

Dancing at Straight Clubs

So what's it like dancing at a straight square dance club? Here are some tips to make it a comfortable experience for out gay/lesbian dancers:

- Go with a partner. Same-sex couples are fine, as are opposite sex couples where the guy dances girl or vice-versa. If you want to go and don't have a partner, call ahead and see if they can arrange one for you. Apparently this is a common practice. Be up front if you don't dance your actual gender.
- Check the dress code. Men typically should wear long-sleeves and long pants, although some clubs dress more casually in the summer. Skirts are often required for women.
- Start a square rather than joining a square. unless you are invited. This ensures that the people in your square will be comfortable dancing with you (after all, they came to you).
- The flourishes at gay/lesbian clubs (on weave the ring and do-se-do, to name a couple) are different than at straight clubs. Pay attention, and when in doubt, only use the call's definition.