

## SOKACKO KOLO

Baranja, Croatia

This dance is done in Slavonija, Baranja, and Backa, although this variation is from Baranja, which is located between the Dunav river, and the lower part of the Drava river, in the Pannonian plains of Croatia. Although there are only a few dances from Baranja, the wealth of the dances lies in their variation and preservation until today. No festivity or celebration would be complete without walking in rhythm in the circle. This pattern is repeated over and over until the musicians, usually a tambura orchestra or bagpipe (gajda) player in the center of the circle, stops playing.

**Translation:** Circle dance of the Sokac (shoh-KAHTS) people

**Pronunciation:** sho-KAHCH-koh koh-loh

**Music:** "Croatian Folk Dances" by Jerry Grcevich, Vol. II, side B/1

**Meter:** 2/4

**Formation:** Couples (preferably) in a closed circle. M join hands behind W backs, W hands are on M shldr. If there is more W than M use either a back-basket hold or hold belts (R over L).

**Style:** Extremely rigid with vertical movements and sometimes with bent knees. As the kolo progresses, M improvise using any one of many variations, while W must do only the basic step.

### INTRODUCTION 8 chords

Measure PART 1: DRMES (fast music)

**Style:** Steps are done on the balls of the ft, legs are somewhat stiff, while the steps are bouncy – bounces come from the ankles and dancing on the balls of the ft. The steps to the L are larger than those to the R (the circle progresses toward L).

- 1 Step R to R (ct. 1); small hop on R as L moves toward R ankle (ct. 2)
- 2 Step L to L (ct. 1); close R to L (ct. 2).
- 3 Step L to L (ct. 1); small hop on L as R moves toward L ankle (ct. 2).
- 4 Step R to R (ct. 1); small hop on R (ct. 2); close L to R (ct. &). S, Q, Q  
M: On ct & M ONLY step L behind R instead of closing.
- 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4, 3 more times (4 in all), except on last step, step L backward in prep for next step. (L-close-L-hop, r-hoop-L, R-hop; repeat.

### PART II: STAMPING IN & OUT (Face ctr)

- 1 Moving toward ctr – stamp-hoop R across L- hips turn to face L of ctr (cts. 1-2).
- 2 Stamp-hop L across R – hips turn to face R of ctr (cts. 1-2).

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(continued)

- 3 Stamp R across L – hips turns to face L of ctr (ctr. 1); step L back to place face ctr (ct. 2).
- 4 Moving bkwd – stamp-hop R behind L (reel) – hips turn to face R of ctr (cts 1-2).
- 5 Stamp L behind R – turn to face L of ctr (ct 1); stamp R across L – turn to face R of ctr (ct. 2).
- 6 Moving twd ctr – stamp-hop L across R – turn to face R of ctr (cts. 1-2).
- 7 Stamp R across L – turn to face L of ctr (ct. 1); stamp L behind R (reel) – face ctr (ct. 2).
- 8 Moving bkwd – step R,L )cts.1, 2).  
Rhythm cue: S-S/Q-Q/S/Q-Q/S/Q-Q/Q-Q

PART III: CIRCLE L WITH STAMPS

- 1-2 Facing L of ctr and moving CW (RLOD) – step-hop on R, step-hop on L (cts. 1-2, 1-2).
- 3 Stamp R-L fwd in RLOD (cts. 1-2). Stamps are on the full ft.
- 4 Stamp-hop on R fwd in RLOF (cts. 1-2 0.
- 5 Stamp L-R fwd in RLOD (cts. 1-2). Stamps are on full foot.
- 6 Stamp-hop on L in RLOD (cts. 1-2).
- 7 Stamp R-L fwd in RLOD (cts. 1-2). Stamps are on full foot
- 8 Stamp R-L fwd in RLOD (cts. 1-2).  
Rhythm cue: S-S/Q-Q/S/Q-Q/S/Q-Q/Q-Q

PART IV: CIRCLE L. slow music (vocal)

- 1-2 Intro to slow music, hold in place.
- 3-4 Facing ctr with ft slightly apart – rock sdwd, R then L (cts. 1-2, 1-2)
- 5 Facing L of ctr – step R across L in twd ctr (cts. 1-2) (S)
- 6 Step L bkwd out of circle 9cts. 1-2) (S)
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6, (RxL, L to L)
- 9-12 Moving CW (L) – do an 8 step grapevine, beg R across L (1 step per ct.)

SEQUENCE:

- Part I -Drmes
- Part II -Stamping in & out
- Repeat Part I-II
- Part III -Circle L with stamps
- Part II -Stamping in & out
- Part IV -Circle L (slow music – vocal)

**Repeat dance from beg. Dance is done a total of 3 times.**

Presented by Michael Ginsburg

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