



**BLACK-OUT COMPETITION:  
No dresses or wigs!**

The Windy City Feis  
[www.windycityfeis.com](http://www.windycityfeis.com)

Member of the North American Feis Commission,  
Lori Seeman, *President*  
Member of An Coimisiun le Rinci Gaelacha, Dublin, Ireland  
Marlene Tobin & Dominick Owens, *Feis Chairs*

**Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Donald E Stephens Convention Center (Hall G)  
5555 North River Road  
Rosemont, IL 60018

**Opening Ceremony at 8:15 AM  
Competition starts promptly at 8:30 AM**

Register online only at:



[www.feisworx.com](http://www.feisworx.com)

**Registration opens:** August 10th, 2018  
**Entry deadline:** September 22nd, 2018  
There is a \$25 late fee for registrations made after  
September 22nd.

Changes/additions to current registrations can be made  
online at [www.feisworx.com](http://www.feisworx.com) through NOON on October  
2nd, 2018.

Feis Cap: Beginner – Prizewinner	1,000
PC/OC:	375
1 <sup>st</sup> Feis, Non-Dance	No Cap

Checks/Money Orders: Payments sent via mail must  
be postmarked no later than September 22nd, 2018  
(checks/money orders are not accepted as payment for  
changes). All check/money order payments must  
include a screen print of the 1<sup>st</sup> page of your FeisWorx  
Feis registration, mail to: Windy City Feis c/o FeisWorx

PO Box 2046 Parker, CO 80134-1411. Please make  
checks payable to WCF Feis/ Trinity Booster Club.

**Entry fees will not be refunded for any reason.**

All results will be available for free on  
[www.feisworx.com](http://www.feisworx.com) after the feis.

**Suggested Accommodations:**

Hyatt Regency O'Hare  
9300 Bryn Mawr Avenue  
Rosemont, IL 60018  
<https://book.passkey.com/go/winr>  
847-696-1234 or 888-421-1442  
Use the Group Code **PAT ROCHE/WINDY CITY  
WEEKEND** when booking via phone.  
Rate: \$120.00  
Breakfast Special: 10% off Breakfast Buffet  
Parking: onsite parking available: \$15 per night

**Event Parking:**

\$15/day at Convention Center garage (from N. River  
Road, turn onto Williams St., parking garage is to the  
left of the Embassy Suites Hotel; take "sky bridge" or  
walk up Williams Street to Convention Center).

**CAMPING ENCOURAGED  
NO COOLERS ALLOWED  
WATER STATIONS PROVIDED**

**Early Check-In:**

Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> 1pm-3pm  
Donald E Stephens Convention Center Hall G  
(during/after the Pat Roche Feis)

**Sunday Check-in:**

Donald E. Stephens Convention Center Hall G Doors  
Open at 7:00 AM

TREBLE REEL to benefit Les Turner ALS Foundation

**TIR NA NOG**  
Open to dancers 2-5 years old who have not yet taken part in a Feis in the first Feis or Beginner 1 level. Soft shoes or costume not required. Dancers will receive 8 bars of a reel.

	<b>GIRLS AND BOYS</b>															
	<b>U5</b>															
<b>REEL</b>	005TN															

**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.

	<b>GIRLS</b>								<b>BOYS</b>							
	U5	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	O11	U5	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	O11
<b>REEL</b>	105RL	106RL	107RL	108RL	109RL	110RL	111RL	112RL	155RL	156RL	157RL	158RL	159RL	160RL	161RL	162RL
<b>LIGHT JIG</b>	105LJ	106LJ	107LJ	108LJ	109LJ	110LJ	111LJ	112LJ	155LJ	156LJ	157LJ	158LJ	159LJ	160LJ	161LJ	162LJ
<b>SINGLE JIG</b>	105SN	106SN	107SN	108SN	109SN	110SN	111SN	112SN	155SN	156SN	157SN	158SN	159SN	160SN	161SN	162SN
<b>SLIP JIG</b>	105SJ	106SJ	107SJ	108SJ	109SJ	110SJ	111SJ	112SJ								

**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

	<b>GIRLS</b>									<b>BOYS</b>								
	U5	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	O12	U5	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	O12
<b>REEL</b>	205RL	206RL	207RL	208RL	209RL	210RL	211RL	212RL	213RL	255RL	256RL	257RL	258RL	259RL	260RL	261RL	262RL	263RL
<b>LIGHT JIG</b>	205LJ	206LJ	207LJ	208LJ	209LJ	210LJ	211LJ	212LJ	213LJ	255LJ	256LJ	257LJ	258LJ	259LJ	260LJ	261LJ	262LJ	263LJ
<b>SINGLE JIG</b>	205SN	206SN	207SN	208SN	209SN	210SN	211SN	212SN	213SN	255SN	256SN	257SN	258SN	259SN	260SN	261SN	262SN	263SN
<b>SLIP JIG</b>	205SJ	206SJ	207SJ	208SJ	209SJ	210SJ	211SJ	212SJ	213SJ									
<b>TREBLE JIG</b>	205TJ	206TJ	207TJ	208TJ	209TJ	210TJ	211TJ	212TJ	213TJ	255TJ	256TJ	257TJ	258TJ	259TJ	260TJ	261TJ	262TJ	263TJ

**BEGINNER 2 (ADVANCED BEGINNER)** All hard shoe dances at traditional speeds.  
A dancer who has been dancing for no more than one year and who has not won a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in Beginner 2. A dancer who has won a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in a Beginner 2 dance must move into Novice in that dance no later than January 1<sup>st</sup> of the next calendar year or with teacher's permission as soon as the next Feis (if said Feis has not closed to changes).

	<b>GIRLS</b>									<b>BOYS</b>								
	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	O13	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	O13
<b>REEL</b>	306RL	307RL	308RL	309RL	310RL	311RL	312RL	313RL	314RL	356RL	357RL	358RL	359RL	360RL	361RL	362RL	363RL	364RL
<b>LIGHT JIG</b>	306LJ	307LJ	308LJ	309LJ	310LJ	311LJ	312LJ	313LJ	314LJ	356LJ	357LJ	358LJ	359LJ	360LJ	361LJ	362LJ	363LJ	364LJ
<b>SINGLE JIG</b>	306SN	307SN	308SN	309SN	310SN	311SN	312SN	313SN	314SN	356SN	357SN	358SN	359SN	360SN	361SN	362SN	363SN	364SN
<b>SLIP JIG</b>	306SJ	307SJ	308SJ	309SJ	310SJ	311SJ	312SJ	313SJ	314SJ									
<b>TREBLE JIG</b>	306TJ	307TJ	308TJ	309TJ	310TJ	311TJ	312TJ	313TJ	314TJ	356TJ	357TJ	358TJ	359TJ	360TJ	361TJ	362TJ	363TJ	364TJ
<b>HORNPIPE</b>	306HP	307HP	308HP	309HP	310HP	311HP	312HP	313HP	314HP	356HP	357HP	358HP	359HP	360HP	361HP	362HP	363HP	364HP
<b>ST PATRICK DAY</b>	306PD	307PD	308PD	309PD	310PD	311PD	312PD	313PD	314PD	356PD	357PD	358PD	359PD	360PD	361PD	362PD	363PD	364PD

**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<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> in that dance as indicated in Beginner 2. A dancer who wins 1<sup>st</sup> in a Novice dance must move into Prizewinner in that dance no later than January 1<sup>st</sup> of the next calendar year or with teacher's permission as soon as the next Feis (if said Feis has not closed to changes).

	<b>GIRLS</b>										<b>BOYS</b>									
	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	O15	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	O15
<b>REEL</b>	407RL	408RL	409RL	410RL	411RL	412RL	413RL	414RL	415RL	416RL	457RL	458RL	459RL	460RL	461RL	462RL	463RL	464RL	465RL	466RL
<b>LIGHT JIG</b>	407LJ	408LJ	409LJ	410LJ	411LJ	412LJ	413LJ	414LJ	415LJ	416LJ	457LJ	458LJ	459LJ	460LJ	461LJ	462LJ	463LJ	464LJ	465LJ	466LJ
<b>SINGLE JIG</b>	407SN	408SN	409SN	410SN	411SN	412SN	413SN	414SN	415SN	416SN	457SN	458SN	459SN	460SN	461SN	462SN	463SN	464SN	465SN	466SN
<b>SLIP JIG</b>	407SJ	408SJ	409SJ	410SJ	411SJ	412SJ	413SJ	414SJ	415SJ	416SJ										
<b>TREBLE JIG</b>	407TJ	408TJ	409TJ	410TJ	411TJ	412TJ	413TJ	414TJ	415TJ	416TJ	457TJ	458TJ	459TJ	460TJ	461TJ	462TJ	463TJ	464TJ	465TJ	466TJ
<b>HORNPIPE</b>	407HP	408HP	409HP	410HP	411HP	412HP	413HP	414HP	415HP	416HP	457HP	458HP	459HP	460HP	461HP	462HP	463HP	464HP	465HP	466HP

TRADITIONAL SET	407TS	408TS	409TS	410TS	411TS	412TS	413TS	414TS	415TS	416TS	457TS	458TS	459TS	460TS	461TS	462TS	463TS	464TS	465TS	466TS
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<b>PRIZEWINNER</b>	<b>All hard shoes dances can be done at either traditional speed or slow speed.</b>																			
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A dancer moves into Prizewinner as a result of placing 1<sup>st</sup> as indicated in Novice.

	GIRLS										BOYS									
	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	O15	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	O15
REEL	507RL	508RL	509RL	510RL	511RL	512RL	513RL	514RL	515RL	516RL	557RL	558RL	559RL	560RL	561RL	562RL	563RL	564RL	565RL	566RL
LIGHT JIG	507LJ	508LJ	509LJ	510LJ	511LJ	512LJ	513LJ	514LJ	515LJ	516LJ	557LJ	558LJ	559LJ	560LJ	561LJ	562LJ	563LJ	564LJ	565LJ	566LJ
SINGLE JIG	507SN	508SN	509SN	510SN	511SN	512SN	513SN	514SN	515SN	516SN	557SN	558SN	559SN	560SN	561SN	562SN	563SN	564SN	565SN	566SN
SLIP JIG	507SJ	508SJ	509SJ	510SJ	511SJ	512SJ	513SJ	514SJ	515SJ	516SJ										
TREBLE JIG	507TJ	508TJ	509TJ	510TJ	511TJ	512TJ	513TJ	514TJ	515TJ	516TJ	557TJ	558TJ	559TJ	560TJ	561TJ	562TJ	563TJ	564TJ	565TJ	566TJ
HORNPIPE	507HP	508HP	509HP	510HP	511HP	512HP	513HP	514HP	515HP	516HP	557HP	558HP	559HP	560HP	561HP	562HP	563HP	564HP	565HP	566HP
TRADITIONAL SET	507TS	508TS	509TS	510TS	511TS	512TS	513TS	514TS	515TS	516TS	557TS	558TS	559TS	560TS	561TS	562TS	563TS	564TS	565TS	566TS
NON TRADITIONAL SET				510SD	511SD	512SD	513SD	514SD	515SD	516SD	557SD	558SD	559SD	560SD	561SD	562SD	563SD	564SD	565SD	566SD
<b>BOYS AND GIRLS</b>																				
	<b>U11</b>				<b>U13</b>				<b>U15</b>				<b>O15</b>							
TREBLE REEL	511TR				513TR				515TR				516TR							

<b>PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>
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A dancer who wins 1<sup>st</sup> place in each of the Open dances (reel, slip-jig, treble jig, and hornpipe) can move into Preliminary Championships with teacher's permission. 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. 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.

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.

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).

	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	O17
Preliminary Championship	609PC	610PC	611PC	612PC	613PC	614PC	615PC	616PC	617PC	618PC
Set Dance	609SD	610SD	611SD	612SD	613SD	614SD	615SD	616SD	617SD	618SD
Treble Reel	610TR		612TR		614TR		616TR		618TR	

<b>OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>
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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. A Feis may elect to have a recall of 50% of the competitors for the set-dance round if there are over 20 dancers in the competition.

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).

	GIRLS / LADIES						BOYS / MEN				
	U10	U12	U14	U16	U18	O18	U11	U13	U15	U17	O17
Championship	710OC	712OC	714OC	716OC	718OC	719OC	761OC	763OC	765OC	767OC	768OC
Treble Reel	710TR	712TR	714TR	716TR	718TR	719TR	761TR	763TR	765TR	767TR	768TR

**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	Beginner 1 & 2 hard shoe dances will be at traditional speeds. Novice /Prizewinner hard shoe dances can be done at either traditional or slow speeds.	
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 <b>must</b> remain out of Adult competitions until they retire from dancing for five consecutive years.		
	BEGINNER 1 AND 2	NOVICE/PRIZEWINNER
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				
	2 HAND REEL	3 HAND REEL	4 HAND REEL/JIG	8 HAND REEL/JIG
Under 7	921	931	941	951
Under 9	922	932	942	952
Under 11	923	933	943	953
Under 13	924	934	944	954
Under 15	925	935	945	955
Over 15	926	936	946	956

- There are no restrictions on figure age groups. (Effective December 2014)
- Figure age groups will be determined by the oldest dancer. (Effective December 2014).

MUSIC, SINGING, ARTS & CRAFTS AND SODA BREAD		Instrumental and vocal competitions will be Sunday, October 8 <sup>th</sup> , drop in from 8-11 AM. Arts and Crafts and Baking items must be submitted Sunday, October 8 <sup>th</sup> by 10 AM at registration. Results will be available on Sunday by 3 PM.		
Only traditional music will be accepted. Music classifications are: reels, jigs (double, slip and single), hornpipes, airs, marches and polkas-set dance. Electronic or amplified instruments will not be permitted. A tin whistle must have a metal body, a plastic tip and only 6 holes. A beginner is anyone who started playing a particular instrument after Jan 1, 2015. Beginners will play one piece from one of the above classifications. Advanced competitors will play two pieces of contrasting tempo. Entrants may compete in only one category for each instrument. Vocal competitors must have two traditional songs in rhythmic contrast. Arts and Crafts (includes photography, drawing, painting, ceramics, etc. and weaving knitting, sewing, etc.) and Soda Bread competitors may enter only their own work in competition.				
	LEVEL	10 & Under	12 & Under	13 & Over
Fiddle/Harp	Beginner	1611	1612	1613
	Advanced	1614	1615	1616
Tin Whistle/Flute	Beginner	1617	1618	1619
	Advanced	1620	1621	1622
Bodhran/Accordions/Concertina	Beginner	1623	1624	1625
	Advanced	1626	1627	1628
Singing	Beginner	1629	1630	1631
	Advanced	1632	1633	1634
Arts & Crafts			1635	1636
Soda Bread			1637	1638

# FEES FOR THE 2018 WINDY CITY FEIS

Solo Dancing	\$10.00 per dance entered
Treble Reel*	\$10.00
Figures*	\$10.00 per competitor
Preliminary Championship	\$40.00 per competition
Championship	\$50.00 per competition
Music, singing, arts & crafts and soda bread	\$10.00 per competition
Family Maximum	\$125.00 (does not include Figures or Treble Reel)
Family Fee	\$20.00
Late Fee 9/23/18-10/02/18 (per dancer)	\$25.00

\*Fees not included in family maximum.

Day of Feis changes/additions \$30 penalty fee plus applicable dance and family fees. NO changes permitted on Sunday once dancing has commenced unless explicitly approved by the Feis Committee

## 2018 NAFC CHAMPIONSIPS

### **Gerry Campbell Senior Belt**

Saoirse DeBoy

Teelin School, Maryland

### **Robert Gabor Junior Belt**

Olivia Nachtigal

Mattierin School, Alberta

### **George Sweetnam Minor Belt**

Lauren Woodbeck

Knock School, Alberta

# DANCING COMPETITION RULES

*Adopted By The North American Feis Commission, 2010, WITH MIDWEST REGIONAL VARIATIONS, Updated 9/15/2014, Effective 12/1/14.*

1. In the case of all solo and team competitions in all grades, the age of a competitor on 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. 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 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 NAFC – 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. Solo competitors in First Feis (if offered), 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.

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.

6. Steel taps or "bubble" heels on dancing shoes, display of awards, wearing of shorts or other unconventional dress is prohibited. Authentic Gaelic dress is desired. First Feis (if offered), Beginner and Advanced Beginner, aka 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.
7. Competitor's number must be worn and visible to adjudicators when performing in all competitions, except in Championships. Use of 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 \$25.00 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 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 as required by the Feis Entry committee, including teacher's name, and enclose the entry fee when mailing. Failure to do so may 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.
13. Entrants in any Championship event may not enter in any other (Grade) events, but may enter in Figure Dances. Entrants in Championships should specify, on the entry form, their choice of soft shoe, hard shoe, and set dance. Entrants cannot change competition or category on the day of the competition.
  - (a) Dancers must qualify for open championship via the method now in place for preliminary championship, i.e. two 1<sup>st</sup> place wins.
  - (b) Dancers must compete in the preliminary championship competition in order to qualify for open championship
  - (c) The regional syllabus where the Feis is being held may have different qualifications for entry.
14. Combining male and female dancers in any age category is left to the discretion of each region of the IDTANA. Competitions may be combined with the next higher age group if there are less than 5 competitors entered. Competitions can only be combined up (or down) one age group.
15. Boys and girls CANNOT be combined EXCEPT according to the following:
  - (a) All boys competitions below Preliminary Championships shall be initially entered in single year age groups;
  - (b) If there are less than 5 entries in any one age group, combination of the competitions shall be done according to the following rules, in order of preferential application:
    - (1) Into double age groups, all boy or all girl; and
    - (2) If a double age group does not create 5 or more entries, the boys shall instead be combined into the corresponding single year girls' age group; and
    - (3) Any competitions so combined shall be run as a single competition.

16. Preliminary Championships are open to those who, at any NAFC recognized Feis:
  - (a) Have won 1<sup>st</sup> place in both an open/prizewinner light and heavy shoe competition, and
  - (b) Have never won 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. A Feis can opt to offer either a) a set dance or b) a jig/hornpipe.
  - (c) The regional syllabus where the Feis is being held may have different qualifications for entry.
17. Championships and Preliminary Championships require at least three adjudicators.
18. 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.
19. The status of the dancer does not change unless there are five or more dancers in a competition.
20. Each region may determine the system for moving dancers from one grade to another, as they see appropriate for their region. The syllabus is to contain all grade categories. A Feis Committee may combine two consecutive age categories into the higher of the two categories within that grade when less than five (5) competitors are entered. (See Rule 14, above). Competitors have the option to remain in the same category for the remainder of the Feis year. 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 18, above].
21. Grade Levels:
 

**Beginner 1 (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.

**Beginner 2 (Advanced Beginner) Grade:** An advanced beginner who wins 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**Novice Grade:** A novice who wins a 1<sup>st</sup> place will advance to the Open (Prizewinner) category in that particular dance.

**Open Grade (Prizewinner):** A competitor who does not qualify as a beginner, advanced beginner or as a 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.
22. 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.
23. Musicians employed by the Feis Committee will be solely under the direction and management of the Feis Committee on Feis day.
24. Teachers or team captains are responsible that their teams are complete and in position when the competition is announced.
  - There are no restrictions on figure age groups. (Effective December 2014)
  - Figure age groups will be determined by the oldest dancer. (Effective December 2014).
  - 8 hand teams are allowed to repeat dancers at all Mid-West feisanna in accordance with the world and regional Oireachtas rules.
25. In matters pertaining to adjudication, the decision of the adjudicators is final.
26. Adjudicators are to monitor the quality of music at the stage(s) to which they are assigned.
27. First Feis (if offered), Beginner 1, and Beginner 2 are required to dance at traditional speeds. Novice and Open/Prizewinner dancers may choose between traditional and Oireachtas speeds.
28. The length of 2 hand and 3 hand dances in competition are to be 48 bars of music plus an 8 bar introduction
29. 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. 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. 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: (a) away from the dancing stages and, (b) requested by a consenting parent, guardian, or dancer (over the age of 18).
30. 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.

31. 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.
32. 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.
33. Each Feis is required to list their adjudicators on their syllabus and/or website at least three weeks before the close on entries, one-third of which are to be from outside the region where the Feis is being held.
34. Competitors in girl's 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 and blouse.
35. No substance that can become airborne should be used on any dance floor in an attempt to improve traction.
36. In order to compete in Mid-America feiseanna, dancers from the youngest age group up to and including Under 9 in all categories must follow our regional guidelines for U8 and U9 costume rules. **This will go into effect January 2015.**

**Effective January 2015, at all Mid-America region feiseanna, boys and girls competing in age groups up to and including Under 9 must follow the costume rule as stated:**

#### **MID-AMERICA REGION COSTUME RULE**

- Dresses may be one piece or two pieces.
- No animal prints.
- No low cut necklines.
- No decorations including rhinestones or sequins of any kind.
- No reflective fabric (this does not include satin).
- No embellishments.
- Base material and appliqué materials must be solid colors.  
(No plaids, stripes, patterns, flowers or reflective materials, etc).
- Any embroidery and appliqué used on the dress must be of a traditional nature.
- Length must comply with An Coimisiun.
- No jewelry.
- Plain satin bows in the hair are allowed but bows may not be attached to the dress or used for a cape.
- Plain colored satins that do not include sequins, glitter, or crystals are permitted.
- Buckles are allowed on shoes that do not include rhinestones.
- All current school costumes are grandfathered into the rule regardless of threads or materials. All rhinestones would need to be removed. (Jan 2012)
- The costume rule applies to class costumes worn for solo competitions.
- All of the above applies to headpieces, socks and shoes.
- This rule applies for Boy and Girl Solo Championships and Traditional Set competitions at the Mid-America Oireachtas.
- The above Under 8 Rule was approved to include the Under 9 age group (Jan 2012).

**The consequence for not following the Mid-America Region costume rule is as follows:**

- The dancer will not be allowed to dance in a costume that is in violation of the rule but will be permitted to dance wearing an alternative costume that adheres to the rule.