

Humphrey's Reel

A 40 Bar Reel for 4 Couples

There should be two chords at the beginning of this dance. On the second chord third and fourth couples cross over to the other side of the set.

- Bars 1 – 4 First and fourth couples cross giving right hands and cast in (ones down and fours up) while the second and third couples step out (twos up and threes down).
- Bars 5 – 8 First and fourth couples dance right hands across one and one-eighth of the way.
- Bars 9 – 16 First and fourth couples dance dolphin reels of three on the side, first man followed by his partner give right shoulder to the third man while fourth man followed by his partner gives right shoulder to second man.
- 9 – 10 First man followed by partner dance out and down past third man.
- 11 – 14 First couple pull back right shoulders as they turn, first woman followed by partner dance up the sideline as in normal reel.
- 15 – 16 First couple pull back left shoulders as they turn and first man leads back to complete the reel in the center facing third man.
[Fourth couple perform same pattern on man's side.]
- Bars 17 – 32 First and fourth couples dance four dolphin half diagonal dolphin reels of four (two individuals and two pairs) passing left shoulder in the center.
- 17 – 18 First man followed by partner passes third man by the right shoulder; fourth man followed by partner passes second man right shoulder.
- 19 – 20 First woman followed by partner return to center, fourth woman followed by partner return to center. Active couples pass left shoulder to begin dolphin half-reel on the other diagonal.
[These half reels need to be kept tight with the corners clearing the center quickly. Complete remaining three half-reels; pattern is the same as in Mairi's Wedding.]
- Bars 33 – 40 First and fourth couples dance left hands across. All four couples turn by the left.

Couples finish in 2, 4, 1, 3 order; repeat dance three times from new positions.

Devised by Gary Knox, December 21, 1999.

This dance was named after the San Francisco Bay area's most famous cetacean, Humphrey the Humpback Whale. Humphrey entered the bay in 1990 and was sighted in many locations before being guided back to the Pacific.

Dolphin reels are familiar from Pelorus Jack and other dances in the *Dolphin Book* by Barry Skelton.

First Danced: January 21, 2000; Berkeley Friday Social Class

Suitable Recorded Music: The Deveron Reel recorded by Sandy Legget and the Carseloch Ceilidh Band – Highlander Music Scottish Dances, Volume 9