

The logo features a stylized outline of the state of Arkansas. Inside the outline, there is a large, decorative letter 'A' with intricate patterns. To the right of the outline, the word 'Arkansas' is written in a large, bold, black serif font. Below 'Arkansas', the words 'STATE CHAMPIONSHIP' and '& FEIS' are stacked in a smaller, black, all-caps serif font.

Arkansas
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP
& FEIS

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&

OZARK MOUNTAIN IRISH ARTS COUNCIL (501(c)(3) non-profit)

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Saturday, November 11, 2023

FORT SMITH CONVENTION CENTER

55 S. 7th Street

FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

**Attend both Arkansas State Championship and Feis (Saturday) and the
Diamond State Feis (Sunday)**

**Saturday offers: Team Figures/Ceilis and 2nd chance for Novice/Prizewinner!
3 rounds for champ dancers (PC and OC) and a set special for Prizewinners, so this is a great
opportunity to dance your set as preparation for Regional Oireachtas!**

***Sunday is a Blackout Feis and offers two chances for PC. PC 2nd Chance gives an opportunity
to practice the set dance on stage!***

Member of An Coimisiun, Dublin, Ireland

Syllabus approved by Areleen Ni Bhaoill TCRG, IDTANA, Southern Region on 09/05/2023

<p>Saturday Schedule</p>	<p>Champs will run concurrently starting at 8am on the Performing Arts Center and the Ballroom Stages!</p> <p>Teams will begin immediately following Champs.</p> <p>Grades will begin after teams.</p> <p>Please check the final schedule for stage assignments each day.</p> <p>The final feis schedule will be published as soon as possible after the registration deadline. Please follow our Facebook page for updates!</p>
<p>Level Advancement</p>	<p>For dancers who advance at Arkansas State Championship and Feis:</p> <p>Changes to Sunday's Diamond State Feis registration must be initiated through an advancement form at the Registration Table in the Lobby of the Performing Arts Center before the conclusion of the Arkansas State Championship & Feis. Please submit one form per dancer.</p> <p>Each change will incur a \$10 fee to be paid by cash or check at the time of advancement and will not be counted in the Maximum Family Entry</p> <p>Advancement forms will be processed immediately following Saturday's feis and no changes will be allowed after the forms are processed.</p>
<p>Hotel</p>	<p>Courtyard by Marriott Fort Smith Downtown</p> <p>900 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72901 Phone: +1 479-783-2100</p> <p>Booking link - Book Your Group/Corporate Rate Marriott International</p> <p>A limited number of rooms have been reserved with our block.</p> <p>The last Day to Book is Friday, October 11, 2023 or until block is filled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$105 USD (+ tax and fees) per night for two adults • Breakfast for two included • Free parking • Complimentary WIFI in guest rooms
<p>Adjudicators & Musicians</p>	<p>Will be posted by 10/14/2023 on www.RinceArkansas.com</p>
<p>Number Pick-up</p>	<p>Lobby of the Performing Arts Center Auditorium:</p> <p>Friday, November 10th 6:00 – 9:00 PM Saturday, November 11th beginning at 7:30 AM Sunday, November 12th beginning at 7:30 AM</p>

	<p>Number cards will be alphabetized on the registration table. Please pick up only the number cards for your dancer. Remember to print a copy of the final schedule or access a copy online.</p>
Cultural Competitions	<p>Entries must be submitted at the Registration table in the Lobby of the Performing Arts Center pick up after judging by 3pm each day</p> <p>Saturday – Soda Bread Baking drop entries by 10am Saturday</p> <p>Sunday – Visual Arts drop entries by 9am Sunday</p>
Contact & Social Media	<p>Follow our Facebook Page for venue map, schedule, updates, award times, special announcements:</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/Arkansas-State-Championship-FeisDiamond-State-Feis-2372278713017707/</p> <p>Website: https://rincearkansas.com</p>
Saturday Registration/Fees	<p>Register Online at www.Feisworx.com</p> <p>Registrations close Friday, October 27th. Changes with late registration fee are allowed through Monday, November 6th.</p> <p>Family Registration Fee \$27 Solo Grade Level Dancing (<i>per competition</i>) \$13 Preliminary Champion (<i>3 rounds</i>) \$55 Open Championship (<i>3 rounds</i>) \$55 Adult Championship and Adult Masters Preliminary (<i>3 rounds</i>) \$55 Adult Masters Open (<i>3 rounds</i>) \$55 Dance and Set Specials (<i>per competition</i>) \$15 Figure/Ceili Dancing (<i>flat fee per dancer</i>) \$15 Cultural competitions (Soda Bread and Visual Arts) \$10 Second Chance Novice/Prizewinner (<i>per competition</i>) \$13 Late Registration fee (<i>per dancer</i>) \$25 Registration Advancement Fee (<i>per change</i>) \$10</p> <p>Family Maximum \$170 (excludes family registration fee, specials, figures/ceili dances, Feisworx fee, second chance, registration advancement, and late fees)</p> <p>Day of feis registrations are highly discouraged, but may be accepted at the discretion of the Registrar/Feis Coordinator and will incur a \$50 Feis Day Late Registration Fee which will not count towards the Family Maximum.</p> <p>Due to costs incurred to host this event, there is a no refund, no exception policy</p>

NUMBERING SYSTEM

1st Digit

Level Category: FIRST FEIS Dances all begin with "1", BEGINNER 1 with "2", and so forth

2nd and 3rd Digits

Age Group, Girls begin at 01 and Boys begin at 51.
 So "05" means girls under 5, while 61 means boys under 11.

	99 is for ADULT dancers													
4 th and 5 th Digits (Letters)	Competition Type: RL = REEL LJ = LIGHT JIG SJ = SLIP JIG TJ = TREBLE JIG HP = HORNSPIPE PD = ST PATRICK DAY TS = TRADITIONAL SET ...													
Last Digit	Competitions ending with 2 signify SECOND CHANCE competitions													

AGE GROUP: your age group is determined by the YEAR the competitor was born. This changes from year to year!

For 2023	<u>U5</u>	<u>U6</u>	<u>U7</u>	<u>U8</u>	<u>U9</u>	<u>U10</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>U12</u>	<u>U13</u>	<u>U14</u>	<u>U15</u>	<u>U16</u>	<u>U17</u>	<u>U18</u>
Born in:	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005

PLEASE NOTE: Age groupings beginning with "O" mean THAT age AND over (example O11 means 11 and older)

FIRST FEIS

The First Feis level has been established for dancers who are competing in their very first Feis. Once a dancer competes in the First Feis category, the dancer must move into Beginner 1 or Beginner 2. **AT THIS LEVEL, DANCERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO COMPETE IN SOLO COSTUMES** (only school costumes are allowed). Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined.

Dancers competing in the First Feis category are limited to participating in the First Feis Category ONLY

	<u>U5</u>	<u>U7</u>	<u>U9</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>O11</u>
REEL	105RL	107RL	109RL	111RL	112RL
LIGHT JIG	105LJ	107LJ	109LJ	111LJ	112LJ

BEGINNER 1 (BEGINNER)

A dancer who has been dancing for less than one year. A Beginner 1 must move to Beginner 2 no later than January 1st of the dancer's second year of instruction or may move to Beginner 2 earlier with teacher's permission and provided that the Feis has not closed to changes. Note: A Beginner 1 dancer who starts in September, may continue as a Beginner 1 until December of the following year (16 months) before moving into Beginner 2. Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined. **AT THIS LEVEL, DANCERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO COMPETE IN SOLO COSTUMES (only school costumes are allowed)**

	<u>U5</u>	<u>U7</u>	<u>U9</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>U13</u>	<u>O13</u>
REEL	205RL	207RL	209RL	211RL	213RL	214RL
LIGHT JIG	205LJ	207LJ	209LJ	211LJ	213LJ	214LJ
SINGLE JIG	205SN	207SN	209SN	211SN	213SN	214SN
SLIP JIG	205SJ	207SJ	209SJ	211SJ	213SJ	214SJ

BEGINNER 2 (ADVANCED BEGINNER)

A dancer who has been dancing for more than one year and who has not won a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place as Beginner 2 dancer. A dancer who has won a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in a Beginner 2 dance must move into Novice in that dance no later than January 1st of the next calendar year or with teacher's permission as soon as the next Feis (if said Feis has not closed to changes). **ALL HARD SHOE DANCES AT TRADITIONAL SPEEDS.** Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined. **AT THIS LEVEL, DANCERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO COMPETE IN SOLO COSTUMES (only school costumes are allowed)** The Traditional Set Dance includes the following choices: St Patrick's Day, The Blackbird, Job of Journeywork, Garden of Daisies, King of the Fairies, Jockey to the Fair, and Three Sea Captains.

	<u>U5</u>	<u>U7</u>	<u>U9</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>U13</u>	<u>O13</u>
REEL	305RL	307RL	309RL	311RL	313RL	314RL
LIGHT JIG	305LJ	307LJ	309LJ	311LJ	313LJ	314LJ
SLIP JIG	305SJ	307SJ	309SJ	311SJ	313SJ	314SJ
SINGLE JIG	305SN	307SN	309SN	311SN	313SN	314SN
TREBLE JIG	305TJ	307TJ	309TJ	311TJ	313TJ	314TJ
HORNSPIPE	305HP	307HP	309HP	311HP	313HP	314HP
TRADITIONAL SET	305TS	307TS	309TS	311TS	313TS	314TS

NOVICE

A dancer moves into Novice as a result of placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in that dance as indicated in Beginner 2. A dancer who wins 1st in a Novice dance must move into Prizewinner level in that dance no later than January 1st of the next calendar year or with teacher's permission as soon as the next feis (if said feis has not closed to changes). Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined.

*ALL HARD SHOES DANCES CAN BE DONE AT EITHER TRADITIONAL SPEED OR SLOW SPEED

The Traditional Set Dance includes the following choices: St Patrick's Day, The Blackbird, Job of Journeywork, Garden of Daisies, King of the Fairies, Jockey to the Fair, and Three Sea Captains.

	U7	U9	U11	U13	O13
REEL	407RL	409RL	411RL	413RL	414RL
LIGHT JIG	407LJ	409LJ	411LJ	413LJ	414LJ
SINGLE JIG	407SN	409SN	411SN	413SN	414SN
SLIP JIG	407SJ	409SJ	411SJ	413SJ	414SJ
*TREBLE JIG	407TJ	409TJ	411TJ	413TJ	414TJ
*HORNSPIPE	407HP	409HP	411HP	413HP	414HP
TRADITIONAL SET	407TS	409TS	411TS	413TS	414TS

2nd Chance	U7	U9	U11	U13	O13
REEL	407RL2	409RL2	411RL2	413RL2	414RL2
SLIP JIG	407SJ2	409SJ2	411SJ2	413SJ2	414SJ2
*TREBLE JIG	407TJ2	409TJ2	411TJ2	413TJ2	414TJ2
*HORNSPIPE	407HP2	409HP2	411HP2	413HP2	414HP2

PRIZEWINNER (OPEN)

A dancer moves into Prizewinner as a result of placing 1st place as indicated in Novice. Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined.

*ALL HARD SHOES DANCES CAN BE DONE AT EITHER TRADITIONAL SPEED OR SLOW SPEED

The Traditional Set Dance includes the following choices: St Patrick's Day, The Blackbird, Job of Journeywork, Garden of Daisies, King of the Fairies, Jockey to the Fair, and Three Sea Captains.

	U7	U9	U11	U13	O13
REEL	507RL	509RL	511RL	513RL	514RL
SLIP JIG	507SJ	509SJ	511SJ	513SJ	514SJ
*TREBLE JIG	507TJ	509TJ	511TJ	513TJ	514TJ
*HORNSPIPE	507HP	509HP	511HP	513HP	514HP
LIGHT JIG	507LJ	509LJ	511LJ	513LJ	514LJ
SINGLE JIG	507SN	509SN	511SN	513SN	514SN
TRADITIONAL SET	507TS	509TS	511TS	513TS	514TS

2nd Chance	U7	U9	U11	U13	O13
REEL	507RL2	509RL2	511RL2	513RL2	514RL2
SLIP JIG	507SJ2	509SJ2	511SJ2	513SJ2	514SJ2
*TREBLE JIG	507TJ2	509TJ2	511TJ2	513TJ2	514TJ2
*HORNSPIPE	507HP2	509HP2	511HP2	513HP2	514HP2

PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIP

Preliminary Championships are open to those who, at any recognized Feis:

- Have won 1st place in both an open/prizewinner light and heavy shoe competition, and
- Have never won 1st, 2nd or 3rd in Open Championship. A dancer who wins two first place awards will move on to Open Championship at the next Feis they enter, or as soon as the second win is achieved, in any age category, in the following years. Only in the case of back-to-back Feiseanna (successive days), in which case the first win in the first Feis will not change the dancer's status for the second Feis. A dancer is required to perform a light shoe dance (reel or slip jig for ladies and reel only for men), and a hard shoe dance.
- The regional syllabus where the Feis is being held may have different qualifications for entry.

Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined

	U9	U10	U12	U14	U16	U18	O18
PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIP (PC) (3 rounds)	609PC	610PC	612PC	614PC	616PC	618PC	619PC

PC will dance three rounds. Dancers will perform 48 bars of the reel or 40 bars of the slip-jig, 40 bars of the hornpipe or 48 bars of the treble jig, and a Set Dance.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

A dancer who wins two 1st Place awards in one calendar year will move on to Open Championship the following year, or as soon as the second win is achieved, in any age category, in the following years. Only in the case of back-to-back Feiseanna (successive days), in which case the first win in the first Feis will not change the dancer's status for the second Feis. Placing in a Regional or National Oireachtas does not change the status of a competitor.

Dancers will perform: 48 bars of reel or 40 bars of slip-jig, 40 bars of the hornpipe or 48 bars of the treble jig, and a Set Dance.

Competitions will be combined in groups of 5 when possible per rules (see Championship rules below).

When there are less than five dancers registered in a particular Open Championship age category, the boys and girls WILL be combined.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP	U9	U10	U12	U14	U16	U18	O18
	709C	710OC	712OC	714OC	716OC	718OC	719OC

NOTE: A dancer who has not received a legitimate placing (sufficient competitors within the normal placing scale) along with a dancer who has not placed in Open Championships for two consecutive years, may return to their previous competition level. For example, an Open Championship dancer that does not place in two consecutive years may return to Preliminary Championships, the same as a Preliminary dancer who does not place can return to Prizewinner.

ADULT COMPETITIONS

An Adult dancer is defined as any dancer who started Irish dancing at the age of 18 or older OR any dancer 18 or older who has not competed in at least five years in a youth competition AND has never placed in the top three in a youth Preliminary championship competition of more than five competitors. Dancers who are in the Adult categories cannot enter any competition other than Adult specified competitions. A dancer who wishes to return to any category other than Adult must remain out of Adult competitions until they retire from dancing for five consecutive years.

A Masters Preliminary dancer is defined as any dancer over the age of 25 who has previously placed in the top three of a youth Preliminary competition of five or more competitors. A Masters Open level dancer is defined as any dancer over the age of 25 who has ever competed in a youth Open Championship competition or placed first in a Masters Preliminary competition. Dancers over the age of 25 currently competing in either youth championship level may move at any time into the corresponding Masters level, but will then no longer be eligible to compete in a youth solo championship.

ADULT DANCERS ARE ALLOWED TO DANCE TRADITIONAL OR OIREACHTAS SPEED DANCES IN THE NOVICE AND PRIZEWINNER GRADE LEVELS

The Traditional Set Dance includes the following choices: St Patrick's Day, The Blackbird, Job of Journeywork, Garden of Daisies, King of the Fairies, Jockey to the Fair, and Three Sea Captains.

	Beginner 1	Beginner 2	Novice	Prizewinner	Championship	Masters
REEL	299RL	399RL	499RL	599RL		
LIGHT JIG	299LJ	399LJ	499LJ	599LJ		
SINGLE JIG	299SN	399SN	499SN	599SN		
SLIP JIG	299SJ	399SJ	499SJ	599SJ		
TREBLE JIG	299TJ	399TJ	499TJ	599TJ		
HORNPIPE	299HP	399HP	499HP	599HP		
TRADITIONAL SET	299TS	399TS	499TS	599TS		
ADULT CHAMPIONSHIP					699AC	
MASTERS PRELIM						799MP
MASTERS OPEN						799MO

Dancers competing at the Adult Championship level may move to the Masters Prelim level per teacher's discretion.

All Southern Region feiseanna may combine the Masters levels into one competition in the event that fewer than five Masters Preliminary level dancers are entered. For Masters level dancers to progress from Prelim to Open, youth competition rules apply. A win in any combined Masters competition of five or more competitors would count towards that progression. **Adult Championship, Masters Prelim and Masters Open will dance 3 rounds on Saturday. Dancers will perform: 48 bars of reel or 40 bars of slip-jig, 40 bars of the hornpipe or 48 bars of the treble jig, and a Set Dance.** All Masters levels consist of one light round (reel or slip jig) and one heavy round (treble jig or hornpipe) to facilitate the possibility of merging at Southern Region feiseanna.

SPECIALS

Grades Level Reel Special This dance is 16 bars set to reel music		Hard Shoe Champ Special This dance is 16 bars of the opposing hard shoe danced during competition rounds.	
U11	1RS	U11	1HS
U15	2RS	U15	2HS
O15	3RS	O15	3HS

Treble Reel			Non-Traditional Set Dance (Novice/Prizewinner level)	
	Grades	Champ	This Set Dance is for Novice and Prizewinner dancers, U10 and older, who wish to prepare for the recall round for Solos at Oireachtas. U10 must perform a Treble Jig Set. U11 and older select their choice of set dance, danced one at a time.	
U11	1TR	11TR		
U15	2TR	12TR		
O15	3TR	13TR		
Soda Bread			U11	1SD
U12		1SB	U15	2SD
O12		2SB	O15	3SD

FIGURES AND CEILI

- There are no restrictions on figure age groups.
- Figure age groups will be determined by the oldest dancer.
- Ceili teams (8 hands) are allowed to repeat dancers at all Southern Region feiseanna in accordance with the world and regional Oireachtas rules.
- Ceili teams may perform any figure as outlined in Ar Rince Ceili- 2014.

	<u>2 Hand Reel</u>	<u>3 Hand Reel</u>		<u>4 Hand Reel</u>	<u>6 Hand Reel</u>	<u>8 Hand</u>
Under 7	9207FD	9307FD				
Under 9	9209FD	9309FD	Under 8	9408FD	9608FD	9808FD
Under 11	9211FD	9311FD	Under 10	9410FD	9610FD	9810FD
Under 13	9213FD	9313FD	Under 12	9412FD	9612FD	9812FD
Under 15	9215FD	9315FD	Under 15	9415FD	9615FD	9815FD
15&Over	9216FD	9316FD	15& Over	9416FD	9616FD	9816FD
ADULT	9299FD	9399FD	Adult	9499FD	9699FD	9899FD

Family Dance	
All Ages	9500FD

SOUTHERN REGIONAL DANCING COMPETITION RULES

1. In the case of all solo and team competitions in all grades, the age of a competitor on 1st January of the year in which the competition is held will determine the right of entry. For the purposes of this Rule a competitor whose birthday occurs on 1st January shall be deemed to be under the age attained on that date.
2. Competitions are open to all but those holding a TMRF, TCRG, or ADCRG designation. A feis can only accept entries from pupils of teachers registered with An Coimisiun and registered with both the IDTANA and the North American region in which they reside.
3. A competitor may be disqualified for any of the following reasons:
 - a. Conduct unbecoming a lady or gentleman.
 - b. Failure to report on time to compete. (Penalty: disqualification from said event)
 - c. Falsification of age or other important facts – i.e., teaching, award winning, competing under another competitor's name or number, etc.

Penalty for (a) or (c): Competitor will be disqualified from the Feis at which the occurrence happened and from all registered Feiseanna for a period of one year beginning at the date of the occurrence.

4. Competitions may be closed if there are no competitors at the assigned stage ready to compete when the competition is scheduled or announced. This does not pertain to a situation where competitors are involved in stage conflicts, and such conflicts will be handled by the stage monitor.
5. Steel taps or "bubble" heels on dancing shoes and any display of awards is prohibited. Authentic Gaelic dress is desired.
6. First Feis (if offered), Beginner and Advanced Beginner, aka Beginner I and II, must wear a class costume, or a skirt/pants and top. All other categories are excluded from this rule. Modest attire is encouraged when a competitor is not dancing.
7. Competitor's number must be worn and visible to adjudicators when performing in all competitions. Use of reflective plastic number covers is discouraged.
8. The number of awards given is determined by the Feis Committee and is based on the scores and ranks given by the adjudicator(s).
9. Complaints must be in writing stating names and other factual information and signed by the complainant. A \$50.00 fee must be enclosed and presented to the Feis Chairman within one hour of the occurrence. The fee will be returned if the complaint is upheld.

10. The Feis Committee and any organization affiliated with same, will not be held responsible for personal injury, property loss or damage. Destruction of Feis property and/or rental property will be punishable by law.
11. The Feis reserves the right to reject any entry for cause, to cancel all or part of the Feis and to limit competitor's performing time. The decision of the Feis Committee is final in all matters connected with the Feis.
12. All Feiseanna must have a process to allow parents to request that their child or children's name(s) not be listed on the posted competitor list prior to the day of the Feis.
13. Competitors must answer all questions as required by the Feis Entry committee, including teacher's name, and include the entry fee for entry to be accepted. Failure to do so will result in a rejected entry. Entries must be received on or before the closing date or they will be subject to a late fee of _____ (Determined by the Feis).
14. With the exception of First Feis and Beginner 1 the status of the dancer does not change unless there are five or more dancers in the competition.
15. Photography
 - a. With the exception of First Feis, Beginner 1 and Beginner 2 (or their equivalent), photography of any kind which has the capability of capturing a dancer's image while in motion is strictly forbidden.
 - b. A Feis may elect to allow in motion photography for publicity purposes, but the pictures are considered the sole property of the Feis and solely for Feis use only; these are not to be used for personal gain through commercial use or sale, and under no circumstances can they be published on any website or other areas, without the express written permission of the persons involved.
 - c. Additionally, a professional photographer may be formally contracted by a Feis to capture non-motion photographs, such as portrait photography, awards ceremonies, etc. and/or in motion photography provided it is taken at a vendor station or suitable location:
 - i. away from the dancing stages and,
 - ii. requested by a consenting parent, guardian, or dancer (over the age of 18).
16. No block, en Pointe, toe walking movements, stationary or moving is allowed to be performed for all ages up to and including the under 12 age group. However, after September 1 of each year an exception is made for those dancers who are 11 dancing in the under 12 age group.
17. No substance that can become airborne should be used on any dance floor in an attempt to improve traction.

GRADE LEVEL RULES

1. Solo competitors in First Feis (if offered), Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Novice or Open (Prizewinner), Adult and Master competitions:
 - a. Must compete in their own age group.
 - b. Must be prepared to perform two steps in each event.
2. With the exception of First Feis and Beginner 1, a dancer's level is determined in each dance (Reel, Light Jig, Single Jig, Slip-Jig, Hornpipe, Treble Jig, and Traditional Set). Traditional Set Dances are limited to those dances determined by An Coimisiun Le Rince Gaelacha as traditional set dances.
3. A Feis Committee may combine competitions if there are less than 5 competitors entered as follows:
 1. Two consecutive age groups, combined into the higher of the two groups, within that grade.
 2. Three consecutive age groups, combined into the highest age group, within that grade.
 3. All Boys' grades competitions shall be initially entered in single year age groups within that grade.
 4. If there are less than 5 Boys entered in any one age group within that grade, competitions may be combined in the following order:
 - a. Double, All Boys, age group into the higher of the two groups within that grade
 - b. If a double, All Boys age group does not create 5 or more entries, the Boys shall be combined into the corresponding single year Girls' age group.

- c. If the combined Boys and Girls age group still does not create 5 or more entries, that competition may be combined as stated in rule #2 above.
5. 100 and 200 level competitions may be combined as follows:
 - a. Ages under 8 and below, CANNOT be combined with other age groups within that grade, but Boys and Girls may be combined in the corresponding single year Girls' age group within that grade.
 - b. Ages under 9 and above may first be combined into 2 consecutive age groups within that grade. If the combined competition still does not create 5 or more entries, that competition may be combined using rules 2, 3 and 4 above.
4. Each region may determine the system for moving dancers from one grade to another, as they see appropriate for their region.
5. The syllabus is to contain all grade categories.
6. Competitors have the option to remain in the same category for the remainder of the Feis year.
7. A dancer, at the discretion of the teacher, may move into the next Grade (not Open Championships) without satisfying the requirements. However, once a dancer competes in the higher level, they can never move back to a lower category, (except as outlined in Rule 1, above).
8. Grade Levels
 - a. **First Feis:** A dancer who has never competed in a Feis. A dancer can only be in this category for a single day and cannot compete at any other level in the Feis. Dancers must compete with Basic Steps that coincide with the Grade Exam Syllabus.
 - b. **Beginner I (Beginner) Grade:** A beginner is a competitor who has not yet taken a full year of Irish Dance lessons, thereby giving beginners a full year with such status. A Beginner must move into the Beginner 2/Advanced Beginner category the next year. Dancers must compete with Basic Steps that coincide with the Grade Exam Syllabus.
 - c. **Beginner 2 (Advanced Beginner) Grade:** An advanced beginner who wins 1st, 2nd or 3rd place will advance to the Novice category in that particular dance. Competition dances are reel, light jig, slip jig, traditional treble jig and traditional hornpipe, as a minimum requirement. Dancers must compete with Basic Steps that coincide with the Grade Exam Syllabus.
 - d. **Novice Grade:** A novice who wins a 1st place will advance to the Open (Prizewinner) category in that particular dance. In Novice competitions with 20 or more dancers, a dancer who wins 1st or 2nd place in a dance will advance to the Open/PW category in that particular dance (Dec 2012)
 - e. **Open Prizewinner Grade:** A competitor who does not qualify as a beginner, advanced beginner or as a novice.
 - f. **Adult:** An Adult dancer is defined as any dancer who started Irish dancing at the age of 18 or older OR any dancer 18 or older who has not competed in at least five years in a youth competition AND has never placed in the top three in a youth Preliminary championship competition of more than five competitors.
9. First Feis (if offered), Beginner I, and Beginner 2 are required to dance at traditional speeds. Novice and Open/Prizewinner dancers may choose between traditional and Oireachtas speeds.
10. The following dance speeds must be adhered to:

	First Feis	Beg 1	Beg 2	Novice	Prizewinner
Reel	122	122	122	113	113
Light Jig	115	115	115	115	115
Slip Jig	122	122	122	113	113
Single Jig	124	124	124	124	124
Treble Jig			92	73/92	73/92
Hornpipe			138	113/138	113/138
Traditional Sets		Traditional Speed			
St. Patrick's Day		94			
Blackbird		144			
Job of the Journeywork		138			
Three Sea Captains		96			
Garden of Daisies		138			
Jockey to the Fair		90			
King of the Fairies		130			

11. First Feis, Beginner 1 and Beginner 2 perform only basic steps to coincide with the Grade Exam Syllabus.

12. Dancers competing in the First Feis category are limited to participating in the First Feis Category only.

CHAMPIONSHIP LEVEL RULES

1. First place winners in the Open Championship category cannot return to a Preliminary or Open (Prizewinner) competition. Placing in a Regional or National Oireachtas does not change the status of a competitor. A dancer who moves into Open Championship must stay a minimum of 2 years. If after 2 years they have not placed they are allowed to return to Preliminary. An Open Championship dancer who places is not allowed to return to Preliminary until 2 years after their last placement. The regional syllabus where the Feis is being held may have different qualifications for entry.
2. Entrants in any Championship event may not enter in any other (Grade) events, but may enter in Figure Dances and Specials, ie Treble Reel Competition, etc.
 - a. Dancers must qualify for Open Championship via the method now in place for Preliminary Championship, i.e. two 1st place wins.
 - b. Dancers must compete in the Preliminary Championship competition in order to qualify for Open Championship
3. Preliminary Championships
 - a. Are open to those who at any CLRG-registered Feis:
 - (1) Have placed 1st in both an Open (Prizewinner) light and heavy shoe competitions and
 - (2) Have never won 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open Championship.
 - b. A dancer who lives in the Southern Region and who wins 1st place in a second Preliminary Championship Competition in any Region MAY move up to Open Championship Competitions immediately, at the discretion of their dancing teacher.
 - c. A dancer who lives in the Southern Region when they win 1st place in a second Preliminary Championship competition MUST move up to Open Championship Competitions no later than the one calendar year anniversary of the second Preliminary Championship win.
 - d. Preliminary Championship competitions with 26 or more competitors may be split in half according to age. * In Preliminary Championships-Separate boys into a separate competition if there are five (5) or more boys entered in a specific competition within a single age a group.

A Southern region feis may choose to combine boys and girls in Open Championship competitions when there are less than 5 dancers registered in a particular age category. However, if three (3) or more boys are entered in a specific age group in a combined Open Championship competition, the boys and girls MUST be split into separate competitions. If separate Boys and Girls competitions in Open Championships are offered in the syllabus, they may NOT be combined under ANY circumstances on the day of the Feis

4. One of the following statements MUST be in the feis syllabus:
 - a. When there are less than five dancers registered in a particular Open Championship age category, the boys and girls will NOT be combined.

OR

 - b. When there are less than five dancers registered in a particular Open Championship age category, the boys and girls WILL be combined.
5. The boys' open championship age categories will match the girls' open championship age categories.
6. Every competitor in Preliminary or Open Championship must have a minimum of 8 rotations or 10 minutes between each of their rounds.

FIGURE/CEILI TEAM RULES

1. Teachers or team captains are responsible that their teams are complete and in position when the competition is announced.
 - a. There are no restrictions on figure age groups
 - b. Figure age groups will be determined by the oldest dancer.

- c. 8 hand teams are allowed to repeat dancers at all Southern Region feiseanna in accordance with the World and Regional Oireachtas rules.
2. The length of 2 hand and 3 hand dances in competition are to be 48 bars of music plus an 8 bar introduction.
3. Only dancers who meet the definition of "Adult dancer" may compete in Adult Ceili competitions. Masters level solo dancers competing in a Ceili must compete in the Youth Ceili categories.
4. In the event that the same organization is running 2 feiseanna in one weekend, the following may occur:
Figure and Ceili competitions may be offered at only one of the feis' on that weekend.

ADJUDICATORS & MUSICIANS

1. Musicians and adjudicators cannot be approached during a competition by anyone except the Feis Committee. No one can approach them while a competitor is performing.
2. Musicians employed by the Feis Committee will be solely under the direction and management of the Feis Committee on Feis day.
3. In matters pertaining to adjudication, the decision of the adjudicators is final.
4. Adjudicators are to monitor the quality of music at the stage(s) to which they are assigned.
5. Championships and Preliminary Championships require at least three adjudicators.
6. Each Feis is required to list their adjudicators on their syllabus and/or website at least three weeks before the close of entries, one-third of which are to be from outside the region where the Feis is being held.

COSTUME RULES

1. Make up is prohibited on a dancer in the first three grades (First Feis (if offered), Beginner 1 and Beginner 2 or their equivalent) up to and including the under 12 age group. Make-up (including false eyelashes and tanner on the face) is not permitted for dancers, in either solo or team competitions, up to and including the Under 10 age group.

Clarification: Both make up rules refer to the age group of the competition, not the actual age of the dancer. For example, 9 year old dancers, competing in a team that is entered Under 12, may wear make-up or at a feis where the youngest Open Championship age group is Under11, then all dancers in that competition may wear make-up. These rules must also be announced from side stage at the event. Participants should be reminded that should they be in breach of these rules and be required to remove their make-up, that they risk missing their rotation in the competition.

2. Any competitor found to be using artificial carriage aids and subsequently refuses to remove same, will be subject to disqualification from that particular competition. Medically prescribed aids (proof of which may be required) will be exempt from this rule.
3. Competitors in competitions at the First Feis (if offered), Beginner 1 and Beginner 2 Grade will wear only the competitor's dancing school costume or a skirt/pants and top.
4. Costume Length: Length of costumes must adhere to principles of modesty and enable dancers to safely execute their movements and steps. Adjudicators who determine a costume to be too short or to lack modesty may ask a competitor to change into black tights (of a denier not less than 70 percent) in order for the dancer to continue in the competition.
5. When wearing body suits with skirts (commonly known as black-out attire) black tights (of a denier less than 70) must be worn from the age of 14 and above. Effective date: 1st February, 2020

MODESTY RULES

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Changing costumes, dressing and undressing of dancers will not be acceptable in the halls or public areas. For the sake of modesty and in the interests of safety of young people, dancers will not be permitted to walk around the feis scantily dressed.

Respect for fellow competitors on stage is a requirement at all times.

Lack of respect or courtesy for fellow competitors by aggressive dancing on stage will be subject to penalty at the discretion of each individual adjudicator.

Length of costume must adhere to principles of modesty and enable dancers to safely execute their movements and steps. Adjudicators who determine a costume to be too short or to lack modesty may ask a competitor to wear black tights (of a denier not less than 70 percent) in order to continue in the competition. For competitions adjudicated by a panel of more than one adjudicator, all adjudicators on the panel must agree to asking the dancer to wear tights. Effective March 1, 2022.

Appropriate undergarments covering the midriff must be worn. Undergarments must provide full coverage. Dancers wearing undergarments that do not cover the areas of the body as in the illustrated example will be asked to put on black tights of a denier of not less than 70%. This is monitored by the adjudicator. For competitions adjudicated by a panel of more than one adjudicator all adjudicators on the panel must agree to ask the dancer to put on tights. Effective March 1, 2022

The Feis WILL NOT give any refunds for any reason including consequences for violations of these rules.