

FEIAR MED VALS (Waltz Feiar)  
Traditional Couple Dance from Norway

- Pronunciation: Fay'-ahr med vahls (literally: Feiar with waltz).
- Source: As learned in Norway (1951) by Gordon E. Tracie, and taught at Skandia Folkdance Club, Seattle.
- Record: Noregs Ungdomslag (import) X-275. Domestic recording <sup>NOT YET</sup> available.
- Formation: For any number of couples. LOD CCW.
- Positions: Closed shoulder-waist; open, with single hand joined. Hands, when free, on hips Norwegian style: thumb fwd, fingers back.
- Steps: Waltz step turning CW; "Feiar" and "Hamborgar" steps as described.

- | <u>Meas.</u> | <u>Pattern</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|              | <u>A. Waltz turn</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Intro.       | Stand still in closed shoulder-waist pos during pickup notes, M with primary weight on R ft, W on L.                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1-15         | 15 waltz steps (#1) in closed pos, turning CW only, progressing fwd in LOD.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 16           | Cple opens pos to face one another, inside Hs joined at shoulder level held out to M's R, free Hs on hips.                                                                                                                                                 |
|              | <u>B. Fwd &amp; back, over &amp; back, turn, and lift:</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|              | Couple dances "Feiar" (#2) thus:                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1-3          | Beginning on outside ft, 3 open 2-steps fwd: face-to-face with arms projected bk, bk-to-bk with arms projected fwd, and face-to-face with arms back again.                                                                                                 |
| 4            | Stamping ("appell") while taking two steps in place facing ptr (#3), change pos to opposite Hs joined.                                                                                                                                                     |
| 5-8          | Repeat above in opposite direction, ending with 2 more stamps on last meas. M puts R arm around W's waist and dances "Hamborgar" step (#4) thus:                                                                                                           |
| 9            | Making about 1/4 turn CCW, M steps L to side, close R, step L with stamp, and hop on L - at the same time bringing W across in front of him, while she (using opposite ft) dances same pattern, but with longer steps so as to cover the greater distance. |
| 10           | Taking closed pos, above step is repeated in opposite dir (CW, beginning on opposite ft).                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 11-12        | Cple continues turn CW with 2 more similar steps, but without stamp of final hop, so that step resembles a regular 2-step.                                                                                                                                 |
| 13-15        | Maintaining closed shoulder-waist pos, CW turn is continued with 6 pivot steps (#5).                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 16           | On final meas of pivot turn, M lifts W from his L to his R side. Note: retain closed pos so as to begin Waltz (A) again after pickup note.                                                                                                                 |

FOOTNOTES

- #1. During the waltz turn it is not infrequent to see some Norwegian folkdancers take a slight dip on the first beat of each alternate waltz meas i.e., 1, 3, 5, etc.
- #2. The "feiar" (translation: "sweeper") figure appears in a number of Norwegian folkdances; it is characterized by the fwd- and -bk action.
- #3. At this point it is possible also to pivot completely around (individually, away from ptr) while taking the two stamping steps; applies to meas 4 and 8 only.
- #4. The Norwegian "hamborgar" or hamborgarpols" step apparently derives its name from the same source as the Swedish "hambo" or "hambopolska," but beyond this similarity in names, there is no further resemblance. The "hamborgar" as found in Feiar med Vals is step-wise very much like the Irish hornpipe turn found in

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Siamse Bierte; that is, basically a schottische. Time-wise (since it is 2/4 rhythm) the "hamborgar" is more like a polka. Altho the word "pols" is often used in conjunction, it can readily be seen that this is not the same "pols" per se, which is the Norwegian equivalent of the Swedish "polska" and that musically the "hamborgarpols" is not the counterpart of the "hamborgarspolska," however much they appear to be so etymologically. Historical accident and usage play many tricks with dance-name "logic."

#5. Like the step often found in the Swedish "Snoa," this pivot is done on the ball of the ft, rather than the heel, the dancer coming down on the whole ft, with slightly bent knee, on the first beat, and up with lightly lifted heel on the second beat, so as to get a smooth "bounce."

--presented by Gordon E. Tracie