

Horehronsky Čardáš

Slovakia

Girls' dance (karička) from the Hron River valley of central Slovakia. Music is in čardáš style, with a slow beginning and a quick ending, thus the name of this arrangement by Anatol Joukowsky. Danced in a circle with hands joined low. The AABABA structure of the dance is unique to Slovakia and appears in many musical arrangements. The style of the dance is rather stiff and restrained, with precise, sharp movements designed to move the girls' wide skirts.

RHYTHM: 4/4

Meas **Figure**

Figure 1 – Introduction

- 1 Walk RL in CCW dir (c 1,2); turn to face ctr and step R on R ft, both knees turned in and flexed (c 3); straighten knees and close L ft sharply to R ft, taking weight (c 4).
- 2 Rpt Meas 1.
- 3 Step R fwd diag on R ft, turning body slightly L (c 1); touch ball of L ft to R ft (c 2); pivot sharply on ball of R ft and step twd ctr on L ft beside R ft (c 3); hold (c 4).
- 4 Face ctr and walk bkwd RLRL (c 1-4).
Repeat Introduction 8 times.

Figure 2 – Side-Forward-Side

NOTE: This figure begins the AABABA sequence. Part B will always be the same;

Part A will change.

- 1,2 **Part A:** Step L on L ft, knees straight (c 1); step in place on R ft, knees flexed (c 2); step fwd on L ft, knees straight (c 3); step in place on R ft, knees flexed (c 4); step L on L ft, knees straight (c 5); step in place on R ft, knees flexed (c 6); run bkwd LRLR (c 7&8&).
- 3,4 Repeat Part A.
- 5,6 **Part B:** Step L fwd diag on L heel, lead with L hip (c 1); step on R ft behind L heel (c &); step L fwd diag on L ft (c 2); flex L knee and tap R heel beside L instep (c &); rpt mvt of cts 1&2&, moving R fwd diag (c 3&4&); turn body sharply R and step in place on L ft (c 5); flex L knee and tap R heel beside L instep (c &); turn body sharply L and step in place on R ft (c 6); flex R knee and tap L heel beside R instep (c &); run bkwd LRLR (c 7&8&).

- 7,8 Repeat Part A.
 9,10 Repeat Part B
 11,12 Repeat Part A
- 1-12 Repeat Figure 2. NOTE: Figure 2 ends with Part A and begins with Part A two times, causing three repeats of Part A.

Figure 3 – Pivot

- 1,2 **Part A'**: Pivot 1/4 turn R on R heel and step slightly bkwd on L ft, knee flexed, L side twd ctr, R knee straight with heel on floor and toe raised; (NOTE: Both knees point straight forward from body) (c 1); Pivot 1/4 turn L on ball of L ft and straighten L knee, step in place on R ft (c 2); repeat mvt of ct 1,2 total of 4 times (c 3-8).
- 3,4 Repeat Part A'.
 5-12 Repeat: Part B A' B A'

Figure 4 -- Rida and Run (NOTE: “Rida” is Hungarian term for this step)

- 1,2 **Part A” (tempo increases)**: Facing ctr, step L on ball of L ft, knee straight (c 1); step in front of L ft on R ft, knees flexed slightly -- “rida” step (c &); rpt mvt of Ct 1 and total of six times (c 2&3&4&5&6&); turn to face RLOD, run fwd LRLR, body leaning fwd (c 7&8&).
- 3,4 Rpt Part A”
 5-12 Rpt Part B A” B A”

NOTE: There is no flourish or “bokazo” (again – Hungarian) at the end of the figure. The dance simply ends with the four running steps.

Notated by Richard Duree
 November, 2002