

Standard Rules for North West Feiseanna

(As of April 2018)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Ages to be taken from 1st January 2018.
2. Entries will only be accepted from schools currently registered with An Coimisiun.
3. Lodgement of entries at a Feis implies that you accept the rules relating to the Feis in their entirety as laid down by the NWRC and An Coimisiun, and that you accept that the Results of the Feis will be published on the NWRC website.

ADJUDICATORS & MUSICIANS

4. The Adjudicators decisions are final. The Adjudicators should not be approached by any persons other than the Feis Committee.
5. Pupils of an Adjudicator employed at a particular feis may not take part in the Feis even if the adjudicator is judging alternative age groups.
6. Any Adjudicator from outside the NW Region cannot judge an Open Feis in the North West Region within 6 months of their last adjudication in the region. Any Adjudicator from the North West Region cannot judge an Open Feis in the North West Region within 3 months of their last adjudication in the region.
7. An Adjudicator from outside the North West Region may not adjudicate a Class Feis in the North West Region in the 6 months leading up to adjudicating an Open Feis in the Region.
8. All musicians used should be competent and willing to abide by the prescribed metronomic speeds of An Coimisiun.

Novice

Reel 122-124 Light jig 116 Single jig 124 Slip Jig 124 Heavy Jig 96 Hornpipe 144

Primary

Reel 122-124 Light jig 116 Single jig 124 Slip Jig 120 Heavy Jig 82 Hornpipe 130

Intermediate/Open

Reel 113 Slip Jig 113 Heavy Jig 73 Hornpipe 113

Traditional Set Dance

Blackbird 144 St. Patrick's Day 94 Job of Journeywork 138 Garden of Daisies 138 King of Fairies 130 Three Sea Captains 96 Jockey to the Fair 90

NOVICE AND PRIMARY GRADE

9. There will be a minimum of 2 Novice Dances up to and including the Under 11 age group. Only the most basic Steps may be performed in this grade. Children entering the Novice cannot enter the Primary for the same dances,
10. All Novice, Primary, Intermediate, Preliminary and Open Competitions are open to all Regions.
11. If there are more than 20 competitors in any Novice competition then 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed dancers must move up to the next grade. If there are 20 or fewer competitors, then only the 1st placed dancer will be required to move up to the next grade.
12. Any competitions in Novice, Primary and Intermediate, in which there are 5 or fewer dancers shall not count for grading purposes. However a Dancer may only place in 3 such competitions and they then must move up to the next grade.
13. There will be no restriction on the step content performed in the Primary grade.
14. A Primary dancer is one who has never won a first in that particular dance except in Novice Grade.
15. If there are more than 20 competitors in any Primary solo competition then 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed dancers must move up to the next grade. If there are 20 or fewer competitors, then only the 1st placed dancer will be required to move up to the next grade.
16. Novice/Primary Trophy Competitions are confined to dancers who have never won a Novice/Primary Trophy. Any Light Dance can be performed for the Trophy but it must have been danced in the Novice/Primary section on the day of the Feis.
17. A winner of a Novice/Primary Trophy Competition must move up to the next grade for both the Dance they performed to win the Trophy and the Trophy competition itself.
18. Only skirts and tops or a simple current class costume may be worn in the Novice and Primary Grades.

19. In the event of there being no provision for a particular age group, a dancer may dance up an age group, however on attaining first place in any dance, that dancer must remain in the higher grade for that dance for the remainder of the year.

20. At any one Feis, a Novice or Primary dancer may only dance each Solo Dance, the Light Trophy and the Heavy Trophy in ONE GRADE only.

INTERMEDIATE GRADE

21. An Intermediate Dancer is one who has never won a first place in that particular dance in their present age group.

22. Intermediate Trophy competitions are confined to dancers who have never won an Intermediate Trophy in their present age group. Any Light Dance can be performed for the Trophy but it must have been danced in the Intermediate section on the day of the Feis.

23. A winner of an Intermediate Trophy Competition must move up to the next grade for both the Dance they performed to win the Trophy and the Trophy competition itself.

24. At any one Feis, an Intermediate dancer may only dance each Solo Dance, the Light Trophy and the Heavy Trophy, in ONE GRADE only, with the exception of intermediate dancers wishing to enter the Preliminary or Open Trophy/Championship.

25. In the event of there being no provision for a particular age group, then a dancer may dance up an age group, however on attaining first place in any dance, that dancer must remain in the higher grade for that dance for the remainder of the year.

26. Any competition in which there are 5 or fewer dancers shall not count for grading purposes. However a Dancer may only win 3 such competitions and they then must move up to the next grade.

PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIP/PREMIER

27. A preliminary dancer is one who has not been placed in the top 5 in a mixed open championship in any region in the 12 months prior to the date of the Feis.

28. A preliminary dancer is one who has not won a Preliminary Championship/ Premier in any region in the 12 months prior to the date of the Feis.

29. An intermediate dancer may also compete in a preliminary Championship/ Premier. Places in preliminary competitions will not count for grading purposes.

30. A dancer may enter a preliminary Championship/ Premier and an open championship if they are eligible.

OPEN GRADE

31. In all age groups any dancer who has previously won an Open Championship before a panel of at least three adjudicators does NOT have to dance Open if they are eligible for a lower grade.

32. In all age groups, (with the exception of under 6 and under 7), where solos and Championships are run separately, competitors must have performed 1 light dance and 2 heavy dances to be eligible for the Premier Trophy/Championship. This does not apply where solos are combined in with the Championship.

33. The wording 'Championship' will only be used where there is a panel of at least 3 adjudicators.

ALL GRADES

34. No block, en pointe, stationary or moving, will be allowed to be performed by any dancers up to and including the Under 11 Age Group. The Under 12 age group is also governed by this rule up until 1st September each year after which they are permitted to perform the movement.

35. Dancers must dance in their own age group for solo competitions if that age group is provided for.

36. Any competitor found to be using artificial carriage aids and subsequently refuses to remove them will be subject to disqualification from that particular competition. Medically prescribed apparatus, proof of which may be required, will be exempt from this.

FIGURE DANCING

37. Figure teams may contain up to 50% from a lower age group.

GENERAL FEIS RULES

38. Make up (including false eyelashes and tanner on the face) will not be permitted for dancers, in either

solo or team competitions, up to and including the Under 10 age group, and any dancer in the first two grades (Novice and Primary) up to and including the Under 12 age group worldwide. This rule refers to the age group of the competition, not the actual age of the dancer. Leg tan is NOT part of this rule.

39. Any protest against breach of rules must be made in writing, within 1 hour of the conclusion of the relevant competition and accompanied by a fee of £10.00, which will be refunded should the objection be upheld.

40. Medals will be awarded in accordance with the minimum requirements as laid down by the NWRC:

- 1 medal where there is 3 competitors
- 2 medals where there are 5 competitors
- 3 medals where there are 7 competitors
- 4 medals where there are 10 competitors and
- 1 medal for each additional 10 or part of 10 competitors.

41. The Feis Organiser reserves the right to cancel any competition should there be insufficient entries.

42. In the interest of Health, hairspray and any other aerosols must not be used in any of the dancing areas.

43. In accordance with the ruling laid down by An Coimisiun and in the interest of safety, dancers are asked to be suitably dressed at all times and should not undress in the competition halls.

44. Mobile phones and electronic games must be switched off in all of the dancing areas.

45. Abusive language and offensive behaviour will not be tolerated. Any person acting in such a way will be asked to leave the Feis.

46. Feis Organisers will, as far as is practicable, provide a stage surface suitable for dancing. However, the Feis Organisers cannot accept liability for injuries sustained whilst on the dancing areas. The lodgement of an entry will be deemed to be an acceptance of this provision by a dancer.

47. If parents have any constructive comments to make about any aspect of Feiseanna, these would be welcomed by the council and should be put in writing. It should be noted that anonymous correspondence cannot be dealt with.

48. Any Form of unauthorised photography which has the capability to capture a dancer's image whilst in motion, using electronic or manual means, e.g. mobile phone, standard camera, video camcorder, cine recorder, commercial film, with or without flash enhancement, is expressly forbidden in competition

49. Where Family Fees are applicable. These fees shall only include 1 Light Trophy and 1 Heavy Trophy per Child. Any additional Trophy Competitions (including Prelim and Open Championships) are not eligible for the Family Fee and need to be paid for separately.