



Thank you so much for your interest in our Winter Feis! We are so excited to give the dancers an opportunity to do what they love, see their friends and compete in a safe, Covid-conscious way! Before registration opens, we want to give everyone a feel for what the feis will be like and provide information on procedures we are putting in place. Some of the changes we are having to make for this feis may be deal breakers for you--hopefully not, but if so we would love to see you back in May 2021 when less stringent guidelines may be possible! If you have any questions on any of this information, please email our feis secretary at: [murrayirishcr@yahoo.com](mailto:murrayirishcr@yahoo.com).

### COVID SAFETY MEASURES

1. Per NH guidelines, masks MUST be worn inside the venue at all times by all attendees. They must be worn correctly over the nose and mouth. Please no gator style masks, face shields, scarves, bandanas, masks with vents. If you arrive without a proper mask one will be provided to you. As of now we will not require dancers to wear masks while dancing, but they will be required to wear them at all other times, including during shoe changes and while in the dancer queue. If someone has a medical condition that precludes them from wearing a face mask, then we respectfully ask that you not attend this year. We will be happy to welcome you back at a future feis.
2. Only 1 parent/guardian permitted per dancer, **ABSOLUTELY NO exceptions**. Please leave siblings and extra family members at home.
3. CDC [guidance for cleaning and disinfection](#) will be followed. Commonly touched surfaces/areas will be cleaned and disinfected between each competition group.
4. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol will be readily made available to staff, volunteers, dancers/guardians. Frequent hand hygiene will be encouraged including, but not limited to, hand hygiene upon arrival, before and after snacks, before and after going to the bathroom, before and after touching a person's face or face covering, and prior to leaving the event.
5. Staff, dancers, guardians and volunteers will be reminded to maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from others. Safety officer volunteers will be assigned to monitor social distancing and traffic flow in all places, as well as compliance with other protective actions.
6. Dancers/guardians should bring their own snacks and waters. Food will be for sale at the hotel restaurant but there will be no food/meals/drinks other than pre-dance snacks and water allowed into the competition areas.
7. Dancers must arrive as ready to go as possible (hair, makeup and tanning already done). There will be no hair, tanning or makeup application allowed in any of the hotel public restrooms or hallways.
8. Dancers should bring their own paper gift bag (can be decorated!) with their name clearly marked on it. These will be the bags in which they place their masks while dancing.

### COMPETITION DETAILS

1. To allow us to work within the time and space constraints we have, and to allow for the maximum number of dancers to be able to compete in a safe controlled environment, we have imposed caps on all levels.
  - a. **Grades:** There is an overall cap of 160 grades dancers. When registration opens, we may reach this cap quickly. We will work to make sure each comp has at least 5 competitors so it counts, up to approximately 10.
  - b. **Champs:** There will be an overall cap for prelim of 150 dancers and for open of 150 dancers. If space allows we will add dancers from the waitlist on a first come first serve basis.

All dancers will be dancing one at a time. They will enter a dancer queue with designated spots spaced 6 feet apart from the next dancer. They will be checked in while in the queue. Before they dance they may remove their masks and place them in the bags they brought with them (we will have some on hand for those who forget them). Bags will then be set on a table side stage. After their rounds, they will need to collect their bags and put their masks back on for shoe changes; they can remove them again when it is their turn. When the group is finished they will be asked to leave the competition room. The competition space will be set up so that each guardian/dancer will have 2 chairs (each pair spaced 6 feet apart) in addition to the dancer queues side stage.

2. There will be two large main competition halls at the Doubletree.
  - a. The Armory--11, 700 sq. feet--capacity is 1200, NH guideline is 50% or 600 persons. This room will hold the Grades competitions on Saturday and the Prelim Competitions on Sunday. The max number we will have in the room is approximately 100, all physically distanced 6 feet or more.
  - b. Four Rivers Ballroom--8, 160 sq. feet--capacity is 850, NH guideline is 50% or 425 persons. On both Saturday and Sunday, this room will hold the Open Championships. The max number we will have in the room is approximately 70, all physically distanced.
3. Competitions will be scheduled in blocks of time an average of 90 minutes. Check-in will be up to a half hour prior to the start of the competition and check in/intake times will be assigned and staggered throughout that half hour to allow for social distancing. Times will be posted on social media before the feis. No one will be permitted into the competition areas before their scheduled check in time. No competition will start prior to the scheduled start time. If we are running behind we will keep people updated as to when they should arrive on social media.
4. There will be a half hour after each competition to allow for the exit of competitors having just finished, entry of the next group of competitors, and cleaning.
5. Temperatures will be checked upon entry to the venue and a Covid symptom checklist will need to be submitted to the intake volunteers (form will be made available closer to the event date). There will be two separate intake desks for the Armory and the Ballroom. Once screened, dancers/guardians will be given a colored wristband for their competition. These wristbands will allow entry into the competition room and will be checked for at the door to the room. To keep room occupancies controlled, only the competitors/guardians actively competing will be allowed in the room; they will not be permitted to come in and out of the ballroom other than visits to the restroom.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

1. **FeisWorx-** We will be using FeisWorx for our tabulation and registration. If it is a new site to you, please take some time to get your family and dancer registered before the feis opens to expedite the registration process. If the feis hits its cap, a waitlist automatically kicks in and you will be added to the list. If we have the time and space given the limited spots due to physical distancing guidelines in specific competitions, we will add dancers from the waitlist accordingly. Please only register for the feis if you plan on attending as payment is required at time of registration. FeisWorx will have a Covid release that will need to be acknowledged before you can continue on to the feis payment.
2. **Competitor Cards:** We are asking that you print your competitor number and parent card beforehand from the FeisWorx site and bring it with you.
3. **Awards/Marks:** Due to the limited space in our venue and the fact that in December it may be too cold to have awards presentations or pick up outdoors, we are currently planning to mail awards to teachers after the feis for distribution. However, results will be posted very quickly online via Feisworx and our social media, so the dancers will know how they placed in short order. Unfortunately, there is not enough space in addition to the competition rooms and adjacent hallways where people could wait for tabulation and then wait in line for awards pick up. All of the space is going towards accommodating as many dancers as possible in the actual competitions. We know the dancers are anxious to get on a stage at a real feis, and that is the priority! To keep the cost of mailing awards manageable, we have planned for our grade dancers to receive lovely rosette ribbons, our champ placers will receive sashes (plus a trophy for first place prelims and our signature Moose stuffed animals for Opens) along with medal round rosette ribbons, and ALL dancers will receive a Winter feis chocolate bar as a thank you for coming! However, if our entries are lower than expected, we may be able to provide on site awards after all--plus, we continue to consider possible solutions to the space issue.
5. **Costumes:** This is NOT a blackout feis this year, as we have had in the past. We thought it would be a good opportunity to wear costumes!
4. **Fees:** Due to our venue, judging and musician costs doubling with a 2 day feis, necessary limitations on entries and additional supply costs to comply with Covid regulations, we regret that we have had to increase our fees. We hope you will understand!
5. **Out of region attendees:** Attendees from outside New England can attend under the following conditions:
  - a. The non-New Englander certifies in writing (see info re: forms below) that he or she has "quarantined" in his or her home state for the 14 days prior to arriving in New Hampshire. "Quarantine" means that the individual executing the certification swears that he or she remained at a home for at least 14 days before arriving in New Hampshire, only going out for essential items or work, and when outside

of the home maintained physical distancing of 6 feet from other people and wore a cloth face covering/face mask when within less than 6 feet of another person during this 14 day “quarantine” period.

b. The written certifications (forms provided by the Winter feis) must be provided to the feis intake staff and will be maintained by feis organizers for a period of at least 21 days after the feis. Hotels will provide a form as well. No one will be allowed to participate in the feis if he or she has traveled in the 14 day period prior to arriving in New Hampshire by public transportation, including, but not limited to, airplane, train, bus, or subway, or has been on a cruise ship, or has traveled from another country despite the means of transportation.

**MORE SPECIFICS about Feis day procedures will be posted as we get closer to the feis!**

*\*We reserve the right to change or add to our policies and procedures as we get closer to the feis, depending on the current state regulations and the state of the pandemic.*