

Below are the detailed instructions for this week's pipe corps practice.

## QMM

### 1. Rantin Rovin' Robin

A. Play all Birls Heavy. For example: Make sure your pinkey finger **covers the hole solidly twice on each birl.** The Actual Tempo of the Birl needs to be kept in context with the tempo of the TUNE as a whole.

B. Grips from **"B" to "B"** need to be open. I need to hear the **'d'** gracenote between the two **"low-g"** gracenotes clearly.

C. **The first Beat Note of EACH bar should be accented.** For Example. In these 2/4 marches, there are two beats given to each bar. **Beat number 1 must be held, even a bit longer than the musical timing shows.** Hold the notes longer than they are written, and longer than you think they should be held.

D. **Tachums! Line 3, Bar two has a tachum in BEAT 1, The last two notes in the run down. These tachums MUST be played extremely cleanly and OPEN at this stage in our playing.** This will help us to improve our unison and will make musical sense given that the tempos are played slower at this stage. Tachums, like birls and grips HAVE to be complimentary of the temp being played.

**The "D" Gracenote to LOW-A which completes the tachum must be executed with extreme precision. It must be played EXACTLY on the note change from "B" to "low-A".**

### 2. Jenny's Bawbee

A. This tune must start with a **BOLD and CLEAR "High-G" Doubling.** A very HEAVY high G gracenote to F (the first half of the High -g doubling) is IMPERATIVE to achieve this.

B. Grips! Grips must be open and clear. Most of the grips in this tune are from **"High-A" to "High-A" and open is the key WORD. You can achieve this by making sure the the "Low G notes are seperated EVENLY by the D-Gracenote in the grip.**

**C. The Strike from "B" TO LOW-G at the beginning of BAR 3 of lines 2 and 4 must be stricken cleanly. This can be done by making sure that your Low-A and Low-G fingers Completely close the chanter (e.g. cover both holes).**

### 3. The Piper's Cave

A. Birls. Refer to "Birls" above under *Rantin Rovin' Robin*.

B. Timing. Note the DOUBLE DOTS on the LOW-A following the Birl. This LOW-A must be held in order to produce the proper march rhythm for this tune. Don not jump immediately from the LOW-A to the B.

**\*\*\* This LOW-A is double Dotted. It begins life as an 8<sup>th</sup> note. It is then given two dots which give it an added value of ONE 1/16<sup>th</sup> PLUS 1/32<sup>nd</sup> note. This leaves the LOW-A with a total value of BIG ( $1/32 + 1/16 + 1/8 = 7/32$ , which is just a shade greater than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 32.**

**C. The "B" Following this LOW-A is CUT. It is cut to C. The trick is to get a good solid GRIP to "C" while doing this. This Grip from "B" to "C" needs to Bellow!!! Crack off the chanter with good volume and CLARITY.**

General Remarks.

1. Please **visualize and play all of the DOTTED notes to their FULL VALUE.**

2. Play with your metronome religiously! Make sure you are playing everything exactly in context with the beat!

**3. Make sure you are holding the VERY LAST NOTE of the VERY LAST TUNE to its full value. This will aid us in our cut-offs this year. If you practice it on the Practice Chanter this way, once the tune is moved to the pipes, it will be MUCH easier for you to stop on a dime.**

3. Have Fun!