

STIG-SCHOTTIS  
(Sweden)

Stig-schottis, a traditional oldtime dance, is found in the western and northern parts of Sweden, and also in Norway which is where Gordon E. Tracie learned it in 1970. The literal translation is "stride-, walk-, or step-schottische.

Pronunciation: STEEG-shohtt-tees

Record: 2/4 meter.

Formation: Cpls in R sidecar polska hold, M facing fwd, W bkwd, ready to move in LOD.

The following parts are not figures in the regular sense, but merely non-turning and turning segments which can be alternated at will, with no fixed number of meas for either. They are often used in conjunction with an ordinary Schottis or, for that matter, Gammal schottis, as a complementary dance pattern to the same music.

R-FT OPEN STEPS FWD

Cpl in R sidecar polska hold, any number of the following step in LOD, M stepping fwd and W bkwd on R ft, on each 1st ct, thusly:

- ct 1: M step fwd on R while W step bkwd (into LOD) on R;
- ct &: M and W close own L up to own R and take wt on it.
- cts 2,&: Repeat above ftwk.

CLOSED CW TURN

Whenever desired, cpl beg turning with same step as above, completing one full revolution CW in 1 meas, progressing fwd in LOD, as follows:

- ct 1: M step diag R on R ft to initiate CW turn, while W steps on her R ft somewhat behind her L ft;
- ct &: M and W close own L ft up to own R ft and take wt on it;
- ct 2: M step behind on R (into LOD) while W steps fwd into LOD;
- ct &: M and W close own L ft up to own R ft and take wt on it.

TRANSITION TO L-FT OPEN STEPS FWD

If desired, M and W can each step R,L,R,hold (cts 1,&,2,&) while shifting pos so that ptr is on opp side, thus assuming reverse-sidecar polska hold; they may then take any number of fwd-moving steps beg with L ft.

CLOSED CCW TURN (reverse)

Whenever desired, cpl beg turning CCW with L-ft turning steps (as in closed turn above, but with opp ft), completing one full revolution CCW per 2 double-counts (one meas), while progressing fwd in LOD.

Note: If preferred, the R,L,R,hold transition step may be used to change directly from a CW to a CCW turn. As in Stegvalls, M must begin the turn facing LOD: R ft diag fwd to R on CW turn, L ft

STIG-SCHOTTIS (continued)

diag fwd to L on CCW turn.

Historical information: It will easily be seen that this dance is but a duple meter version of the triple meter Stegvals, substituting schottische music for "långdans" or waltz music. The step itself, of course, is basically a polska -- either open polska or halfturn polska step -- adapted to another rhythm, in this case schottische. In Norway where the reinlender (the Norwegian counterpart of the Swedish schottis) is typically played with a decided syncopation, this dance (called Stigaren in Norwegian) can be danced with added flare by taking a subtle leap on each leading step (that into LOD) on the turn.

Presented by Gordon E. Tracie