

The Sporting Pitchfork

The image displays a musical score for the piece "The Sporting Pitchfork". The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. It is divided into two sections, A and B, each consisting of four staves of music. Section A begins with a boxed letter 'A' above the first staff. Section B begins with a boxed letter 'B' above the first staff of its section. The music consists of eighth-note patterns, often beamed in pairs. Chord symbols (D, C, G) are placed above the notes to indicate the harmonic accompaniment. The score concludes with a double bar line at the end of the final staff.

"The Sporting Pitchfork" is an Irish double jig in G Major or D Mixolydian. The parts are played AB.

It is often played in a medley with "The Rambling Pitchfork".

I can't find any explanation of the term "sporting pitchfork" but if "rambling pitchfork" means an itinerant farmhand, perhaps "sporting pitchfork" refers to one who is athletic.

The jig has been associated with uilleann pipe repertory. The tune was paired with "The Rambling Pitchfork" on the 1978 Paddy Glackin/Paddy Keenan album **Dublin'**. The medley was known as "The Pitchforks".

It was printed in Bulmer & Sharpley's **Music from Ireland vol. 3** (1976), Cranitch's **Irish Fiddle Book** (1996), Cranitch's **Irish Session Tunes: Red Book** (2000).

It was recorded by Mick O'Brien on **Kitty Lie Over** (2003), Tommy Peoples on **Recorded at Fiddler's Hearth** (2005), Alan & John Kelly on **Fourmilehouse** (2002), Ronan Browne and Peter O'Loughlin on **The Legacy** (2015) and Paddy Glackin and Paddy Keenan on **Dublin'** (1978).