

Using the Internet For Round Dance Teaching

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There are many ways that a round dance leader can use the Internet to help them learn, teach, collaborate and promote round dancing. Moreover, much of what is available from the Internet is free. This article discusses many of the Internet tools that are available. These include Roundalab, ICBDA, and DRDC websites. You can also search for your local round dance associations and find foreign round dance websites too. The following information will get you started.

Roundalab Website

www.roundalab.org

A wealth of information is contained on the Roundalab website for the public including listings of dance locations and teachers around the world, lists of Classic Dances, pictures of dance positions, Rounds of the Quarter listings, Cue Sheet Writing Guidelines, abbreviations used in cue sheets, links to the "Dance Round Out Your Life" website and a swap page for selling and buying used items.

For Roundalab members, the restricted part of the website gives access to all of the Standards Manuals, Teaching Progression Manuals, Marketing Materials, Convention Proceedings, Convention Presentations (lots of educational material), contact information on other members, and Roundalab's organizational flowchart.



ICBDA Website

<http://www.icbda.com>

The International Choreographed Ballroom Dance Association's website provides information on ICBDA's annual convention, a general definition of choreographed



ballroom dancing (round dancing), and information on the next annual ICBDA convention. You must be a member to get to all the other information on this site, but membership is only \$20 a year. Information on past conventions include cue sheets of dances taught, the Technical Dance Manual (formal definitions of figures similar to our Phase Manuals), and listings of Hall of Fame Dances and the yearly Top 15 dances voted by the membership.

DRDC Website

<http://www.dixierounddance.org>

The Dixie Round Dance Council public website contains information on upcoming DRDC round dance weekends and general information about DRDC. In the members area you have access to DRDC newsletters including issues back to 2006. The DRDC newsletters are well known for listing what is being danced around the world and the compilation of the most popular or most taught dances.



Sears' Online Round Dance Manual

<http://www.rounddancing.net>

At this site select the Round Dancing – a Figure & Styling Manual link for Harold Sears' compiled online round dance manual that contains descriptions of every figure of every rhythm in round dancing. It even includes some unphased figures as well. Explore this site for perhaps the largest collection of articles on many aspects of round dancing including history, technique, and dancing tips.

Online Cue Sheet Websites

Cue Sheets From All Over

<http://www.mixed-up.com/round/all-over>

The most complete and best round dance cue sheet website is Mark Brautigam's Cue Sheets From All Over. This site had over 19,400 cue sheets as of December 2014 and more are continually being uploaded. If you access the "Recent Uploads" page of this site, a list of

the last 50 dances to be uploaded to the site displays. If you don't have the exact dance name, this site also offers an advanced search capability where you can enter rhythm, choreographer, and phase level.

Cuesheet Magazine

<http://www.reocities.com/cutecuer/sub-form.html>

Cuesheet Magazine has been in publication since 1962 and contains cue sheets submitted to them as well as other reported round dance information. Printed copies are \$34 per year for 12 issues; an online subscription is available for \$28.

Round Dance Video Websites

There are some wonderful sites to obtain round dance videos free. Here are a few to get you started.

Shutterfly site of Gene Severance (Mesa)

<https://videosrounddancing.shutterfly.com>

The Shutterfly Share site of dance videos is compiled by Gene Severance. This site contains many of the dances taught at Mesa, Arizona. You must have an account to access the videos. Described below are the instructions to follow to create a Shutterfly account:

1. Log into the Shutterfly Site and create an account and a password.
2. Use the Shutterfly Password to log into <https://videosrounddancing.shutterfly.com>.
3. For permission to view the site, click the Ask button and send a message to Gene requesting access to Gene's Shutterfly account.
4. Once accepted by Gene, use your Shutterfly Password to access the videos.

You can contact Gene at danceinfo@cox.net if you have questions or have problems getting onto the site.

Mark Brautigam Mixed-Up Squares Video

<http://www.mixed-up.com/videos>

Mark Brautigam has a round dance video search page on Mixed-Up Squares too. In addition, he has links to other video sites listed on the video web page. There is quite a lot of other information also available on this site including both squares and rounds.

Glen and Helen Arceneaux site

<http://glenandhelen.com/dance>

Choreographed Ballroom Round Dancing Routines

Glen and Helen Arceneaux have a large round dance video library. You must get a user ID and password from Glen and Helen and be referred by a round dance teacher or round dancer that the Arceneaux's know before they grant you access.

Annette and Frank Woodruff site

<http://www.asperule.be/Video List.htm>

Annette and Frank Woodruff share many videos on their website. There is also links to other dance video sites at the bottom of this web page.

Art & Jacquie Hayes

<http://www.we-dance.info/Dances>

Art and Jacquie Hayes have a great round dance video website which is totally free. This site has an extensive collection and you can also easily download videos for personal use. There are also some nice instructions on searching the site, downloading videos, and transferring them to other media. Recently at Art's death, ICBDA took over the video management of this site. Jacquie is still maintaining the login member information. If you wish a password, contact Jacquie at jacquie@we-dance.info and she will provide a username and password to you.



Roundalab Email Collaboration

This is a Google Group created for the use of Roundalab members to discuss round dance business or ask questions on any Roundalab or round dancing topic. Roundalab members in the group can communicate among themselves on topics related to teaching round dancing. Emails are *not* to be forwarded to non-Roundalab members.

Email roundalab-membership@googlegroups.com to subscribe. Once subscribed, you can get a listing of

topics that have been discussed on Roundalab's Member Google Group at the following URL: <http://groups.google.com/group/roundalab-membership/topics>.

Weaver's Email Collaboration Group

Everyone can join the Weaver's email collaboration group which is hosted by Steve and Jean Philson. It is perhaps the oldest round dance discussion group on the web. Topics range from round dance figure questions, dance technique, reports of teaches from weekends, requests for cue sheets, and help with equipment.

To get information on how to subscribe, send an email to round-dance-help@nmr.chem.umn.edu or send an email directly to Steve at philson@nmr.chem.umn.edu.

DanceMaster Users Group (DMUG)

<http://www.darkgodfrey.com/DanceMaster>

DanceMaster is the software used by a large number of round dance leaders to organize and play their music on their laptops and computers. The DanceMaster program and information about it is available on the web at the above URL. There is even a free version to help you get started.



Clark Godfrey is the creator of DanceMaster and he has created a DanceMaster Users Group (DMUG) on Google groups. DMUG is a great place to get help from other users about using DanceMaster.

Online Music Sources

Three of the most popular sites for cuers to buy mp3 music include Amazon, Apple iTunes, and Casa Musica. Also discussed below is HanHurst's which was formerly the traditional place to go for music.

Amazon

www.amazon.com

Shop by Department, then select Movies, Music & Games, then select Digital Music. The cost varies for music per selection but is usually under \$1.25.

Apple iTunes

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/genre/music/id34>

You can download the iTunes application at www.apple.com/itunes/download. You can buy music without the app, but it is much easier to use it. iTunes works on both MACs and PCs, as well as your iPhone. The cost varies for music, but it is usually under \$1.50 for a selection.



Casa Musica

<http://www.casa-musica-shop.de/>

This is a European site and music tends to be a bit more expensive with cost usually under \$2.00. This site provides an easy search of music by rhythm.

Note: If the site comes up in German, you can select the desired language using the flags on the right side of the screen. Select the British flag for English.

HanHurst's (Palomino Records)

<http://www.dosado.com>

Palomino Records/HanHurst's focuses more on square dance records. You can, however, buy some round dance mp3s or records from HanHurst's. The cost for most items is \$7.00.

Round Dance Event Listings

There are many different online listings of round dance events. Roundalab's listing is under the Dance Locations/Events tab on the Roundalab home page. If you have an event to list, fill out the form on the Events page and submit it to Roundalab for posting.

Another listing of events is compiled by Mixed-Up Squares (www.mixed-up.com). Click either the Calendar on the left side of the web page, or use the Find a Dance drop-down menu to get to the Search screen.

Many state organizations also list events for their state, such as Alabama's Calendar of Events at <http://www.alabamasquaredance.com> (select Calendar in the menu) or the Texas Round Dance Teachers Association at www.trdta.org/upcomingevents.html. Try searching in your browser to locate other square and round dance associations wherever you are.