

## ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

### DANCING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (DAA)

#### SYLLABUS (revised September 2016)

1. The Dancing Achievement Award is for all members of the RSCDS and non-members aged 12 years and over, who may wish to put themselves forward in order to assess their personal dancing ability.
2. Preparing for the DAA provides an opportunity to improve the standard of their dancing and to have that achievement recognised.
3. The grade and level achieved may be used as a guideline for dancers, when deciding which level of class to attend at RSCDS Summer School or another residential school. Guidance on this will be provided in the DAA Syllabus notes and in the Summer School class criteria.
4. The DAA allows entry at three different levels ~ Intermediate, Advanced and Very Advanced.
5. The levels are progressively more demanding in terms of difficulty of dances, formations and required level of performance.
6. The Intermediate level is an introductory level, which is accessible to competent dancers of age 12 years and over.
7. The Advanced Level contains more difficult transitions and links between formations and would be a valuable preparation for dancers considering becoming teachers in the future.
8. The Very Advanced Level is more exacting and demands an even higher standard of dancing. Candidates for the Teacher's Certificate who have achieved Part 1 may like to be assessed at this level before going on to Part 2, although this is not compulsory.
9. Dancers may apply to be assessed at any level.
10. It is required that dancers attend a taught course of a minimum of five hours in preparation for each assessment.
11. Dancers will be required **to learn all the dances before starting the course** for the level in which they wish to be assessed, but will only be asked to dance, as first couple, one Jig, one Reel and one Strathspey in the assessment. Additionally they may be asked to dance certain formations at the discretion of the Assessors.  
In the Very Advanced level, dancers will also dance the compulsory medley as the leading couple.
12. Dancers will be required to dance as supporting couples for other dancers.
13. Dancers should approach their Branch or Summer School, where a course may be running. If done at Branch level, it should be understood that a minimum number of eight dancers will be required to form a set, even if not all are to be assessed. At Branch level the minimum total number to be assessed should be six dancers.

Dancers should approach their local Branch / group or Summer school where a course may be running. A minimum of eight dancers will be required to form a set for each level being the assessed, even if not all the dancers in the set are being assessed at that level. The total number of dancers being assessed over one session must be 6 or more in order for the assessment session to take place.

14. At Summer School a minimum of six dancers is required for the course to run.
15. Fees – The charge will be:
  - Members: £20 per dancer per level. A concessionary rate of £16 will apply to dancers 25 years of age and under at the time of assessment.
  - Non Members: £25.00 per dancer per level. A concessionary rate of £20.00 will apply to dancers 25 years of age and under at the time of assessment.
16. There will be two Assessors, both of whom will be appointed by the RSCDS Convenor of Education and Training Committee. The Lead Assessor will be either an Examiner, a tutor of Teacher Certificate courses, a Medal Test Assessor or an Adjudicator on the list held at RSCDS Headquarters. The second Assessor will be a local experienced RSCDS qualified teacher from the approved list held at RSCDS Headquarters.

# DANCING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

## INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

### Formations

Advance and retire (6.1.1)	Lead down the middle and up (6.19.1)
Allemande for two couples (6.2.1)	Petronella turn (6.20)
Back to back (6.3)	Poussette for two couples (6.21.1)
Balance in line (6.4)	Promenade for two couples (6.23.1)
Casting (6.6)	Promenade for three couples (6.23.2)
Cross over and cast off (6.6.6)	Reel of four across the set (6.24.2)
Grand chain for three couples (6.7.2)	Reel of three on the sidelines (6.25.1)
Turn corners and partner (6.8.9)	Reels of three (after turn corners and partner) (6.25.8)
Double triangles (6.11)	Reel of three across the set (6.25.9)
Figure of eight across the dance (6.13.2)	Rights and lefts for two couples (6.26.1)
Four hands across and back (6.14.1)	The rondel (6.27)
Hands round and back (Jig/Reel time) (6.15.1)	Stepping up or down (6.34)
Hands round (Strathspey time) (6.16.2)	
Hands round and back (Strathspey time) (6.16.1)	

- The assessors will request the dancers to dance an 8 bar phrase comprising one or more of the above formations in either Jig or Reel time as well as in Strathspey time.

### Dances

Light and Airy	Jig	Book 4
Linton Ploughman	Jig	Book 5
Catch the Wind	Reel	Book 45
The Sailor	Reel	Book 24
The Banks of Clyde	Strathspey	MMM
Monymusk	Strathspey	Book 11

- Dancers will be required **to learn all the dances before starting the course** for the Intermediate level.
- Dancers will only be asked to dance, as first couple, one Jig, one Reel and one Strathspey in the assessment.
- All dancers will be required to act as supporting dancers for the other dancers being assessed.

### Note on marks

- To achieve a PASS, dancers must gain at least 24 /48, of which at least 2 marks must be gained in each step section – sections 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6.
- To achieve a CREDIT dancers must gain at least 16 / 24 in sections 1 to 7 and gain at least 16/24 in sections 8 & 9, of which at least 2 marks must be gained in each step section – sections 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6.
- To achieve a DISTINCTION dancers must gain at least 40 /48 of which at least 2 marks must be gained in each step section – sections 1, 2, 3, 5, & 6.

## ADVANCED LEVEL

### Formations

All the formations required for the Intermediate Level plus:

Allemande for three couples (6.2.2)	Diagonal reel of four (6.24.5)
Ladies chain (6.7.5)	Half reel of four (6.24.6)
Corners pass and turn (6.8.3)	Reels of three (after set to and turn corners) (6.25.5)
Set to corners (6.8.5)	Reels of three (after set to corners and partner) (6.25.7)
Set to corners and partners (6.8.6)	
Set to and turn corners (6.8.8)	
Half double figure of eight (6.13.5)	Half reel of three (6.25.10)
Hands across (6.14)	Set and link for two couples (6.28.1)
Hands round in reel and jig time (6.15)	Set and link for three couples (6.28.2)
Knot for two couples (6.17.1)	The spiral (6.31)
Poussette right round in Strathspey time (6.22.1)	The tournee (6.38)
Reel of four across progressing one place (6.24.4)	

- The assessors will request the dancers to dance an 8 bar phrase comprising one or more of the above formations in either Jig or Reel time as well as in Strathspey time.

### Dances

Major Ian Stewart	Jig	Book 35
Joie De Vivre	Jig	Book 39
Todlen Hame	Jig	Book 16
Merry Lads of Ayr	Reel	Book 1
A Castle in the Air	Reel	Book 43
Inverneill House	Reel	Book 35
Argyll Strathspey	Strathspey	Book 35
The Gentleman	Strathspey	Book 35
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	Strathspey	RSCDS Leaflet Book

- Dancers will be required to **learn all the dances before starting the course** for the Advanced level.
- Dancers will only be asked to dance, as first couple, one Jig, one Reel and one Strathspey in the assessment.
- All dancers will be required to act as supporting dancers for the other dancers being assessed.

#### Note on marks

- To achieve a PASS dancers must gain at least 24 /48, of which at least 2 marks must be gained in each step section – sections 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6.
- To achieve a CREDIT dancers must gain at least 16 / 24 in sections 1 to 7 and gain at least 16/24 in sections 8 & 9, of which at least 2 marks must be gained in each step section – sections 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6.
- To achieve a DISTINCTION dancers must gain at least 40 /48 of which at least 2 marks must be gained in each step section – sections 1, 2, 3, 5, & 6.

## VERY ADVANCED LEVEL

### Formations

All the formations required for the Intermediate and Advanced levels plus:

The knot for three couples (6.17.2)

Petronella turn in tandem (6.20.1)

Rights and lefts for three couples (6.26.5)

Set and rotate for two couples (6.30.1)

The spoke (6.32)

The targe (6.36)

The tourbillon (6.37)

- The assessors will request the dancers to dance an 8 bar phrase comprising one or more of the above formations in either Jig or Reel time as well as in Strathspey time.

### Dances

The Chequered Court	Jig	Book 42
The Maid of the Mill	Jig	Book 21
Links with St Petersburg	Jig	Book 46
Glastonbury Tor	Reel	Book 47
The Dancer's Wedding	Reel	Book 41
Loch Leven Castle	Reel	Book 21
Miss Florence Adams	Strathspey	Book 38
Sands of Morar	Strathspey	Book 45
Cuillins of Skye	Strathspey	4 SC dances for '78

### Compulsory dance

Glasgow Country Dance	Medley	Book 23
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- Dancers will be required **to learn all the dances before starting the course** for the Very Advanced level.
- Dancers will only be asked to dance, as first couple, one Jig, one Reel and one Strathspey in the assessment.
- Dancers will be required to dance as first couple the medley Glasgow Country Dance.
- Dancers will be required to act as supporting dancers for the other dancers being assessed.

### Note on marks

- To achieve a PASS dancers must gain at least 29 / 55, of which at least 2 marks must be gained in each step section – sections 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6.
- To achieve a CREDIT dancers must gain at least 16/24 in sections 1 to 7 and gain at least 21/31 in sections 8 and 9, of which at least 2 marks must be gained in each step section – sections 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6

To achieve a DISTINCTION dancers must gain at least 45 / 55 of which at least 2 marks must be gained in each section – sections 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6.