

Disconnected Draft (New Approach, Complete Text)

February 3, 2014

Disconnected Concept

From any appropriate formation: The caller designates one or more groups of dancers who are in a formation where there are gaps or other dancers between dancers who would normally be adjacent. The specified dancers execute a given call so as to maintain the original disconnection in their group's formation. For example:

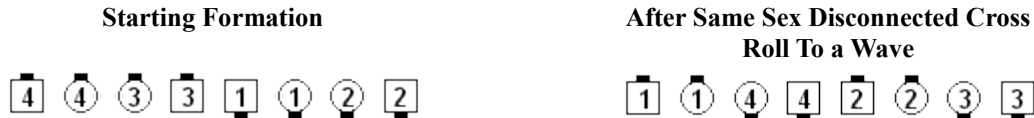


Table 1: Same Sex Disconnected Cross Roll To a Wave

In the starting formation in Table 1, the girls have a two-faced line made disconnected by the presence of the head boys. Similarly, the boys have a two-faced line made disconnected by the intervening girls. Each group executes the call “Cross Roll To a Wave” around the intervening positions to occupy the same spots originally occupied by their own group.

Shape-changing calls present a more complicated situation. Here are the rules for creating the proper result formation:

1. **Disconnect Axis:** The disconnect axis is the long axis of the formation formed by the entire square.
2. **Allocating Strips:** The positions occupied by real dancers plus any empty inboard matrix positions define “strips” within which designated dancers will work. Imagine each dancer standing on a strip of carpet running perpendicular to the disconnect axis. At the **end** of the call, dancers may occupy **only** strips originally occupied by members of their group. During the action of a call, dancers may move and interact with other group members without regard for placement of the strips, then adjust their result formation at the end of the call as described in rule 4. There will always be an odd number of strips. It is helpful to think of the center strip as *Strip 0*, then progressing outward in both directions from the center along the disconnect axis would be *Strip 1*, *Strip 2*, ... *Strip n*.
3. **Strip Width (number of people in a strip):** Physically adjacent dancers in their disconnected formation define only a single strip - not two. Thus strips may have different widths depending on the formation and the number of dancers in the strip. Strips may expand or contract in width during the action of the call.
4. **Distributing The Result Formation Across Strips:** At the end of the call, each group's dancers start in their centermost strip(s) and distribute themselves symmetrically outward along the disconnect axis using the following procedure:
 - a) The centermost strips of each group must contain at least as many dancers as they did originally, and may increase in population as necessary to create a symmetrical formation.
 - b) The remaining dancers arrange themselves so as to occupy as many of their group's remaining strips as possible while maintaining a symmetrical formation.
 - c) Where the formation permits more than one well-formed symmetrical distribution, the one positioning the most dancers closest to the center of the set shall be chosen.
 - d) When this redistribution is complete, any of the group's strips left unoccupied are discarded and **all** dancers (including inactives) breathe accordingly.

Examples and Notes

The following examples illustrate how these rules are applied in various situations, how strips are allocated, and how dancers are distributed across them.

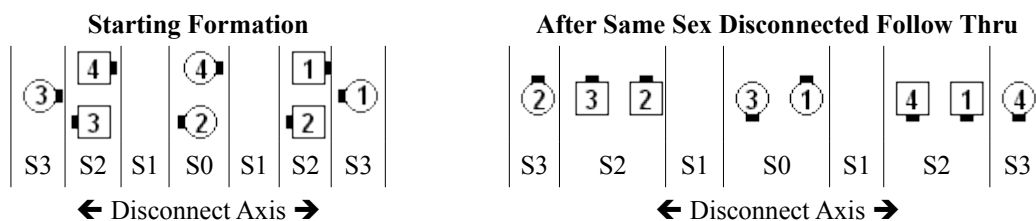


Table 2: Same Sex Disconnected Follow Thru

The first example, illustrated in Table 2 above, shows a starting formation, the disconnect axis, and how the disconnected strips would be allocated (*S0*, *S1*, *S2*, *S3*). There will always be an odd number of strips. When allocating strips, the center

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strip is labelled *S0*. The strips on either side of the center strip are labelled *S1*, the next outward concentric pair *S2*, and so on, moving outward until all strips are labelled. The example shows the ending formation after the call “Same Sex Disconnected Follow Thru”. In the starting formation the girls occupy the *S0*, and *S3* strips while the boys occupy the *S2* strips. The *S1* strips are vacant. Note that although the boys’ box and the girls’ single ¼ tag both changed shape to become lines of four, the *S0* and *S3* strips are still occupied by girls, the *S2* strips by boys, and the *S1* strips remain vacant. The *S0* and *S2* strips (centermost strips of their respective groups) have expanded along the disconnect axis to accommodate the new wider shape of the occupying dancers, and contain the same number of dancers as originally. Originally vacant strips do not expand or contract. The dancers are distributed symmetrically across their original strips.

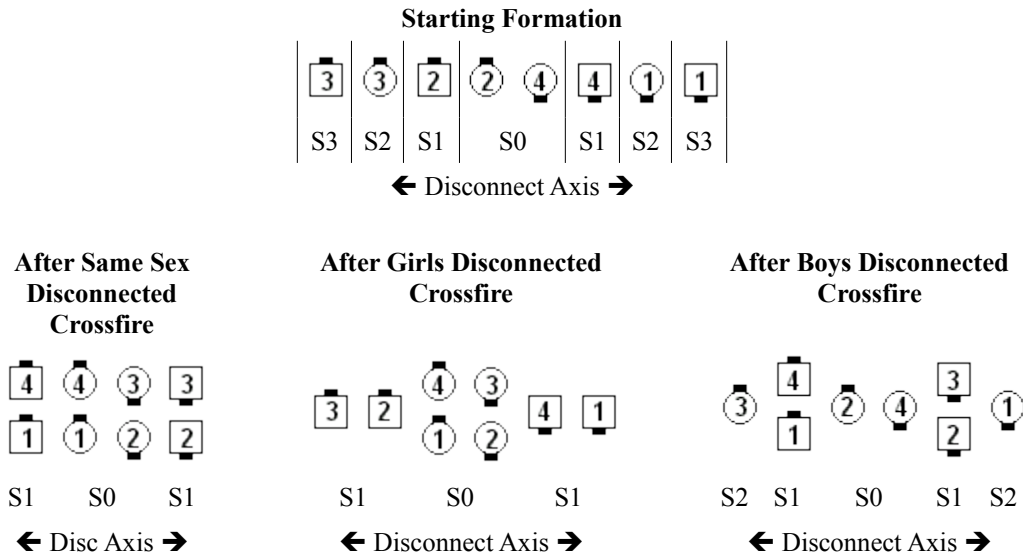
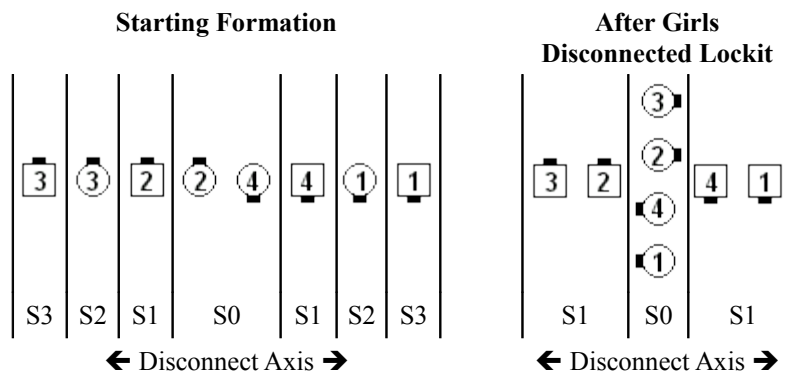


Table 3: Various Disconnected Crossfires

Table 3 shows a starting formation and the results of three separate variations of the call “Crossfire”. In the starting formation the Boys occupy the *S1* and *S3* strips, while the Girls occupy *S0* and *S2* strips. Note that in all three results dancers finish only in the strips closest to the center of the set that were originally occupied by their own sex. In the first two examples, the outermost strips (*S2* and *S3*) were discarded because the new shape of the result formation provided too few dancers along the disconnect axis to populate all the original strips while still maintaining a symmetrical formation. In the “Girls Disconnected Crossfire” example, the discarding of the *S2* strips caused the outermost boys (the head boys) to breathe inward to join the side boys, which further resulted in the *S3* strips also being discarded. In the “Boys Disconnected Crossfire” example where only the boys were active, however, the *S2* strips remain because they are still occupied by girls. Note that the *S0* and *S1* strips increase in population to accommodate the new result formation shape.

Shape-changing calls that cause a disconnected 1x4 formation to rotate perpendicular to the original disconnect axis merit special attention because only the group of dancers that “owns” the *S0* strip can validly execute them.



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Table 4: Girls Disconnected Lockit

In the example in Table 4 above, after the call “Girls Disconnected Lockit”, all four girls finish the call in the centermost strip (strip *S0*). The *S2* and *S3* strips are discarded for the reasons discussed in the “Girls Disconnected Crossfire” example in Table 3. Note that from the starting formation given, it is not possible for the boys to do a call that would result in a 1x4 rotated perpendicular to their disconnect axis (e.g. Lockit, Fan the Top, Couples Hinge, etc.). The only way the boys could form such a formation would be to occupy strip *S0*, which was not part of their original disconnected formation.

Eight-person disconnected formations are also possible. In Table 5 below, the ends are separated from the centers by a gap. The phrase “All Disconnected” or, optionally, “Disconnected Two-Face Lines” tells the dancers to work in logical two-faced lines but maintain the gaps along the original disconnect axis. After an “All Disconnected” call, dancers may be positioned only in strips originally occupied by a real dancer. Outboard strips vacated by the action of the call are discarded.

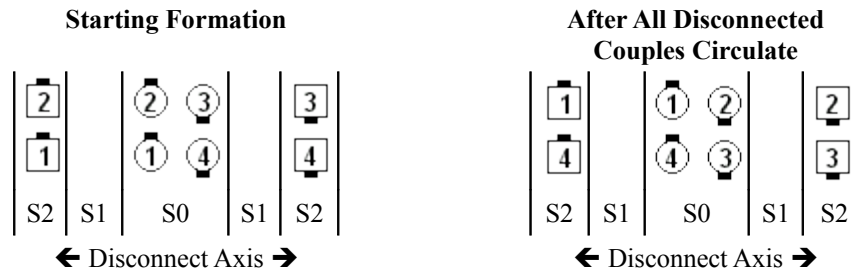


Table 5: All Disconnected Couples Circulate

This sometimes leads to non-intuitive results. Consider the example illustrated below in Table 6. It uses the call Wheel and Deal to illustrate the subtle difference between designating “All” dancers as a single disconnected group versus designating two same-sex groups, each of which is disconnected. **This needs updating 2nd diagram changed**

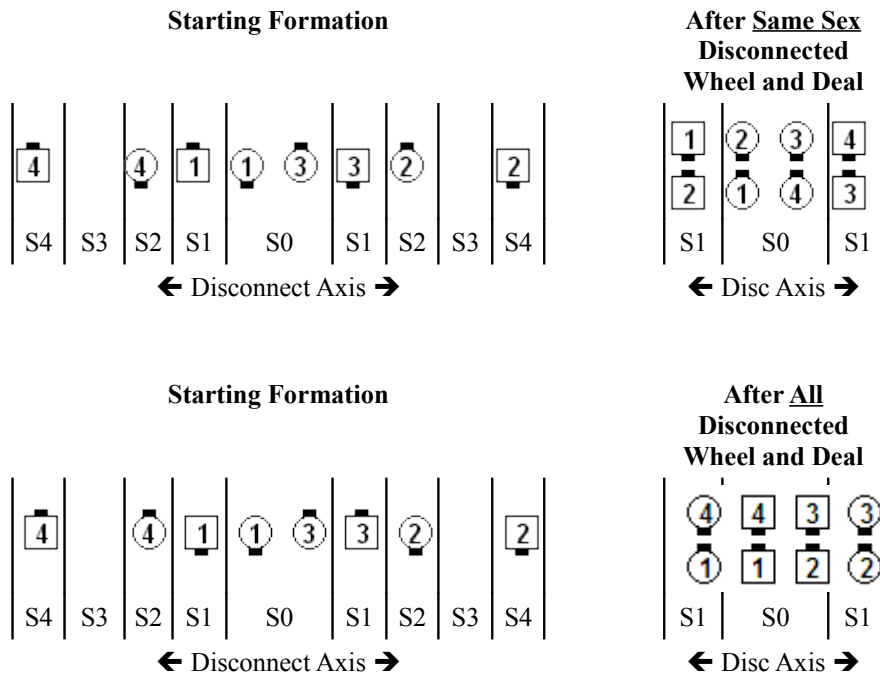


Table 6: Same Sex vs All Disconnected Wheel and Deal

The starting setups are very similar (the first is a grand wave, the second a grand two-faced line). “Same Sex Disconnected” implies that the boys are working in one disconnected two-faced line while the girls are working in another. “All Disconnected” implies that all 8 dancers form one single disconnected grand two-faced line. This causes the initial

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disconnected strips to be allocated very differently for each case, as shown Table 6 above.

The “same sex” case in Table 6 results in 9 strips ($S0$ in the center, progressing outward in both directions to $S4$) being allocated, whereas the “All” case results in 5 strips ($S0$ through $S2$), only 3 of which (the $S0$ strip and the $S2$ strips) are occupied by real dancers. Applying the rules for assembling the disconnected formation after a shape-changing call then logically produces the results shown.

In the “same sex” case, the result formation for each sex can only be symmetrically distributed across the centermost strips they own, the center strip $S0$ for the girls and the $S1$ strips for the boys. Since the head boys originally occupied the $S1$ strips, the boys must attempt to repopulate the $S1$ strips in the result formation, leaving nobody to repopulate the $S4$ s. Since the three outermost strips ($S2$, $S3$, $S4$) are now vacant, they are discarded. In the “All” case, because the original population of $S0$ was 6 dancers, it must end with at least 6 dancers. The new result shape means that could only be accomplished by increasing the population to 8.

In Table 7 below, $S0$ had an original population of 4 dancers. Given the shape of the result formation, that requires 6 dancers to occupy $S0$, however the head girls are available to populate the outer strips, $S2$. Therefore, the $S1$ strips are not discarded because the head girls occupy positions outboard of them in the $S2$ strips.

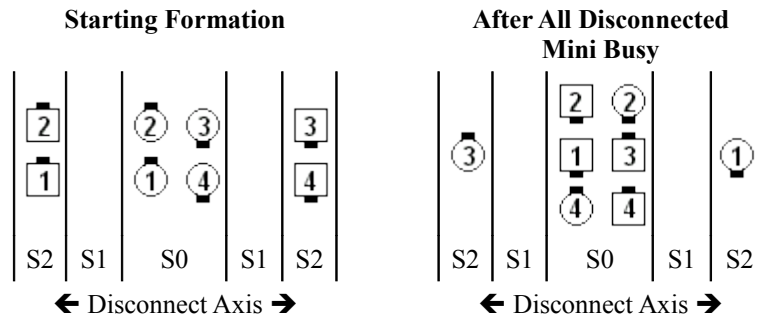


Table 7: All Disconnected Mini Busy

Table 8 below, illustrates a situation where two different symmetrical result formations are logically possible and the rule biasing as many dancers as possible towards the center (Rule 4) must be invoked.

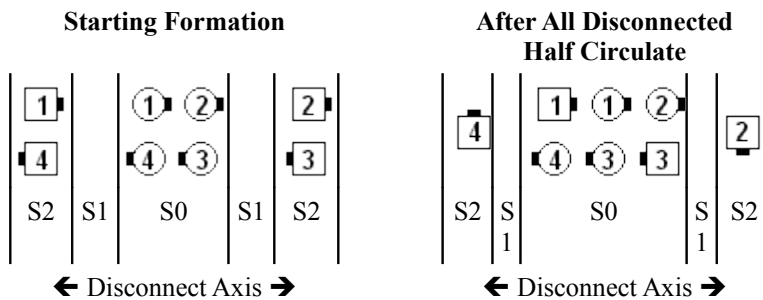


Table 8: All Disconnected Half Circulate

Given the result formation after a Half Circulate, two symmetrical allocations of dancers across the originally owned strips are possible. The head boys and side girls could be positioned either in the center $S0$ strip as shown in Table 8, or in the outer $S2$ strips with the side boys, forming a triangle. However, Rule 4 states that where multiple choices are available, the one positioning the most dancers toward the center should be used, making the result shown in Table 8 the correct one.