

GAELIC COLLEGE SCD BOOK #10: Gordon Reels

10.1 BYDAND Gordon Motto: Remaining

3x40 bar Strathspey

3-couple dance in 3-couple longways set

BARS

Featured Formations

Gordon Hold, Brigadoon

- 1-8** Crossover Mirror Reel of 3: All dance a reel of 3 giving nearer hands to partner where appropriate, starting with 1st couple crossing through 2nd place on opposite side, 2nd couple dancing out & up, & 3rd couple dancing in & up: all couples cross through 2nd place on opposite side after they reach the top of the reel: all end on opposite side;
- 9-12** TEAPOTS: 3-hands across on the side, men with left hands & women with right hands
- 13-16** DOWN MIDDLE: 1st followed by 2nd & 3rd couples dance down middle in Gordon Hold (as in Gay Gordons - hands should be offered in Gordon Hold (i.e. NOT lifting right hands over women's head);
- 17-20** UP MIDDLE: turn as in Gay Gordons to dance back up the middle, 3rd couple followed by 2nd & 1st couples;
- 21-24** TURN: dropping right hands, turn partner once around with left hands;
- 25-28** CHASE: chase anticlockwise halfway round the set to original places;
- 29-32** WHEEL: 1st & 2nd couples dance 4 hands across with left hands;
- 33-40** BRIGADOON: couples in 1st & 2nd positions dance in & down touching nearer hands in the middle, & out one place down the set curling upwards into the side AS couple in 3rd position dance up two places on their own side (NO CAST)(2 bars), then all set nearer hands joined on the side; REPEAT bars 25-28 from new positions (order is now 2nd, 3rd, 1st).

REPEAT with new top couple

10.2 BY COURAGE NOT CRAFT Old Gordon Motto

3x32 bar Jig

3-couple dance in 3-couple longways set

BARS

Featured Formations

Gordon Hold, Brigadoon

- 1-8** SET & TURN: all set & turn partner 1+ ½ times round ending by turning women under arm into Gordon Hold (as in Gay Gordons) facing down;
- 9-16** DOWN MIDDLE & UP: all dance down the middle, 3rd couple followed by 2nd & 1st couples, turning individually as in Gay Gordons to dance up the middle again, 1st couple followed by 2nd & 3rd couples;
- 17-24** TURN & SET: dropping right hands, turn partner 1+ ½ times round by the left hand to original places, & set, nearer hands joined on the side;
- 25-32** BRIGADOON: couples in 1st & 2nd positions dance in & down touching nearer hands in the middle & out one place down the set curling upwards into the side AS couple in 3rd position dance up two places on their own side (NO CAST)(2 bars), then all set nearer hands joined on the side; REPEAT bars 25-28 from new positions (order is 2nd, 3rd, 1st).

REPEAT with new top couple

10.3

THE BORDER GORDONS

6/8x24 bar Strathspey

Featured Formation
Gordon Reel of 3

2-couple dance in 3/4 couple longways set

BARS

1-8 DOWN MIDDLE & BACK: 1st couple, followed by 2nd couple, lead down the middle right hands joined, & return 2nd couple in the lead with right hands joined followed by 1st couple who return in Gordon Hold (man raises right hand over woman's head & join left hands in front as in allemande): on Bar 8, 2nd couple begins to divide & cast around 1st place on own side;

9-16 GORDON REEL OF 3: 1st couple (in Gordon Hold) dances a Reel of 3 across the dance with 2nd couple (start with 1st couple passing 2nd woman by the right; 1st couple turn as in Gay Gordons at each end of the reel, & end with 1st couple in middle between 2nd couple);

17-24 FIGURE OF 8: 1st couple dance a figure of 8 around 2nd couple, starting by dropping right hands & crossing over with left hands, 1st woman dancing around 2nd man then 2nd woman, AS 1st man dances around 2nd woman then 2nd man.

REPEAT from 2nd place

10.4

GORDONS OF KIRKCUDBRIGHT

6/8x24 bar Jig

Featured Formation
Gordon Reel of 3

2-couple dance in 3/4 couple longways set

BARS

1-8 SET, CAST & TURN: 1st couple set, cast off one place (2nd couple stepping up), & turn once round with right hands ending with woman turning into Gordon Hold (as for allemande) & facing up;

9-16 GORDON REEL OF 3: 1st couple in Gordon Hold dances a Reel of 3 across the dance with 2nd couple (start with 1st couple passing 2nd woman by the right; 1st couple turn as in Gay Gordons at each end of the reel, & end with 1st couple in middle between 2nd couple);

17-24 BALANCE & TURN: 1st couple (facing up, nearer hands joined) balance in line with 2nd couple (facing down)(2 bars), 1st couple drop nearer hands & turn 2nd couple 1+ 3/4 round (6 bars), 1st couple ending in 2nd place on own side, 2nd couple in 1st place.

REPEAT from 2nd place

10.5**GORDON OF METHLIC**

32 bar Strathspey

Featured Formations

Gordon Reel of 3

2-couple dance Round the Room, women in outer circle, men in inner circle Keppoch

BARS

- 1-8** SET, ½ CIRCLE, TURN & ½ CHASE: Nearer hands joined with partner, set to opposite couple, 4 hands round to the left halfway (2 bars), turn partner with both hands (2 bars), & chase clockwise halfway round (2 bars) ending in Gordon Hold facing opposite couple (women raise appropriate hand above shoulder to join hands with men - i.e. do not join hands in front & raise them over the women's head);
- 9-16** GORDON REEL OF 3: dance a Gordon Reel of 3 passing opposite by the right shoulder, then the next couple by the left shoulder & pull left shoulder back (as in the Gay Gordons) & reel back to place, turning right at the end (as in the Gay Gordons) to end facing opposite couple;
- 17-24** KEPPPOCH:
 Bars 17-20: 1st and 2nd couples dance forward on right, hop, backward on left, hop (as in the 1st bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the right (1 bar), forward on left, hop, backward on right, hop (as in the 3rd bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the left (1 bar): couples have now changed places, men passing left shoulders, and are now back-to-back;
 Bars 21-24: dropping front hands, turn once to end on own side
- 25-32** DOUBLE FIGURE OF 8: both couples dance a Figure of 8, starting with women crossing through the centre AS men cast, & ending facing next couple Round the Room.

REPEAT with next couple Round the Room

10.6**IVY**

32 bar Jig

Featured Formations

Gordon Reel of 3

Keppoch

2-couple dance Round the Room, women in outer circle, men in inner circle

BARS

- 1-8** SET TWICE, & TURN: nearer hands joined with partner, set to opposite couple, set to partner women changing hands, & turn once round ending with women turning under arms into Gordon Hold (as in Gay Gordons) facing opposite couple;
- 9-16** GORDON REEL OF 3: dance a Gordon Reel of 3 passing opposite by the right shoulder, then the next couple by the left shoulder & pulling left shoulder back (as in the Gay Gordons) reel back to place, turning right at the end (as in the Gay Gordons) to end facing opposite couple;
- 17-24** KEPPPOCH: advance & retire using modified Pas de Basque (2 bars)(BAR 1: Beat 1: advance onto right foot in 4th intermediate position, Beat 2: beat left foot in rear 3rd position, Beat 3: step onto right foot in 3rd position, Beat 4: extend left foot into 4th intermediate rear aerial position; Bar 2: retire with regular Pas de Basque), pass opposite couple by the left using Skip Change of Step ending back-to-back with them (2 bars), & dropping front hands turn partner 1+ ¼ around: retain hands with partner & women join nearer hands in the middle to form a line;
- 25-32** BALANCE & TURN TWICE: balance in line, turn men into middle who join nearer hands, balance in line, & turn ¼ round to face next couple Round the Room.

REPEAT with next couple Round the Room

10.7

THE ANCIENT GORDON

8x32 bar Strathspey

Featured Formation
Gordon Reel of 3

3-couple dance in 4-couple longways set

BARS

1-8 SET, CAST & TURN: 1st couple set, cast off one place (2nd couple stepping up), & turn 1+ ½ time round with right hands ending with woman turning under arms into Gordon Hold (as in Gay Gordons/allemande) facing man's 1st corner (i.e. 3rd woman);

9-16 GORDON REEL OF 3 WITH 1ST CORNERS: 1st couple in Gordon Hold dance a right shoulder Reel of 3 with 1st corners (1st couple turn as in the Gay Gordons at each end of the Reel & on Bar 16 turn to the right to face woman's 2nd corner (i.e. 3rd man);

17-24 GORDON REEL OF 3 WITH 2ND CORNERS: 1st couple in Gordon Hold dance a right shoulder Reel of 3 with 2nd corners (1st couple turn as in the Gay Gordons at each end of the Reel, & end in the middle facing down);

25-32 FIGURE OF 8: 1st couple dance between 3rd couple, drop right hands & cross over with left hands to cast up on own side, dance up between 2nd couple joining nearer hands, & cast down into 2nd place on own side.

REPEAT from 2nd place

10.8

THE HUNTING GORDON

8x32 bar Reel

Featured Formation
Gordon Reel of 3

3-couple dance in a 4-couple longways set

BARS

1-8 CROSS, CAST & TURN: 1st couple cross with right hands, cast off one place (2nd couple stepping up), & turn once round with right hands ending with woman turning under arms into Gordon Hold (as in Gay Gordons/allemande) facing man's 1st corner (i.e. 3rd woman);

9-16 GORDON REEL OF 3 WITH 1ST CORNERS: 1st couple in Gordon Hold dance a right shoulder Reel of 3 with 1st corners (1st couple turn as in the Gay Gordons at each end of the Reel & on Bar 16 turn to the right to face woman's 2nd corner (i.e. 3rd man);

17-24 GORDON REEL OF 3 WITH 2ND CORNERS: 1st couple in Gordon Hold dance a right shoulder Reel of 3 with 2nd corners (1st couple turn as in the Gay Gordons at each end of the Reel & end in the middle facing down);

25-28 TEAPOTS: 1st couple dance 3 hands round on opposite sides: 1st man left hand with 2nd & 3rd women, 1st woman right hand with 2nd & 3rd men;

29-32 CROSS & CAST: 1st couple, joining nearer hands, dance down between 3rd couple, cross over & cast up into 2nd place on own side.

REPEAT from 2nd place

10.9

GORDON HIGHLANDERS

8x32 bar Strathspey

Featured Formations

3-couple dance in 4-couple longways set

Gordon Reels of 3, Keppoch

BARS

- 1-8** SET, ½ CIRCLE, SET & ½ CHASE: 1st & 2nd couples set (nearer hands joined on the side), 4 hands halfway round to the left (2 steps), set to other couple (nearer hands joined with partner), & chase halfway round clockwise, ending in Gordon Hold (as in Gay Gordons) 1st couple facing 2nd couple; 3rd couple step into Gordon Hold also;
- 9-16** GORDON REEL OF 3: 1st, 2nd & 3rd couples dance Gordon Reel of 3 turning as in Gay Gordons at each end of the reel, on Bar 16 1st couple turn to face 2nd couple in Gordon Hold, 3rd couple ending in original places;
- 17-24** KEPPOCH:
Bars 17-20: 1st and 2nd couples dance forward on right, hop, backward on left, hop (as in the 1st bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the right (1 bar), forward on left, hop, backward on right, hop (as in the 3rd bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the left (1 bar): couples have now changed places, men passing left shoulders, and are now back-to-back;
Bars 21-24: dropping front hands, turn once to end on own side
- 25-32** CAST, TURN & CAST: 1st woman casts up around 2nd woman AS 1st man casts down around 3rd man (2 steps), turn each other with left hands 1 + ½ times round (4 bars), 1st woman dances down between 3rd couple & cast up around 3rd woman to 2nd place on own side, AS 1st man dances up between 2nd couple & casts around 2nd man to 2nd place on own side (2 bars).

REPEAT from 2nd place

10.10

THE ROYAL GORDON

8x32 bar Reel

Featured Formations

3-couple dance in 4-couple longways set

Gordon Reel of 3, Keppoch

BARS

- 1-2** MEN BETWEEN WOMEN: 1st & 2nd men nearer hands joined dance between 1st & 2nd women who dance across to partner's places;
- 3-4** WOMEN BETWEEN MEN: 1st & 2nd men cast back towards own side AS 1st & 2nd women join nearer hands and dance between men offering partner other hand in passing;
- 5-8** TURN: 1st & 2nd couples turn partner 1 + ¼ times: end by turning women under men's arm into Gordon Hold, 1st couple facing 2nd couple: 3rd couple steps in Gordon Hold;
- 9-16** GORDON REEL OF 3: 1st, 2nd & 3rd couples dance Gordon Reel of 3 turning as in Gay Gordons at each end of the reel, ending with 1st couple facing 2nd couple in Gordon Hold, 3rd couple in original places;
- 17-24** KEPPOCK: advance & retire using modified Pas de Basque (2 bars)(Bar 1: Beat 1: advance onto right foot in 4th intermediate position, Beat 2: beat left foot in rear 3rd position, Beat 3: step onto right foot in 3rd position, Beat 4: extend left foot into 4th intermediate rear aerial position; Bar 2: retire with regular Pas de Basque), pass opposite couple by the left shoulder using Skip Change of Step, end back-to-back with them (2 bars), & dropping front hands turn partner once around to end 1st couple on own side in 2nd place facing out;
- 25-32** CAST, CROSS & CAST: 1st woman casts up round 2nd woman AS 1st man casts down around 3rd man, pass each other with left hands, 1st woman dances down between 3rd couple & cast up around 3rd woman to 2nd place on own side AS 1st man dances up between 2nd couple & casts around 2nd man to 2nd place on own side.

REPEAT from 2nd place

10.11**LANDS OF HADDO**

3x32 bar Strathspey

3-couple dance in 3-couple longways set

BARS

Featured Formations

Gordon Reel of 3, Keppoch

1-8 DOWN MIDDLE & UP: 3rd couple followed by 2nd & 1st couples lead down middle right hands joined, & on starting back women turn under arms into Gordon Hold (as in Gay Gordons) & dance up, 1st couple followed by 2nd & 3rd couples: on Bar 8 1st couple pull right shoulder back as in the Gay Gordons to face down & out towards women's side of the dance;

9-16 GORDON REEL OF 3: all dance a right shoulder Gordon Reel of 3 (all couples turn as in the Gay Gordons at each end of the reel, retaining Gordon Hold at the end with 1st couple facing 2nd couple & 3rd couple staying in the middle);

17-24 1ST & 2ND COUPLES KEPPOCH:

Bars 17-20: 1st and 2nd couples dance forward on right, hop, backward on left, hop (as in the 1st bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the right (1 bar), forward on left, hop, backward on right, hop (as in the 3rd bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the left (1 bar): couples have now changed places, men passing left shoulders, and are now back-to-back;

Bars 21-24: dropping front hands, turn once to end on own side

25-32 1ST & 3RD COUPLES KEPPOCH:

Bars 25-28: 1st and 2nd couples dance forward on right, hop, backward on left, hop (as in the 1st bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the right (1 bar), forward on left, hop, backward on right, hop (as in the 3rd bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the left (1 bar): couples have now changed places, men passing left shoulders, and are now back-to-back;

Bars 29-32: dropping front hands, turn once to end on own side

REPEAT with new top couple

10.12**BARONET OF NOVA SCOTIA**

8x32 bar Reel

3-couple dance in 4 couple longways set

BARS

Featured Formations

Gordon Reel of 3, Keppoch

1-8 MIRROR REELS OF 3: 1st, 2nd & 3rd couples dance Mirror Reels of 3 on own side giving nearer hands where appropriate (starting with 1st couple dancing in & down, 2nd couple dancing out & up, & 3rd couple dancing in & up), & continue dancing

9-16 DOWN MIDDLE & BACK: 1st (right hands joined) followed by 2nd & 3rd couples (nearer hands joined) dance down the middle, to return 1st woman turns under partner's arm into Gordon Hold (as in Gay Gordons) & dance between 2nd & 3rd couple who divide & follow 1st couple in Gordon Hold: on Bar 16, 1st couple pull right shoulder back as in the Gay Gordons to face down & out towards women's side of the dance;

17-24 GORDON REEL OF 3: 1st, 2nd & 3rd couples dance Gordon Reel of 3 turning as in Gay Gordons at each end of the reel, end with 1st couple facing 2nd couple, & 3rd couple in original places;

25-32 KEPPOCH: advance & retire using modified Pas de Basque (2 bars)(Bar 1: Beat 1: advance onto right foot in 4th intermediate position, Beat 2: beat left foot in rear 3rd position, Beat 3: step onto right foot in 3rd position, Beat 4: extend left foot into 4th intermediate rear aerial position; Bar 2: retire with regular Pas de Basque), pass opposite couple by the left using Skip Change of Step, ending back-to-back with them (2 bars), & dropping front hands turn partner once around to end in progressed places.

REPEAT from 2nd place