

“A SUCCESS STORY GROWING CLASSES”

By Don Wood

Without respect to the Plus calls, this is close to the program we run in our area. I work with another caller (a CALLERLAB Member) and we run a program structured as follows. To begin with, there are six start dates in our program over a given year. We have class on Monday or Thursday.

1. In September, a ten week program from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday; the Basic 51 program is taught.
2. Five weeks after starting the Thursday class, a Monday class begins; the Basic 51 program is taught again.
3. Once the Thursday class has completed the ten week course, another Basic 51 class is started. **Basic is taught from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Mainstream from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**
4. Dancers who completed the Basic 51 program can choose to return and “angel” the new Basic 51 class and attend the Mainstream portion.
5. This scenario is duplicated for the Monday night class.

Generally, this structure is working well. It is relatively standard for me to have between five and eight squares attending every Monday or Thursday. This is our fifth year, and we believe the program is working. Many of the dancers will go thru the program multiple times to get comfortable with the calls. They are actively joining clubs; and in our area, square dancing is growing.