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FORT SMITH IRISH DANCE COUNCIL (501(c)(3) non-profit)

<https://rincearkansas.com/RVFeisSyllabus>

November 11, 2017

held at

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER IN THE FORT SMITH CONVENTION CENTER

55 S. 7th Street

FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

DANCING begins at 8:00 am, in this order:

- Championships (Round 1 is the Hard Shoe) danced youngest to oldest
- Figures
- Grades

Member of the North American Feis Commission, Lori Seeman –President

Member of An Coimisium, Dublin, Ireland

Syllabus approved by Maureen Armstrong, A.D.C.RG. IDTANA, Southern Region on 08/31/17

<p>November 11, 2017 @ 8:00 AM</p> <p>Fort Smith Convention Center Rogers Avenue & South 9th Street</p> <p>Dancing begins at 8:00 AM Opening ceremonies at 7:45 am</p>	<p>Registration Packet Pick Up in the foyer of the Performing Arts Center at the Ft Smith Convention Center:</p> <p>Friday, November 10th, 2017 6:00 – 9:00 PM</p> <p>Saturday, November 11th, 2017 7:30 – 9:30 AM</p> <p>Dancing, Art & Soda Bread Competition on Saturday</p>
<p>Register Online www.Feisworx.com</p>	<p>Art and Soda Bread competition entries must be submitted at the Registration Table by 10AM Saturday</p>
<p>Adjudicators and Musician will be posted by 10/01/17 on www.RinceArkansas.com</p>	<p>Traditional Set Grades and Champs Under 14 age groups will be danced 3 at a time.</p> <p>Preliminary Champs will dance three rounds.</p> <p>The feis has the option of combining and splitting competitions as necessary. Competitions may be combined up one age group to ensure 5 competitors per competition. Boys and Girls will compete against each other, however if there are at least 5 boys entered, the boys will be moved into a separate competition.</p>
<p>Championships Scheduled First</p> <p>Youngest to Oldest, Hard Shoe Round First</p> <p>The River Valley Feis also offers Eight Hand and Four Hand Céili competitions</p>	<p>On Time Entry Deadline 10/27/17 Late Entry Fee \$25.00 per competitor</p> <p>Unpaid entries will be cancelled on 11/06/17</p>
<p>Two convenient Feis Hotels</p> <p>Mention code "Irish dance"</p> <p>Doubletree Fort Smith City Center 700 Rogers Avenue (at Convention Center) (479) 783-1000</p> <p>Courtyard by Marriott Fort Smith Downtown 900 Rogers Avenue (across the parking lot) (479) 783-2100</p> <p>\$99 (includes breakfast and parking)</p>	<p>2017 NAFC Championship</p> <p>Gerry Campbell Perpetual Senior Belt Robert Gabor Junior Trophy George Sweetnam Minor Trophy January 14, 2017 at the Sheraton New Orleans</p> <p>Under 15 Edward Callaghan Music Scholarship will be held at the Irish American Association NJ Jersey Feis September 10, 2017</p> <p>15 & Over James Brennan Music Scholarship was held at the Detroit International Feis June 3, 2017</p>

Entry Fees

Solo Dancing grade level dances – per competition	\$ 9.00
Preliminary Championship Dancing (<i>3 rounds</i>)	\$ 45.00
Open Championship Dancing	\$ 45.00
Figure Dancing - flat fee	\$ 12.00
Treble Reel and Specials - per competition	\$ 12.00
Visual Art and Soda Bread - per competition	\$ 9.00
Family Fee (<i>includes online results</i>)	\$ 25.00
Late Registration Fee (<i>payment after October 27, 2017</i>) \$25 per competitor, max \$50 per family	\$ 25.00/\$50.00
Maximum Family Entry (<i>excludes figure dances, Feisworx, specials, art/soda bread, and late fees</i>)	\$125.00

Entry fees are not refundable
Registrations close November 6, 2017

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.					
	<u>U5</u>	<u>U7</u>	<u>U9</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>11&O</u>
REEL	105RL	107RL	109RL	111RL	112RL
LIGHT JIG	105LJ	107LJ	109LJ	111LJ	112LJ

BEGINNER 1 (BEGINNER)			All hard shoe dances at traditional speeds.				
A dancer who has been dancing for less than one year. A Beginner 1 must move to Beginner 2 no later than January 1 st of the dancers 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.							
	<u>U5</u>	<u>U7</u>	<u>U9</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>U13</u>	<u>U15</u>	<u>15&O</u>
REEL	205RL	207RL	209RL	211RL	213RL	215RL	216RL
LIGHT JIG	205LJ	207LJ	209LJ	211LJ	213LJ	215LJ	216LJ
SINGLE JIG	205SN	207SN	209SN	211SN	213SN	215SN	216SN
SLIP JIG	205SJ	207SJ	209SJ	211SJ	213SJ	215SJ	216SJ

BEGINNER 2 (ADVANCED BEGINNER)			All hard shoe dances will be at traditional speeds.				
A dancer who has been dancing for more than one year and who has not won a 1 st , 2 nd , or 3 rd , in Beginner 2. A dancer who has won a 1 st , 2 nd , or 3 rd in a Beginner 2 dance must move into Novice in that dance no later than January 1 st of the next calendar year or with teacher's permission as soon as the next Feis (if said Feis has not closed to changes).							
	<u>U5</u>	<u>U7</u>	<u>U9</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>U13</u>	<u>U15</u>	<u>15&O</u>
REEL	305RL	307RL	309RL	311RL	313RL	315RL	316RL
LIGHT JIG	305LJ	307LJ	309LJ	311LJ	313LJ	315LJ	316LJ
SINGLE JIG	305SN	307SN	309SN	311SN	313SN	315SN	316SN
SLIP JIG	305SJ	307SJ	309SJ	311SJ	313SJ	315SJ	316SJ
TREBLE JIG	305TJ	307TJ	309TJ	311TJ	313TJ	315TJ	316TJ
HORNPIPE	305HP	307HP	309HP	311HP	313HP	315HP	316HP
TRAD SET	305TS	307TS	309TS	311TS	313TS	315TS	316TS

NOVICE			All hard shoes dances can be done at either traditional speed or slow speed.				
A dancer moves into Novice as a result of placing 1 st , 2 nd , or 3 rd in that dance as indicated above in Beginner 2. A dancer who wins a 1 st in Novice must move into Prizewinner in that dance no later than January 1 st of the next calendar year or with teacher's permission as soon as the next Feis (if said Feis has not closed to changes).							
	<u>U7</u>	<u>U9</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>U13</u>	<u>U15</u>	<u>15&O</u>	
REEL	407RL	409RL	411RL	413RL	415RL	416RL	
LIGHT JIG	407LJ	409LJ	411LJ	413LJ	415LJ	416LJ	
SINGLE JIG	407SN	409SN	411SN	413SN	415SN	416SN	
SLIP JIG	407SJ	409SJ	411SJ	413SL	415SJ	416SJ	
TREBLE JIG	407TJ	409TJ	411TJ	413TJ	415TJ	416TJ	
HORNPIPE	407HP	409HP	411HP	413HP	415HP	416HP	
TRAD SET	407TS	409TS	411TS	413TS	415TS	416TS	

PRIZE WINNER			All hard shoes dances can be done at either traditional speed or slow speed.				
A dancer moves into Prizewinner as a result of placing 1 st place as indicated in Novice.							
	<u>U7</u>	<u>U9</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>U13</u>	<u>U15</u>	<u>15&O</u>	
REEL	507RL	509RL	511RL	513RL	515RL	516RL	
LIGHT JIG	507LJ	509LJ	511LJ	513LJ	515LJ	516LJ	
SINGLE JIG	507SN	509SN	511SN	513SN	515SN	516SN	
SLIP JIG	507SJ	509SJ	511SJ	513SJ	515SJ	516SJ	
TREBLE JIG	507TJ	509TJ	511TJ	513TJ	515TJ	516TJ	
HORNPIPE	507HP	509HP	511HP	513HP	515HP	516HP	
TRAD SET	507TS	509TS	511TS	513TS	515TS	516TS	

PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS

A dancer who wins 1st place in each of the Open dances (reel, slip-jig, treble jig, and hornpipe) can move into Preliminary Championships, PC, with teacher's permission. In cases where a Feis elects to split a competition due to a large entry, the split must be done by birth date age in the same manner as the North American Championships.

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

Preliminary Championship will be judged and scored by all 3 judges. In addition, awards will also be posted for each solo round (light and heavy round) based on the scores of one judge (different judges scores for light and heavy).

	<u>U10</u>	<u>U12</u>	<u>U14</u>	<u>U16</u>	<u>U18</u>	<u>18&O</u>
Preliminary Championship	610PC	612PC	614PC	616PC	618PC	619PC

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

A dancer who wins two First 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.

Open Championship will be judged and scored by all 3 judges. In addition, awards will also be posted for each solo round (light, heavy, and set) based on the scores of one judge (different for each round).

	<u>U9</u>	<u>U10</u>	<u>U12</u>	<u>U14</u>	<u>U16</u>	<u>U18</u>	<u>U20</u>	<u>20&O</u>
Championship	709OC	710OC	712OC	714OC	716OC	718OC	720OC	721OC

ADULT

A dancer over the age of 18 who has not danced in the above described competitions for a period of five years. 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.

	<u>BEGINNER 1 AND 2</u>	<u>NOVICE/PRIZEWINNER</u>
REEL	835RL	855RL
LIGHT JIG	835LJ	855LJ
SINGLE JIG	835SN	855SN
SLIP JIG	835SJ	855SJ
TREBLE JIG	835TJ	855TJ
HORNPIPE	835HP	855HP
TRADITIONAL SET	835TS	855TS

FIGURE DANCING

CEILI DANCING*

*must be a book dance

	<u>2 HAND REEL</u>	<u>3 HAND REEL</u>		<u>4 HAND CEILI*</u>				<u>8 HAND CEILI*</u>			
Under 9	922	932	Under 10	Girls	942	Mixed	952	Girls	982	Mixed	992
Under 12	923	933	Under 12	Girls	943	Mixed	953	Girls	983	Mixed	993
Under 15	924	934	Under 15	Girls	944	Mixed	954	Girls	984	Mixed	994
15 and Over	925	935	15 and Over	Girls	945	Mixed	955	Girls	985	Mixed	995
Adult	926	936	Adult	Girls	946	Mixed	956	Girls	986	Mixed	996
FAMILY FIGURE		950									

ART & SODA BREAD

SPECIALS

	Visual Art	Soda Bread	Treble Reel	Grade Dancers	PC & Open
Under 13	1VA	1SB	Under 12	5 TR	10 TR
13 and Over	2VA	2SB	Under 14	6 TR	11 TR
			Under 16	7 TR	12 TR
			16 and over	8 TR	13 TR

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. 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.
 - d) 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) All current costume rules of An Coimisiun le Rince Gaelacha will prevail.
- 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 nontraditional 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:
- o 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.
 - o Advanced Beginner: An Advanced Beginner who wins 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place will advance to the Novice category in that particular dance.
 - o 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 expressively 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.