

Madison Scottish Country Dancers

The John Muir (Wisconsin) Branch of the
Royal Scottish Country Dance Society



What is Scottish Country Dancing?

Scottish Country Dancing is a social form of Celtic dancing using the traditional reels, jigs, and strathspeys of Scotland.

Unlike the showier Highland Dancing (fling & sword dance), Scottish Country Dancing emphasizes social interaction. Participants typically dance in sets of 6-8 people to lively fiddle, accordion and piano tunes. Once you learn a few basic steps and formations you'll be able to do hundreds of dances. Scottish dancing is enjoyed all over the world. No Scottish background is necessary, and dancers of all ages are welcome!

Do I need to come with a partner?

No – partners change with every dance.

Will I need special shoes?

Traditionally we wear “ghillies,” but any soft-soled dance shoe (or socks!) will work.

Is there a charge?

There is no fee for Sunday night dancing, but we ask for a small donation to help defray room rental costs.

I've never danced much ...

No problem. We all started off as beginners. We try to make everyone feel welcome!

Am I too old / too young?

Our dancers range from ages 8 to 80. Ask about our special classes for kids.

Join Us Sunday Nights

Free classes are held at 7 pm most Sunday evenings at the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center, 953 Jenifer Street, on Madison's near east side. Free parking is available in the church lot across the street.

Classes offer instruction in the steps, formations and techniques of Scottish Country dancing. We focus on basic moves and footwork from 7 to 8 pm, and teach more challenging dances as the evening progresses. Each session ends with requests.

Classes are led by experienced teachers, several of whom hold teaching certificates from the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. We typically dance to recorded music by Scottish bands and sometimes dance to live music.

Other Events

- Spring ball with live music
- Demonstrations and audience participation dancing at weddings, neighborhood fairs, farmers' markets, and Highland Games
- Workshops with nationally known teachers and camaraderie with fellow dancers from Milwaukee, Chicago, Minneapolis and beyond
- Winter dance party
- Special classes for children and adult beginners

Find Out More

- Visit our website for links to upcoming events, dance programs, membership information and more:
madisonscottishcountrydancers.org
- Find us on Facebook! 
- Contact us at:
608.233.2956 (Ian or Nancy)
nancymclements@gmail.com
- Check out the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society's website:
www.rscds.org

