

# FEIS IN THE DESERT

# GRADE EXAMS SYLLABUS

Grade Exams will be held at the Feis in the Desert Venue:  
Arizona Golf Resort & Conference Center  
425 S. Power Road, Mesa, AZ 85206

On Friday, January 12, 2018 at approximately 5:30 p.m. and on Saturday, January 13, 2018 – and Sunday, January 14, 2018 overlapping the Feis schedule. Each dancer will be contacted with their start time once the schedule is completed. Grade Exam schedules will not conflict with the Feis schedule for those that register for both.

**Grade Exam Registration opens on 11/10/17 and closes on 12/29/17 (grades Prelim to 10 only). Late registrations not permitted.**

Cost:

Prelim - \$20

Grades 1 through 3 - \$25 per grade exam

Grades 4 through 6 - \$35 per grade exam

Grades 7 through 10 - \$45 per grade exam

## General Information:

Grade examinations are unlike competitions in that each candidate is individually examined and receives a detailed written assessment of their performance and knowledge of the grade being attempted. They are open to both male and female candidates regardless of age and ability. The scheme consists of an optional Preliminary Grade followed by a further 12 grades with each grade becoming increasingly more demanding on the candidate's skill, knowledge and ability. Each Grade must be passed and certificate awarded before a candidate may attempt the next level. A dancer who successfully completes all Grades will be awarded "The Diploma of the Irish Dancing Commission". All 12 Grade Examinations must be completed to be eligible to apply for the TCRG Examination effective from January 1st 2018. **All candidates must produce previous reports before proceeding to higher grades. Please bring to the exam.**

Grade exams are separate from competitions and do not count towards moving up competitively at a subsequent Feis. PLEASE NOTE: Kindly ask your teacher before registering to ensure you are eligible to take our grade exams, especially if you have taken grade exams in the past.

## What to Wear:

Competition gear (i.e., wig or solo costume) is not necessary or allowed. Instead, please wear a shirt without identifying information (no name or school affiliation) with dark-colored bottoms, dark colored shorts, and tights or socks.

Register at [www.feisworx.com](http://www.feisworx.com) Our prior Exam Judges were: Thomas Bracken, Pat Hall, John Cunniffe, Margaret Mullen, Patricia Kennelly, Kate O'Connor. 2018 Judge--to be determined.

## **Grade Examination Rules:**

1. A dancer may only take 3 grades at any one exam.
2. A three month period must elapse before the next grade is attempted.
3. Grade exams must be examined by at least 4 examiners up to grade 10 plus two different full examiners for grades 11 and 12.
4. A choice of examiners by the teacher is allowed up to grade 6, using a minimum of 2 examiners through these grades.
5. The same examiner may not examine in the same class for a period of 3 years. This also applies where a regional authority or group of classes hold the examinations.  
  
eg. Applications for 2018: Examiners may not have examined in years:  
2017, 2016, or 2015.
6. From grade 7-10 the examiner is appointed by the Udarás from the rotation list.
7. A dancer would be permitted to retake any grade for a better score upon submission of a specific written request to the Udarás Scrúdaithe, with the understanding that the second result would replace the earlier one and that the dancer would be required to pay the usual fee for the grade being taken.
8. All 12 Grade exams must be completed to be eligible to apply for the TCRG examination effective from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018.
9. Scrúdú Béil (Oral Irish Exam) for grades 1-4 in Ireland.
- 10 All candidates must produce previous reports before proceeding to higher grades. Please bring to exam.**

**Grades and Required Dances**  
*(Céilí Dances are underlined and in italics)*

Grade /Grád	Rinci / Dances	Speed
Prelim	Ríl Éasca nó Port Eadtrom Dúbalta Easy Reel <u>or</u> Light Jig	Easy Reel 122-124 Light Jig 116
1	Bun Ríl <u>agus</u> Bun Port Dúbalta Easy Reel <u>and</u> Light Jig	Easy Reel 122-124 Light Jig 116
2	Bun Port Luascach & Bun Port Singil Easy Slip Jig <u>and</u> Easy Single Jig	Basic Slip Jig 124 Basic Single Jig 124
3	Tús Ríl agus Bun Port Trom Primary Reel <u>and</u> Basic Heavy Jig	Primary Reel 116-118 Basic Heavy Jig 96
4	Tús Port Luascach agus Lá Féile Phádraig Primary Slip Jig <u>and</u> St. Patrick's Day (Traditional)	Primary Slip Jig 120 St Patrick's Day 94
5	Ríl Cruaidh (Méan/ Primary/Ard) Advanced Reel (Intermediate/ Primary/Open) Bun Cornphíopa Basic (Traditional) Hornpipe <u>agus Ballaí Luimní and Walls of Limerick</u>	Advanced Reel (Intermediate/Primary/Open) 113 Basic Hornpipe 144 <u>Walls of Limerick</u>
6	Port Luascach Cruaidh (Méan/ Primary/Ard) Advanced Slip Jig (Intermediate/Primary/Open) An Londubh Blackbird (Traditional) <u>agus Ionsaí na hInse and Siege of Ennis</u>	Advanced Slip Jig (Intermediate/ Primary/Open) 113 The Blackbird 144 <u>Siege of Ennis</u>
7	Port Trom Cruaidh Advanced Heavy Jig Gáirdíní na Nóiníní Garden of Daisies (Traditional) <u>agus An Ríl Ceathrair and Four Hand Reel</u>	Advanced Heavy Jig 73 Garden of Daisies 138 <u>Four Hand Reel</u>
8	Cornphíopa Cruaidh Advanced Hornpipe Greas Giúrnála Job of Journeywork (Traditional) <u>agus Pléaracha na Bandain and Humours of Bandon</u>	Advanced Hornpipe 113 Job of Journeywork 138 <u>Humours of Bandon</u>
9	Dhá rince Leithleach, ceann acu in am 6/8 agus an ceann eile in am 2/4 nó 4/4 (Nach Rinci traidisiúnta iad) agus <u>Caip an Chúil Aird</u>	Two modern set dances, one in 6/8 time and the other in 2/4 or 4/4 time and the <u>High Caulead Cap</u>
10	Dhá rince Leithleach, ceann acu in am 6/8 agus an ceann eile in am 2/4 nó 4/4 (nach rinci traidisiúnta iad) <b>(éagsúil ó iad i nGrád 9)</b> agus <u>an Port Ochtair</u> .	Two modern set dances, one in 6/8 time and the other in 2/4 or 4/4 time <b>(different from those in Grade 9)</b> and the <u>Eight Hand Jig</u>
11	Ríl Cruaidh, Port Luascadh Cruaidh, Port Trom Cruaidh. Rí na Síog/ King of the Fairies (Traditional) móide dhá rince leith-leacha nua a roghnóidh an scrúdaitheoir as liosta cúig rince a sholáthróidh an larrathóir <b>(éagsúil ó iad i nGrád 9 &amp; 10) agus An Cor Ochtair agus Port an Fhómhair</b> .	Advanced Reel, (113) Advanced Slip Jig,(113) Advanced Heavy Jig.(73) King of the Fairies 130 plus two modern set dances selected by the examiner from a list of 5 submitted by the candidate <b>(different from those in Grades 9 &amp; 10) and the Eight-Hand Reel and Harvest Time Jig</b>

12	Port Eadtrom Dúbalta, Port Singil, Cornphíopa Cruaidh, Triúr Captaen Mara, /Three Sea Captains (Traditional) An Marcach Chuig an Aonach,/Jockey to the Fair(Traditional) <b>móide</b> dha rince leithleach nua a roghnóidh An scrúdaitheoir as liosta cúig rince a soláth-Róidh an iarrthóir ( <b>éagsúil ó iad i  nGrádanna 9, 10&amp; 11</b> ) agus <u>Cor Muirghéis</u> agus <u>Cor Sé Dhuine  Dhéag</u> .	Light Double Jig,(116) Single Jig,(124) Advanced Hornpipe,(113) Three Sea Captains (96) Jockey to the Fair (90) <b>plus</b> two modern set dances selected by the examiner from a list of five submitted by the candidate ( <b>different from those in Grades 9,  10 and 11</b> ) and the <u>Morris Reel</u> and the <u>Sixteen Hand Reel</u>
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**St Patrick's Day, Blackbird, Job of Journeywork Garden of Daisies, King of the Fairies, Three Sea Captains and Jockey to the Fair must be performed in a traditional manner.**

**40 bars of music must be danced to for all Reels, Single or Hop Jigs, Light Jigs, Slip Jigs, Heavy Jigs and Hornpipes.**

**Music Speeds as per CLRG Rules.**