

Modus Operandi: A particular way or method of doing something, especially one that is characteristic or well-established.

The Greeley Session exists to play and share fantastic Irish traditional Music for the enjoyment of its participants and listeners.

Preparedness & Tempo

If you are new to the session, all that's required to play is to know a single tune! Play on what you know - feel free to record and listen to the tunes you don't. We all started with only knowing that first tune!

Though we are very welcoming and encouraging of newer players of Irish traditional music, we are not a "slow session", meaning that we don't typically play dance tunes at a slower/learner pace. If you bring a full set of tunes to lead, please have it well practiced with transitions between tunes worked out so as not to stop between tunes and be able to play at a nice moderate tempo.

At times, we may play certain sets at a faster pace but not at the expense of good feel, energy and lift.

Play only on tunes that you know. Don't ever feel like you need to know and play on all the tunes! Instead, endeavor to play what you know, well. If you know only parts of a tune, wait to join in playing the full tune once you've taken the time to learn it and can play it at tempo. Use the time to record, listen and have a drink! Excellent musicianship includes knowing when not to play!

Sets vs Individual Tunes

We do our best to play sets of tunes stitched seamlessly together, not individual tunes. When you start a set, let the group know all the tunes which we will be playing along with the keys for those backing. If you are a regular/weekly member, do endeavor to have 3 to 6+ sets in your back pocket, ready to start (or to ask another one of us to start if you'd prefer not to lead). This greatly improves the flow of things as 5 players, each with 6 sets to lead or suggest, produce well over 2 solid hours of tunes!

Tuning/Intonation

We should all endeavor to play with good intonation/tuning. Whistle & flute players especially: know where your instrument should be tuned both when cold and warmed up. If you have multiple options for instruments, choose the one which has the best intonation.

Breaks Between Sets

Small breaks should exist between sets (.5 to 2min-ish). We are not here just to hammer out tunes non-stop all night. Breaks give us a chance to catch up with each other, have a drink and formulate the next set to be played. Breaks should not be so long as to make the bartenders wonder if we're finished playing for the night!

Drinks & Tipping

Bring cash so that you can tip the bartenders. We have a modest tab. It's a good thing if we don't regularly find the end of it each week. Use it but don't abuse it - especially on a slow night.

If a patron gives the session a generous tip, we can decide then and there how to distribute it - with consideration being given to those who drove the furthest and or perhaps extra drink/tip rounds :)