

# Square Dance Lessons with the Bachelor Beauts

Bend's Bachelor Beauts begin lessons soon. New dancers can try out square dancing in several ways.

- **The Beginning Square Dance Sampler** is a three-class session. You'll learn 20+ basic moves used at almost every square dance. Classes meet Thur/Mon, September 12, 16, and 19, 6 to 8pm at the Pine Forest Grange, 63214 Boyd Acres Road. Our club has teamed up with the Bend Parks and Recreation department to offer this class. Cost is just \$25 per person for parks district residents, and \$30 for those living outside the Bend parks district.

To register for this class: online <https://register.bendparksandrec.org> or in person at the Juniper Swim & Fitness Center. The program number is 302150. For information about content of this class please call 541-382-7014 or email [dance@bachelorbeauts.org](mailto:dance@bachelorbeauts.org). For questions about registration contact the Bend Parks and Recreation department.

- In addition to the Sampler Series, the club is offering three free **Community Beginner Dance Parties**. The dates are Sat, Aug 3, Sept 7 and 21, 6-7 pm, and take place at the Pine Forest Grange, 63214 Boyd Acres Road. Bring a partner or team up with someone at the dance. Dress is casual and comfortable. Stay after the party and watch a club dance in action. No dance experience is necessary. We'll teach you what you need to know. We promise.

- If our Sampler Series and our free beginner dance party sessions gets you hooked on squaring up, you'll want to continue with our **All In with Mainstream** lessons. Completing this set of lessons qualifies you to dance with the Bachelor Beauts Club and any mainstream square dance club in the USA. **All In** lessons will be held Thur/Sun, September 26-Nov 14, 6 to 8 pm at the Pine Forest Grange. Cost is \$75 for the series. (Discounted fee of \$60 for those who have taken the Sampler classes.)

## FAQ's about lessons and square dances

*Do women have to wear petticoats at dances?*

No. The Bachelor Beauts and many other clubs have a relaxed dress code at dances. Some ladies still love the traditional look and feel of a flying petticoat as they dance. Others prefer to wear peasant skirts or pants. At lessons we always suggest comfortable, casual clothing.

*What kind of music is played at a square dances these days?*

We dance to modern country, old school rock and roll, and pop music.

*I don't have a regular partner. Can I still take lessons?*

Definitely. Bachelor Beauts members volunteer their time to participate in lessons, and we always make sure that students without partners have one.

*I'd like to try lessons, but I'm having a hard time getting my husband to come. Any advice?*

Many of our male club members were once reluctant students so we understand the problem. Cross our hearts—previous dance experience is absolutely not required. Here are some analogies that might help with your persuasive effort:

- Square dancing is a lot like being in marching band at halftime. It's about making formations and enjoying the music. Marching band members march as they make formations, and square dancers walk. In fact during a dance, it's pretty easy to get in 1-3 miles of walking so it's great exercise.
- Square dancing is like playing football or basketball. The caller (coach) calls the plays, and the dancers (players) execute them as a team.
- Square dancing is a moving puzzle that eight dancers in a square solve together.

*Can I come and see what a dance looks like?*

Of course! Drop by most any 1st or 3rd Saturday night at the Pine Forest Grange and watch the action. We'd love to have you visit. It might just feel like home—hugs and handshakes, hot coffee and cookies along with friendly, interesting people to square up with.

For more information or to add your name to the list for information about upcoming lessons—

Kay Bithell, 541-382-7014, [kaybithell@centurylink.net](mailto:kaybithell@centurylink.net)

Or check out our Central Oregon website: [squaredancefun.org](http://squaredancefun.org)