The Hot Chocolate
Disco line dance
From LET'S DISCO, K-tel Books, 1978    Steps from Steve Ramacher, Minneapolis, MN

The Hot Chocolate was a simplified version of the very first four-wall line dance—the 1961 Hully-Gully. Its primary feature was that it eliminated every aspect of the Hully-Gully that a beginner or non-dancer might find difficult: a step-ball-change, a hip-hitch walking forward, and the Hully-Gully's odd number of phrases danced against the music. With all of the drinking done in discos (45,000 new disco clubs sprouted up in 1978 partially because liquor sales were so profitable), this was probably a smart adaptation.

**Pattern**

- **Meas**
  1. Step side R; cross L behind R with wt; step side R; swing L across R to diag/R (maybe clap).
  2. Step side L; cross R behind L; step side L; swing R across L to diag/L (maybe clap).
  3. Walk back 3 steps: step back R; step back L; step back R; tap L closed in front of R
  4. Step fwd L leaning fwd; rock back on R, leaning back; rock fwd on L; kick R ft fwd while turning one quarter CCW.

Repeat, facing the wall that was originally to your L.

**Style variation:** Some dancers crossed over in front instead of crossing behind on the second step of the beginning side patterns.

When Country Western hit in the 1980s, this was renamed Texas Freeze. Same dance, new name, to sound more Western.
The Electric Slide  
Circa 1989

The Electric Slide was literally nothing new. All 12 steps are *identical* to the earlier Hot Chocolate. The only difference in the Electric Slide is in the timing of two of the steps. In the Electric Slide, the forward-and-back rocking steps (Meas 4) are slow instead of quick.

Even though the Electric Slide was step-for-step identical to the earlier copyrighted Hot Chocolate, it was somehow copyrighted by Ric Silver in 2004, 15 years after the Electric Slide fad, based on what he claimed to be similarity with a much longer 44-step choreography of his. Silver's copyright claims for the Electric Slide included lawsuits against anyone dancing "his" dance, and he filed DMCA-based takedown notices against YouTube users who posted videos of party-goers dancing the Electric Slide.

Presented by Richard Powers