

COMHALTAS IRISH DANCE FESTIVAL

(also known as “CCE Feis”)

Sponsored By Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann, O’Neill-Malcom Branch
Member of the North American Feis Commission, President Lori Seeman
Member of An Coimisiun, Dublin, Ireland



Sunday, May 21, 2017

Competition starts at 9:00 am • Doors open at 8:00 am

Mount Saint Mary’s University

16300 Old Emmitsburg Road • Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727 • Knott ARCC Arena

All Entries will be received through FeisWeb.com except for musicians not in dance competitions

Entry opening date: April 1st, 2017

Entry closing date: As soon as the cap of 1000 is reached or April 30th, 2017, whichever is first.

Changes or additions accepted until May 7th, 2017

NO CHANGES AFTER MAY 7, 2017

Feis is Registered, Sanctioned and will be Governed by the rules of
The North American Feis Commission (www.northamericanfeiscommission.org), An Coimisiun (www.clrg.ie)
and The IDTANA-Southern Region (www.idtana-southernregion.com)

2017 Adjudicators

James Friel, NJ
Kathleen Boutin, MA
Kathleen Flaherty, MA
Elicia Greenway, MA

Maura Gray, CT
Mary Alice Godley, IL
Joseph Seletski, NY
Nora McHugh, CT

Maura Masterson, MA
Brenda Finn, MA
Joseph Manning, KS
Philip Owens, FL

2017 Musicians

Brian Boyce, NC
Sandy Jones, OH

Joe Dezarn, VA
Oliver Browne, PA

Brian Glynn, SC
Karen Conway, NJ
Kevin Forde, NJ

Syllabus Approved by:

Maureen Armstrong, ADCRG, IDTANA Southern Region Liason

The syllabus meets the minimum requirements set by the Southern Region, IDTANA and is approved March 20, 2017

2017 NAFC Championships

The Gerry Campbell Perpetual Senior Belt, Robert Gabor Junior Trophy, and George Sweetnam Minor Trophy were held on January 14, 2017 at the Sheraton New Orleans, LA

The Under 15 Edward Callaghan Music Scholarship will be held Sept. 10, 2017 at the Irish American Assn. NW Jersey Feis
The 15 and Over James Brennan Music Scholarship will be held June 3, 2017 at the Detroit International Feis

2017 CCE Feis General Information and Notes

- Food concession stand available - No coolers allowed in the arena
- Stadium seating available in the gym - camping on the floor is prohibited (no folding chairs, blankets, etc.)
- Camping IS permitted in the bubble, but only in designated areas

FEES

Family Admission Fee	\$15 per family
Solo Dances	\$9 per event
Figure Dances	\$9 per dancer per event
Music & Vocal Competitions	\$9 per competitor
Preliminary Championships	\$30 per competitor
Open Championships	\$40 per competitor

- Family maximum for dancing entries is \$120.00 (does not include family fee)
- Entries for the Irish Bread, Music Competition and Vocal Competition will not affect the family maximum
- Absolutely NO REFUNDS
- All scores included (grade scores will be available via FeisWeb.com; championship scores will be distributed at the feis)
- A stage schedule will be available the week prior to the feis.

NON DANCING COMPETITIONS

- The first 50 Music Competition and/or Vocal Competition Entries will be accepted via Feisweb or mailed entries.
- If mailing your entries, please send a 3x5 index card including the following information: name, address, phone, email address, DOB, type of musical instrument and competition number(s)
- Mail to Emily O'Halloran, 206 Kent Oaks Way, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Beginner <i>Girls and Boys</i>	A beginner is a competitor who has not taken a full year of Irish Dance lessons, thereby giving beginners a full year with such status. A Beginner must move into the Advanced Beginner category for the next year.	
Age Category	Reel	Light Jig
Under 5	5R	5J
Under 6	6R	6J
Under 7	7R	7J
Under 8	8R	8J
Under 9	9R	9J
Under 10	10R	10J
Under 11	11R	11J
Under 12	12R	12J
Under 13	13R	13J
Under 14	14R	14J
Under 15	15R	15J
15 & Over	16R	16J

Advanced Beginner <i>Girls and Boys</i>	An Advanced Beginner is a dancer who has taken Irish dancing lessons from a registered teacher for more than 1 year. An Advanced Beginner who wins 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place will advance to the Novice category in that particular dance.					
Age Category	Reel	Light Jig	Slip Jig	Single Jig/ Hop Jig	Traditional Treble Jig	Traditional Hornpipe
Under 5	105R	105LJ	105SJ	105HJ	105TJ	105HP
Under 6	106R	106LJ	106SJ	106HJ	106TJ	106HP
Under 7	107R	107LJ	107SJ	107HJ	107TJ	107HP
Under 8	108R	108LJ	108SJ	108HJ	108TJ	108HP
Under 9	109R	109LJ	109SJ	109HJ	109TJ	109HP
Under 10	110R	110LJ	110SJ	110HJ	110TJ	110HP
Under 11	111R	111LJ	111SJ	111HJ	111TJ	111HP
Under 12	112R	112LJ	112SJ	112HJ	112TJ	112HP
Under 13	113R	113LJ	113SJ	113HJ	113TJ	113HP
Under 14	114R	114LJ	114SJ	114HJ	114TJ	114HP
Under 15	115R	115LJ	115SJ	115HJ	115TJ	115HP
15 & Over	116R	116LJ	116SJ	116HJ	116TJ	116HP

Novice <i>Girls and Boys</i>		A Novice is a dancer who has previously won 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in Advanced Beginner. A Novice dancer who wins a 1st place in a dance (or 2nd place if there are 20 or more dancers) will advance to the Open (Prizewinner) category in that particular dance.				
Age Category	Reel	Light Jig	Slip Jig	Single Jig/ Hop Jig	Treble Jig	Hornpipe
Under 7	207R	207LJ	207SJ	207HJ	207TJ	207HP
Under 8	208R	208LJ	208SJ	208HJ	208TJ	208HP
Under 9	209R	209LJ	209SJ	209HJ	209TJ	209HP
Under 10	210R	210LJ	210SJ	210HJ	210TJ	210HP
Under 11	211R	211LJ	211SJ	211HJ	211TJ	211HP
Under 12	212R	212LJ	212SJ	212HJ	212TJ	212HP
Under 13	213R	213LJ	213SJ	213HJ	213TJ	213HP
Under 14	214R	214LJ	214SJ	214HJ	214TJ	214HP
Under 15	215R	215LJ	215SJ	215HJ	215TJ	215HP
15 & Over	216R	216LJ	216SJ	216HJ	216TJ	216HP

Prizewinner <i>Girls and Boys</i>		A Prizewinner dancer is a competitor who does not qualify as a Beginner, Advanced Beginner or Novice.			
Age Category	Reel	Slip Jig	Treble Jig	Hornpipe	
Under 7	307R	307SJ	307TJ	307HP	
Under 8	308R	308SJ	308TJ	308HP	
Under 9	309R	309SJ	309TJ	309HP	
Under 10	310R	310SJ	310TJ	310HP	
Under 11	311R	311SJ	311TJ	311HP	
Under 12	312R	312SJ	312TJ	312HP	
Under 13	313R	313SJ	313TJ	313HP	
Under 14	314R	314SJ	314TJ	314HP	
Under 15	315R	315SJ	315TJ	315HP	
15 & Over	316R	316SJ	316TJ	316HP	

Specials for NON Championship Dancers - danced end of day	
Traditional Set	
Under 10	710
Under 12	712
Under 14	714
Under 16	716
16 & Over	718

Adult Competitions <i>Men and Women</i>		An adult beginner is a competitor who never took Irish dancing lessons as a juvenile and is over 18 years of age. Other Adult Grades will follow the descriptions provided above.				
Solo Dances	Reel	Light Jig	Slip Jig	Single Jig/ Hop Jig	Treble Jig	Hornpipe
Beginner	600R	600LJ	600SJ	600HJ	600TJ*	600HP*
Advanced Beginner	610R	610LJ	610SJ	610HJ	610TJ	610HP
Novice	620R	620LJ	620SJ	620HJ	620TJ	620HP
Prizewinner	630R	630LJ	630SJ	630HJ	630TJ	630HP

Note: Beginner Treble Jig and Hornpipe are danced at traditional speeds only. Other levels may choose to dance traditional or non-traditional speeds.

Adult Specials - all levels (end of day)
Traditional Set
635

Figure Dances	See notes below.			
Age Category	2H (Reel or LJ)	3H (Reel or LJ)	4H (By the book)	8H (By the book)
Under 10	802	803	804	830
Under 13	805	806	807	840
Under 16	808	809	810	850 (13 & Over)
16 & Over	811	812	813	
Adult	652	653	654	658
Parent/Child	820 (2, 3, or 4 Hand dance)			

Notes:

1. All 2H, 3H and Parent/Child dances will have an 8 bar intro and 48 bars of dancing.
2. Each competitor must register.
3. 4H and 8H dances must be "by the book".
4. 4H and 8H teams may perform any figure as outlined in Ar Rince Foirne.
5. The winner of competition 850 will be awarded the Kelly Cup Perpetual Trophy.
6. The school with the most wins in 2, 3 and 4 hand dances will be awarded the Theresa Farewell Perpetual Trophy.
7. The winner of competition 658 will be awarded the Peggy O'Neill Perpetual Trophy.

Preliminary Championships <i>Girls and Boys</i>		Must state Soft and Hard Shoe choices on entry. If there are 5 or more boys entered within a single age group, they will be separated into their own competition.	
Under 8	408	Under 14	414
Under 9	409	Under 15	415
Under 10	410	Under 16	416
Under 11	411	Under 17	417
Under 12	412	Under 18	418
Under 13	413	18 & Over	419

Preliminary Championship Sets <i>Girls and Boys</i>			
Under 8	408S	Under 14	414S
Under 9	409S	Under 15	415S
Under 10	410S	Under 16	416S
Under 11	411S	Under 17	417S
Under 12	412S	Under 18	418S
Under 13	413S	18 & Over	419S

Open Championships <i>Girls and Boys</i>		Must state Soft Shoe, Hard Shoe and Set choices on entry. If there are 3 or more boys entered within a single age group, they will be separated into their own competition.	
Under 8		508	
Under 9		509	
Under 10		510	
Under 12		512	
Under 14		514	
Under 16		516	
16 & Over		517	

Non-Dancing Competitions	
Irish Bread	900
Vocal	2000
Musical Instrument	
Under 10	2010
Under 13	2011
Under 16	2012
Under 18	2013
18 & Over	2014

Irish Bread: Entries must be turned in by 11am, to the Registration table; results will be posted in the Awards Room around 1pm. Irish bread becomes the property of the feis.

Vocal Competition: This Competition requires you to sing a traditional folk song from any of the Celtic Nations. Performance limited to 3 minutes. This competition may be broken down by age depending on entries.

Musical Instrument Competitions

1. These competitions are open to traditional Irish instruments ONLY. Two tunes will be played, two different rhythms from the following choices: Jig (double, single, slip), Reel, Slide, Polka, Hornpipe, March, Set Dance, Air (slow or lively).
2. Each tune should be played through twice. This competition is for melody players only (keyboard and guitar players must include melody in their playing).
3. This competition will be judged on command of instrument and skill in Irish playing style.
4. The following are acceptable instruments: fiddle, flute, pennywhistle, uilleann pipes, accordion, concertina, melody piano (bring keyboard), tenor banjo, mandolin, harp and miscellaneous category (hammered dulcimer, cello, etc.).
5. Age is determined as of 1/1/17.
6. The Robert J. Hickey, Jr. Founder's Award for Most Promising Musician will be awarded in honor of the founder of the Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann O'Neill-Malcom Branch, Washington DC.

IDTANA Southern Region-Dancing Competition Rules

These rules were approved by the IDTANA Southern Region on June 30, 2011 and are effective January 1, 2012

1. In the case of all solo and team competitions in all grades, the age of a competitor on January 1st of the year in which the competition is held will determine the right of entry. For the purpose of this rule a competitor whose birthday occurs on January 1st 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. All dancers must be pupils of a person currently registered with An Coimisiun as a Dancing Teacher of any category.
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 fact—i.e. teaching, award winning, competing under another competitor's name or number etc.
 - d. Penalty for a) or c): Competitor will be disqualified from the Feis at which the occurrence happened and from all NAFC-registered Feiseanna for a period of one year beginning at the date of the occurrence.
 - e. Any competitor found to be "altering" their shoes or wearing them on the "wrong feet" will be treated in the same manner as is using carriage aids, and will be subject to disqualification from that particular competition (CLRG AGM 2011)
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 will not pertain to a situation where competitors are involved in stage conflicts: in that case the competition(s) will remain open for a reasonable amount of time to allow the dancer(s) in question to arrive at the stage and compete.
5. Solo competitors in Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Novice or Open (Prizewinner) competitions
 - a. Must compete in their own age group
 - b. Must be prepared to perform two steps in each event
 - c. Cannot change competition on the day of the Feis.
6. Steel taps or "bubble" heels on dancing shoes, display of awards, wearing of shorts or other unconventional dress is prohibited. Dancers competing in First Feis (if offered), Beginners and Advanced Beginner, a.k.a. Beginner I and II must wear a class costume or a skirt and blouse. All other categories are excluded from this rule. Modest attire is encouraged when a competitor is not dancing. Costumes for both boys and girls should not include representations, such as globes, medals, or any other item symbolic of an award having been achieved effective Jan 1, 2013. (CLRG AGM 2012). Costume or costuming is defined as any element of performance/presentation clothing, worn by a dancer in the course of a competition, including but not limited to dress, waistcoat, trousers, shoes, headgear, capes, shawls, socks and underwear (CLRG AGM 2012)
7. Competitor's number must be worn and visible to adjudicators when performing in all competitions, except in Championships. Use of clear reflective plastic number covers is discouraged.
8. Awards will be determined in proportion to the number of entries in each competition and to the degree of proficiency shown.
9. Complaints must be in writing stating names and other factual information and signed by the complainant. A ten-dollar fee (cash) 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 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. Competitors must answer all questions on the entry form as required by the Feis Entry committee, including teacher's name, and enclose the entry fee when mailing. Failure to do so will result in a rejected entry. Entries must be postmarked on or before the closing date or they will be subject to a late fee as determined by the feis committee and published on the syllabus and/or entry form. There will be no refund of entry fees for any reason.
13. Open Championships:
 - a. Entrants in any Open Championship event may not enter in any other regular grade solo events, but may enter in Figure Dances and/or special competitions for which they are eligible (tradition set, treble reel non-traditional set dance)
 - b. Entrants in Open Championships should specify on the entry form their choice of set dance
 - c. Open Championship competitions in the minimum required age groups must be offered separately in the syllabus, yet the feis committee may combine an age group with the next higher age group if there are fewer than 5 competitors entered in the lower age groups. A feis committee is not permitted to combine dancers from one open championship age group with any age groups which is more than one age groups higher than the age group in which the dancers are entered
 - d. A dancer is required to perform a light shoe dance (reel or slip jig for ladies and reel only for men) and a set dance. A Feis can also opt to require a third dance (choice of jig/hornpipe)
 - e. Dancers must qualify for Open Championship via the method now in place for Preliminary Championship i.e. two 1st place wins.
 - f. Dancers must compete in the Preliminary Championship competition in order to qualify for Open Championship.
14. Girls and Boys competitions in Open Championship may be combined in the syllabus. If three 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 circumstance on the day of the Feis.
15. Preliminary Championships:
 - a. Are open to those who at any NAFC recognized Feis:
 - i. Have placed 1st in both an Open (Prizewinner) light and heavy shoe competition and
 - ii. Have never won 1st, 2nd or 3rd in Open Championship.
 - b. A dancer who wins two (2) first place preliminary championship awards in one calendar year will move on to Open Championship the following year (as of Jan 1); if the second first-place win does not occur in the same feis year as the first win, as soon as the second win is achieved, in any age category, the dancer must move up to open championship level immediately. Only in the case of a back to back Feiseanna (successive days) the first-place win in the first Feis will not change the dancer's status for the second Feis
 - c. A dancer in a preliminary championship is required to perform a light shoe dance (reel or slip jig for ladies and reel only for men) and a hard shoe dance. A Feis can opt to offer either (a) a set dance) or (b) a jig/hornpipe or (c) both a set dance and jig/hornpipe
 - d. Boys and Girls will be combined in preliminary championships –Please note the separation policy involving five or more boys
 - e. Preliminary Championship competitions must be offered separately in the syllabus for the minimum required age groups, yet the feis committee may combine an age group with the next higher age groups if there are fewer than 5 competitors entered in the lower age group. A feis

committee is not permitted to combine dancers from one preliminary championship age group with any age group which is more than one age group higher than the age group in which the dancers are entered.

16. Open Championships and Preliminary Championships require at least three adjudicators.
17. 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. If after competing for two full feis years at the Open Championship level, a dancer has not placed first, second or third, he/she may opt to return to Preliminary Championship status.
18. The status of the dancer does not change unless there are five or more dancers in a competition.
19. In championship events or solo set dance events: Introductions for set dances will be played only once and competitors must set their speeds during that one playing, no variation in speed will be allowed once dancing is due to commence. Dancers beginning before or after the stipulated set-dance introduction will automatically receive a zero for that round from the/or all adjudicators. (CLRG AGM 2011)
20. Grade Category Definitions:
 - Beginner:** A beginner is a competitor who has not taken a full year of Irish Dance lessons, thereby giving beginners a full year with such status. A Beginner must move into the Advanced Beginner category for the next year.
 - Advanced Beginner:** An Advanced Beginner who wins 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place will advance to the Novice category in that particular dance.
 - Novice:** A Novice dancer who wins a 1st place in a dance will advance to the Open (Prizewinner) category in that particular dance. In addition, if there are twenty or more dancers, a dancer who wins 1st place or 2nd place in a dance will advance to the Open/Prizewinner category in that particular dance. (Dec. 2012)
 - Open (Prizewinner):** A competitor who does not qualify as a Beginner, Advanced Beginner or Novice.
 - Adult Beginner:** An adult beginner is a competitor who never took Irish dancing lessons as a juvenile and is over 18 years of age.
 - Other Adult Grades:** will follow the descriptions provided above.
- **Competitors have the option to remain in the same category for the remainder of the Feis year (until the following January 1st)
- ** The syllabus must contain all grade categories
- ** Boys and Girls enter the appropriate age group in the appropriate grade for each dance; after entries have been closed, in any competition where five or more boys are entered, the feis committee will run a separate competition for these boys.
- ** A feis committee may only combine two consecutive calendar year age groups (within that grade only) when fewer than five (5) competitors are entered in either age group, with the exception of the oldest age group listed.
21. 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.
22. Musicians employed by the Feis Committee will be solely under the direction and management of the Feis Committee on Feis day.
23. Teachers or team captains are responsible that their teams are complete and in positions when the competition is announced. Competitors may compete in their own age group or in the next higher age group, however a competitor may compete in only one age group.
24. In matters pertaining to adjudicators, the decision of the adjudicator is final.
25. Adjudicators are to monitor the quality of music at the stage(s) to which they are assigned.

26. First Feis (if offered), Beginner and Advanced Beginner dancers are required to dance at traditional speeds only. Novice and Open (Prizewinner) dancers may choose between traditional and Oireachtas speeds. Adult categories are included in these specifications
27. Any form of unauthorized photography which has the capability to capture a dancer's image while in motion, using electronic or manual means, i.e. mobile phone, standard camera, video camera, or commercial film, with or without enhancement is expressly forbidden in competition: except in Beginner and Advanced Beginner Categories (CLRG AGM 2011)
28. 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 Sept 1st of each year an exception is made for those dancers who are 11 dancing in the under 12 age group.
29. Make up is prohibited on a dancer in the first three grades (First Feis [if offered]), Beginner and Advanced Beginner or their equivalent) up to and including the under 12 age group.
30. 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.
31. No substance that can become airborne should be used on any dance floor in an attempt to improve traction.