

# Grade Exams

## Mulhern School 2018

*Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup> 2018*  
*414 Plaza Drive, Suite 303, Westmont, Illinois*

**Important: Dancers must provide evidence of having completed previous grade exams, where applicable. Please bring your previous Grade Exam Certificates and Comment Sheets to the exam.**

**Information:** Please consult Coleen Mulhern at [coleen@mulhernschoolofirishdance.com](mailto:coleen@mulhernschoolofirishdance.com) for any questions.

**Levels:** A Preliminary grade is offered. (Not to be confused with Preliminary champ level) You DO NOT NEED to do this level.

**Grades:** After Preliminary, Grades run from 1 through 12. You can attempt no more than 3 at a time. This feis is offering every grade up to and including Grade 12. **You must complete a separate Application for Grade 11 & Grade 12.**

**Dances:** Please see the grid below for the required dances.

Grade	Dances
Prelim	Easy Reel <b>OR</b> Easy Light Double Jig
1	Basic Reel and Light Double Jig
2	Basic Slip Jig and Single Jig
3	Primary Reel and Basic Heavy Jig
4	Primary Slip Jig and St Patrick's Day
5	Advanced Reel, Basic Hornpipe and the <u>Walls of Limerick</u>
6	Advanced Slip Jig, The Blackbird and the <u>Siege of Ennis</u>
7	Advanced Heavy Jig, Garden of Daisies and the <u>Four Hand Reel</u>
8	Advanced Hornpipe, Job of Journeywork and the <u>Humours of Bandon</u>
9	Two modern set dances, one in 6/8 time and the other in 2/4 or 4/4 time and the <u>High Cauleed Cap</u>
10	Two modern set dances, one in 6/8 time and the other in 2/4 or 4/4 time and the <u>Eight Hand Jig</u>
11	Reel, Slip Jig, Heavy Jig, The Blackbird, St Patrick's Day, plus two modern set dances selected by the examiner from a list of 5 submitted by the candidate (different from those in Grade 10) and the <u>Eight-Hand Reel</u> and <u>Harvest Time Jig</u>

12	Light Double Jig, Single Jig, Hornpipe, Job of Journeywork, Garden of Daisies plus two modern set dances selected by the examiner from a list of five submitted by the candidate (different from those in Grades 10 and 11) and the <u>Morris Reel</u> and the <u>Sixteen Hand Reel</u>
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**Length:** Please note dances are 40 bars, which equates to 2.5 steps, with the exception of Traditional and Non-traditional Sets.

**Examiner:** Anna O’Sullivan, SDCRG

**Permission:** Please consult your TCRG for information and permission before applying for Grade exams.

**Deadline:** The application **deadline for the grade exams 1-10 is May 11<sup>th</sup> 2018**, or when the cap of 75 exams is reached. **Deadline for Grades 11 & 12 is May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**. No late entries.

**Schedule:** Grade exams will be offered during the day and after school hours...to be determined once all applications have been received.

**Registering:** Register at [www.Feisworx.com](http://www.Feisworx.com)

Dancers under suspension from competition, due to a transfer of school, ARE eligible for Grade Exams.

**Fees:** Please see the grid below with fees listed for each grade.

Grades 1,2,3	\$30 each
Grades 4,5,6	\$40 each
Grades 7,8,9,10	\$50 each
Grades 11 & 12	\$125 each

**Attire:** Do not wear feis costumes.

Candidates should wear a top and skirt or shorts or long pants, suitable for dance.

**Contact:** [coleen@mulhernschoolofirishdance.com](mailto:coleen@mulhernschoolofirishdance.com)

# AN COIMISIÚN LE RINCÍ GAELACHA.

An tÚdaras Scrúdaíthe-Examination Authority

Scrúdaíthe Teastais agus Diplomaí Rinceoirí.

Dancers Certificate and Diploma Examinations

January 1<sup>st</sup>. 2018

## **Grade Examinations Scheme:**

The purpose of the Grade Examinations Scheme is to provide a structured framework within which dancers can progress towards an achievable goal. The syllabus has been designed to provide a strong foundation in Irish Dance by developing a candidate's physical skills, stamina, expression, musicality and an appreciation and knowledge of the traditional dances and culture. It provides a worthwhile sense of achievement for individuals whether they dance solely for health, recreation or competitive reasons or hope to pursue a career in Irish Dancing.

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 1<sup>st</sup> 2018.

All candidates must produce previous reports before proceeding to higher grades. Please bring to the exam.

### **Financing of Exams:**

There is no cost to Teachers or Representative Bodies organising examinations. All exams should be self-financing with necessary costs such as examiners' fees, hall charges, administrative expenses, etc, being met from the examination fees paid by the candidates. Teachers or Representative Bodies organising Grade examinations will retain 60% of the profit with An Coimisiún receiving the balance.

### **Rules & Regulations**

1. Only Basic Steps may be danced in the Preliminary grade and Grades 1, 2 & 3.
2. The number of bars of music to be danced to for all Reels, Single or Hop Jigs Light Jigs, Slip Jigs, Heavy Jigs and Hornpipes is **40**.
3. St. Patrick's Day, Blackbird, Garden of Daisies, Job of Journeywork, King of the Fairies, Three Sea Captains, and Jockey to the Fair must be performed in a traditional style and manner.
4. The same set dance **must not** be performed in more than one of the Grades from 9 to 12 inclusive.
5. A dancer must take all grades in order, beginning with Grade 1 - the Preliminary grade is optional. However, a candidate may **only** attempt a maximum of 3 consecutive Grades at any one sitting.
6. Candidates must be able to adequately demonstrate practical and theoretical knowledge of all ceili dances as per "Ár Rincí Céilí " as specified in the syllabus for Grades 5 -12 inclusive.
7. Dance costumes should not be worn.
8. **All candidates must produce previous reports before proceeding to higher grades.** Please bring to the exam.
9. Grade 11 may only be attempted by candidates at least 16 years of age.
10. Grade 12 may only be attempted by candidates at least 17 years of age.
11. A special application form and certificate/diploma will apply for Grades 11 and 12.
12. All 12 Grade Examinations must be completed to be eligible to apply for the TCRG Examination effective from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018.
13. Scrúdú Béil (Oral Irish Exam) for grades 1-4 in Ireland.

**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.

### 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.**

**11** Applications must be submitted to An tUdarás Scrúdaithe for all grade examinations at least 8 weeks prior to the examination date.

**12 All results and expense sheets must be returned by the examiner to the Chairperson of An tUdarás Scrúdaithe within three weeks of the examination; in addition, the results only are to be sent by the examiner to the teacher/organizer within three weeks of the examinations.**