Sometimes it really is good to be ignored.