

McGuillicuddy's Rant

A 32 bar reel for 3 couples in a 4 couple longwise set

- 1 - 8 1st couple, giving right hands, cross below 2nd couple, cast down behind 3rd couple and meet below 3rd couple, joining nearer hands, dance up to the top and change sides, woman dancing under the raised arms. Finish in the centre of the set facing down.
- 9 - 16 1st, 2nd & 3rd couples dance a mirror reel of three on the sides, 1st couple dancing through 2nd place, 2nd couple dancing out and up, 3rd couple in and up. All finish on the sides in original places.
- 17 - 24 1st & 2nd couples dance the Rosette:
17 - 18 1st & 2nd couples 1/2 turn with the right hand and take hands in a circle
19 - 20 1st & 2nd couples set
21 - 24 1st & 2nd couples pull back right shoulders and cast into a chase clockwise to progressed places
- 25 - 32 2nd, 1st & 3rd couples circle for 3 bars, cross right foot over left and pivot to face anti-clockwise, all chase to progressed places on own sides.

Repeat having passed a couple

Recommended tune: Lady Turlington's Reel by Karen Steven

A dance written for Bob Anglin. He was a good dancer and teacher and mentor in the Ottawa area. Unfortunately, his isn't able to dance much any more.

On many occasions we would discuss teaching Scottish Country dancing. During the discussions, Bob would often reference a fictitious dance named McGuillicuddy's Rant and a non-existent tune Lady Turlington's Reel. The dance often included a formation called the schlep for 2 couples.

Craig Williams, May 2026

Lady Turlington's Reel

Karen Steven
29 May 2026

The musical score for "Lady Turlington's Reel" is written in D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. Below the first staff, the following chords are indicated: D, E^m, A⁷, D, E^m, A⁷. The second staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. Below it are the chords: D, A⁷, D, D, D⁷, G, D. The third staff continues the melody. Below it are the chords: D, D⁷, G, D, A⁷. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line and repeat dots. Below it are the chords: D, A⁷, D, G, A⁷, D.