# A REEL CHALLENGE/SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST

40-bar Reel for a 4 couples in a square set

1 – 6	1st and 3rd couples dance the first 6 bars of rights and lefts in the middle of the set and finish in the middle, pulling back right shoulders so that 1st couple face down and 3rd couple face up.
7 – 8	1st and 3rd couples join nearer hands with partner and set. [On last pas de basque, 1st and 3rd couples face to their left].
9 – 16	With 2nd and 4th couples in promenade hold, all dance a reel of 4 across the dance, with 1st and 3rd couples alternating the lead at each end of the reel; to begin:- 1st couple pass 2nd couple right shoulder and 3rd couple pass 4th couple right shoulder. 2nd and 4th couples finish in places. On the last two bars, 1st and 3rd ladies followed by their partners curve to their right to finish, side by side in the middle of the dance, 1st couple facing down, 3rd couple facing up [See Fig.]

Top
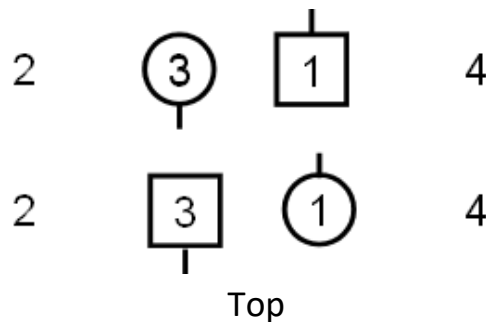
17 – 20	1st and 3rd couples dance left hands across once round.
21 – 24	Dropping hands and continuing in the same direction, 1s and 3s spiral round each other and dance out to original places, 1st and 3rd women pulling back right shoulder to face partner.
25 – 28	All four couples ………

25 – 28	All four couples set to partner and turn right hand [ladies remain facing out].
29 – 32	All dance the first 4 bars of a Schiehallion reel to finish 1 place on anticlockwise.
33 – 40	All repeat bars 29 – 32 twice more. Finish 1st couple in 2nd place, 2nd couple in 3rd place, 3rd couple in 4th place and 4th couple in 1st place. Repeat the dance 3 times more with top and bottom couples as dancing couples.

Devised by James McMillan - that's what the dance is - A challenging reel!

A Reel Challenge — J McMillan — 4 x 40 Reel Square Set