

Keith's Klass

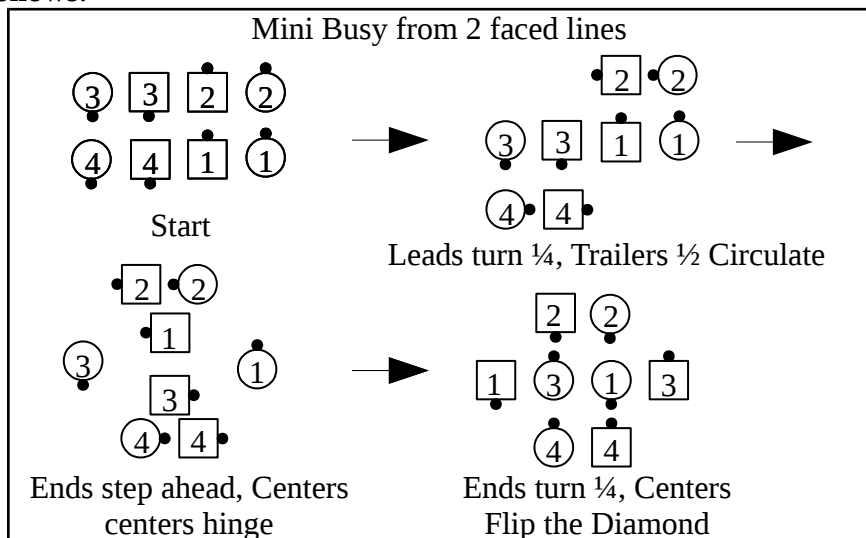
by Keith Rubow

This month we will look at **Mini Busy**. While usually done from two faced lines and ending in a right or left handed $\frac{1}{4}$ tag formation, there are some other interesting applications.

Definition: Leaders do an any shoulder Turn and Deal. Trailers $\frac{1}{2}$ circulate, centers hinge, and flip the diamond.

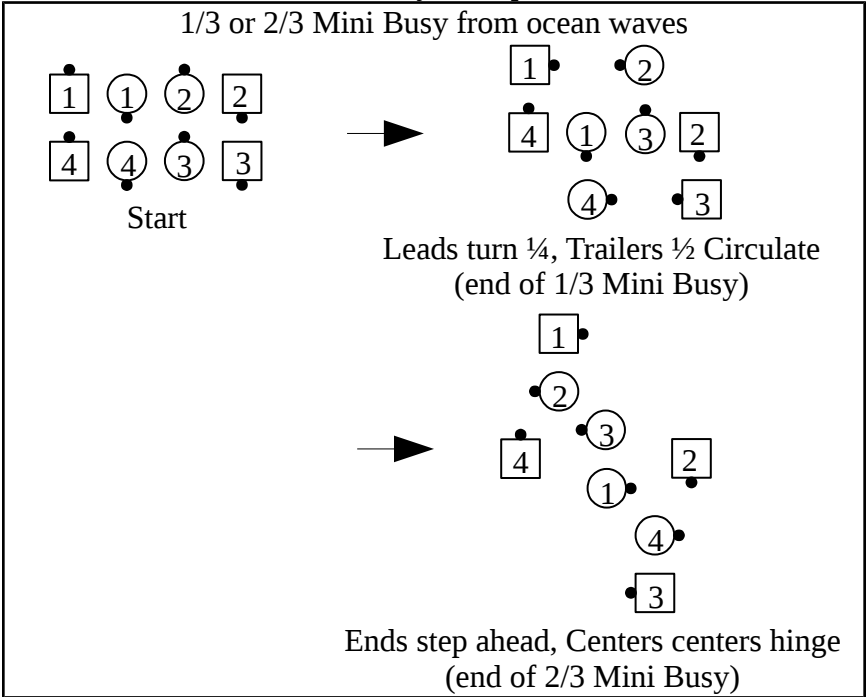
The first thing to notice about this definition is that everyone has 3 parts. This is not obvious, because Turn and Deal is usually thought of as being done in one smooth flowing movement. However, Turn and Deal can actually be thought of as having three parts. Part one, turn $\frac{1}{4}$ towards the center of your line. Part 2, step ahead (passing the appropriate shoulder). Part three, turn $\frac{1}{4}$ in the same direction as the first turn. Thus, both leaders and trailers have three parts, so Mini Busy can be fractionalized into thirds.

The most common application of Mini Busy is from two faced lines as follows:

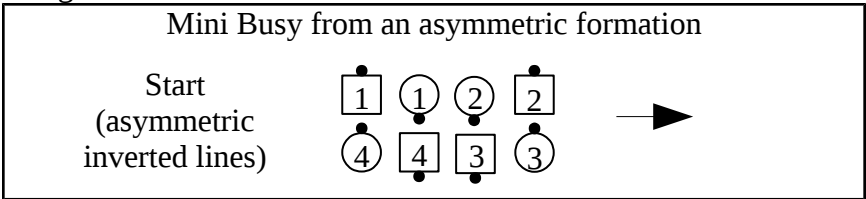


From the previous example we can see where 1/3 and 2/3 Mini Busy end. While 1/3 Mini Busy ends a little strangely, 2/3 Mini Busy ends in a nice hourglass formation.

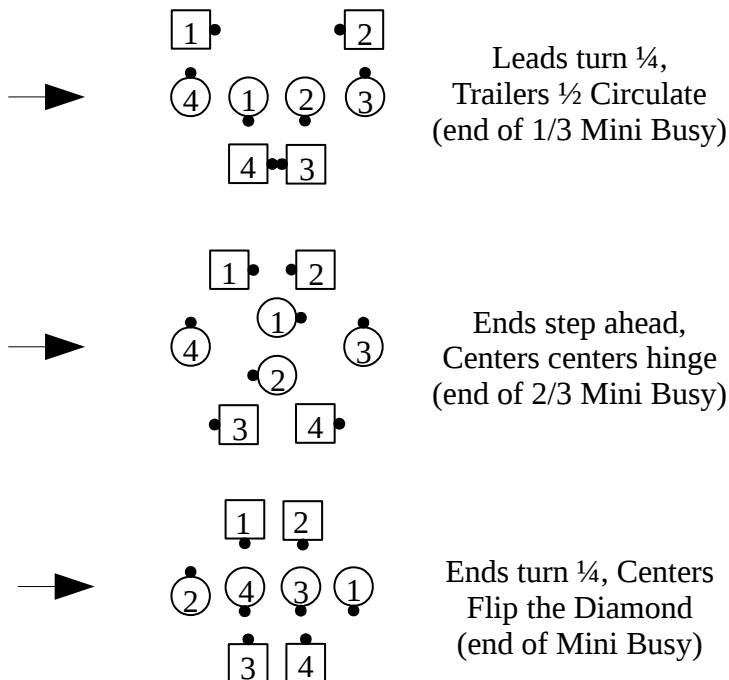
Mini Busy does not work from parallel waves (why not?), but it is possible to do 1/3 or 2/3 Mini Busy from parallel ocean waves.



Ok, so 1/3 and 2/3 Mini Busy from waves both end in very bizarre formations (the first is T-boned Z's, the second is a common point hourglass). Are there any other interesting starting formations? Here is one you probably haven't seen, because is starts in an asymmetric starting formation:



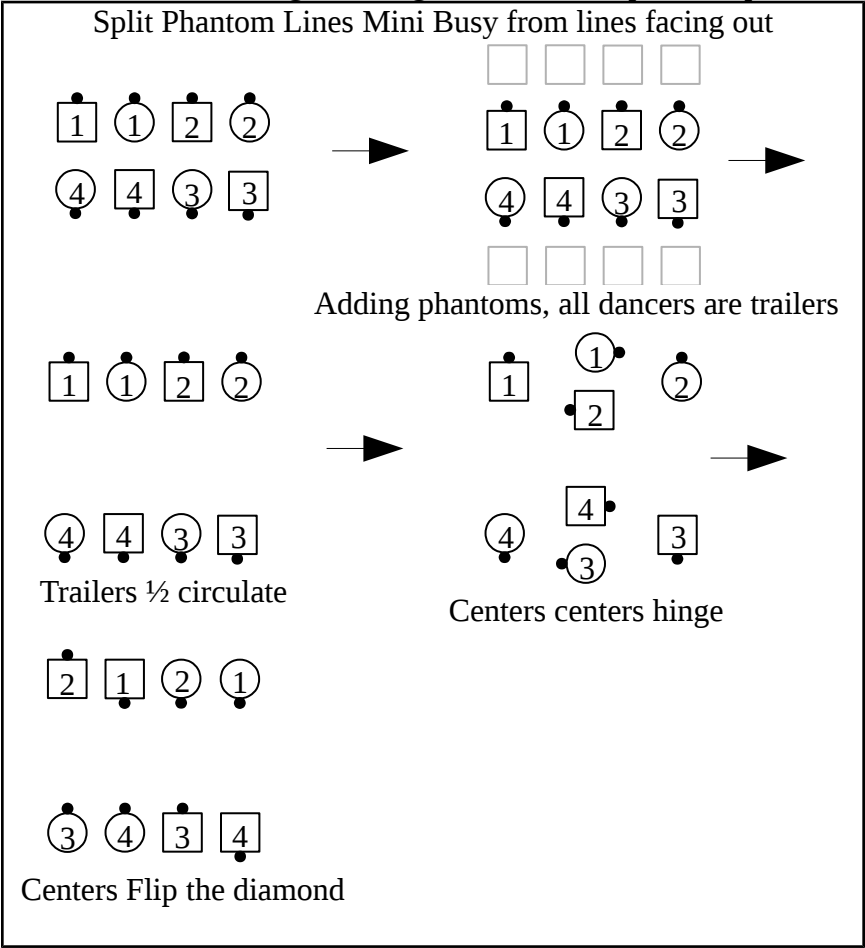
Mini Busy from an asymmetric formation (continued)



Wow, some really weird things happen when Mini Busy is done from this asymmetric formation. When the trailers $\frac{1}{2}$ Circulate they end up in an inverted line in the center. That means that when the very centers hinge, it is a partner hinge. Then the flip the diamond results in a 3-and 1 line in the center. The leads part is also strange. After they turn $\frac{1}{4}$ towards the center of their line they must step ahead. Some of them (the ones that started as centers of their line) will actually pass each other as they step ahead. The others (the ones that started as ends of their line) simply step ahead to face each other. Then they all turn $\frac{1}{4}$ to face in.

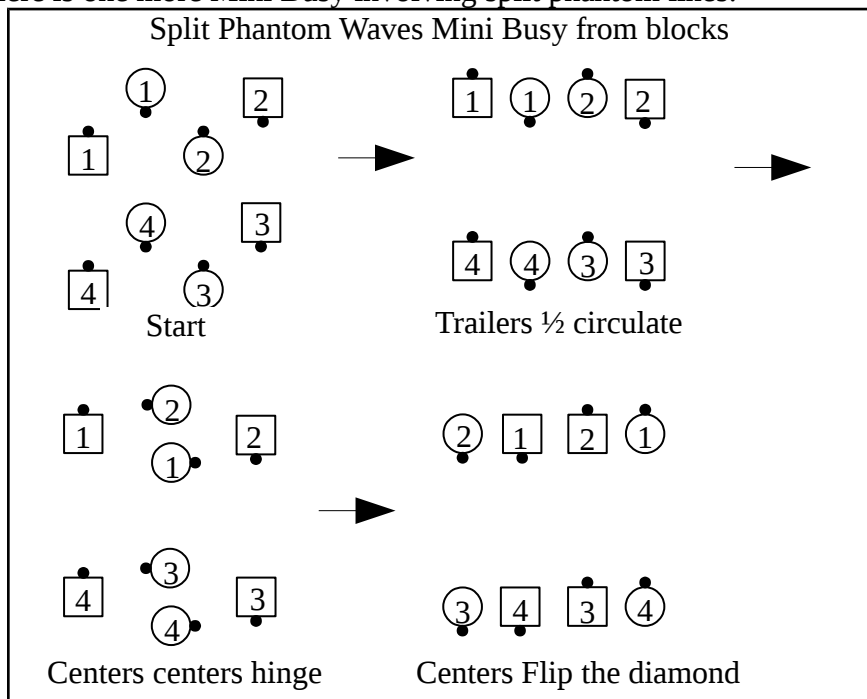
You will probably not see this asymmetric Mini Busy any time soon because almost all calling is done symmetrically. So are there any other weird applications of Mini Busy that can be done in symmetric

formations? Yes, there are, but they require the use of phantoms at various levels of challenge dancing. Here are a couple examples:



The Mini Busy above only works with phantoms (for example, split phantom lines) because we don't need to worry about what the phantoms are really doing. The real dancers end in the outer phantom lines because the real dancers are in the center line of some kind of ¼ tag thing on each half of the square, so there are two “planes” of phantoms in the middle of the set. (We don't worry about how the phantoms got there).

Here is one more Mini Busy involving split phantom lines:



Once again, the dancers end up in the outer phantom waves because of where the phantoms ended. Wait just a minute! This was a full Mini Busy from split phantom WAVES! Didn't I say that a full Mini Busy can't be done from waves? Yes, that is true, because the lead dancers end up on top of each other (standing on the same spot, both facing the same direction, which isn't allowed). It isn't allowed for real dancers, but since phantoms aren't really there in the first place, they can end up on the same spot without any issues. Phantoms are very flexible.

Some dancers “cheat” the trailers part by doing ½ circulate to the center line of four, then doing a Cross Roll. Don't do that! It doesn't work in all cases. It turns out that Mini Busy can be a lot more interesting than the plain old Mini Busy we always see from two faced lines.