



CLRG Grade Examinations 1-10

Saturday, September 28, 2024

Presented by: McTeggart Irish Dancers of South Texas a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

General Information: Grade exams are a progressive system of non-competitive evaluation. They are intended to offer the dancer a thorough assessment of their knowledge and technique at each level of their dance education.

Online registration: Feisworx.com (separate from feis registration)

Closing date: September 13, 2024 unless the cap is met earlier. Registrations are capped at 100 paid exams.

Grade Examiner: To be announced

Exam Location: DoubleTree by Hilton at George Bush Intercontinental Airport.

Feis Block Room Rate: \$89 / Room Block Closes 09/06/2024. 15747 JFK Blvd, Houston, TX 77032. Phone: (281) 848-4000.

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=HOUAPDT&arrivalDate=2024-09-27&departureDate=2024-09-29&groupCode=CDTMTA&room1NumAdults=1&cid=OM%2CWW%2CHILTONLINK%2CEN%2CDirectLink>

Tentative Schedule: Grade exams will begin after Figures Competitions at the Irish Rose of Texas Feis, approximately 9:15 a.m. and scheduled throughout the day. Consideration will be given to those exam candidates also participating in the Irish Rose of Texas Feis to avoid any potential conflicts with competitions and maximize efficiency for dancers. The exam schedule will be released after grade exam registration has closed.

Exam Fees*							
Grade 1	\$25	Grade 4	\$35	Grade 7	\$45	Grade 10	\$45
Grade 2	\$25	Grade 5	\$35	Grade 8	\$45	Preliminary+	\$15
Grade 3	\$25	Grade 6	\$35	Grade 9	\$45	+Preliminary Grade not required.	

*No refunds will be provided.

What to wear: No costumes. Generic practice attire or all-black ensemble. No school logos, insignias, or other identifiers.

What to dance: Dancers should be prepared to perform steps appropriate to the Grade level. Beginner steps for "Easy" dances. Novice steps for "Primary" dances. Traditional steps for "Basic" dances. Prizewinner or Championship steps for "Advanced" dances. Please consult with your TCRG regarding appropriate material, especially for "Advanced" dances.

Eligibility: Dancers attempting Grade 2 or higher must present official certificates from past Grade Exams as proof of eligibility. Dancers registered for multiple Grade Exams (i.e. Grades 1, 2, and 3) will be required to successfully pass each initial grade before attempting the next. Dancers should request permission from their TCRG before registering as a candidate.

Spectators are not allowed in the preparation area or examination room.

Grades and Required Dances
(Céilí dances are underlined, in bold and italics)

Grád/Grade	Rincí/Dances	Luas/Speed
Prelim	Ríl Éasca nó Port Eadtrom Easy Reel or Light Jig	Easy Reel 122-124 Light Jig 116
1	Bun Ríl agus Bun Port Eadtrom Easy Reel and Light Jig Scrúdú Béil Gaeilge (Éire)	Easy Reel 122-124 Light Jig 116 Oral Irish (Ireland)
2	Bun Port Luascach agus Bun Port Singil Easy Slip Jig and Easy Single Jig Scrúdú Béil Gaeilge (Éire)	Basic Slip Jig 124 Basic Single Jig 124 Oral Irish (Ireland)
3	Tús Ríl agus Bun Port Trom Primary Reel and Basic Heavy Jig Scrúdú Béil Gaeilge (Éire)	Primary Reel 116-118 Basic Heavy Jig 96 Oral Irish (Ireland)
4	Tús Port Luascach agus Lá Féile Phádraig Primary Slip Jig and St. Patrick's Day (Traditional) Scrúdú Béil Gaeilge (Éire)	Primary Slip Jig 120 St. Patrick's Day (trad) 94 Oral Irish (Ireland)
5	Ríl Cruaidh, (Méan/ Primary/Ard) Bun Cornphíopa agus <u><i>Ballaí Luimní</i></u> Advanced Reel (Intermediate/ Primary/Open), Basic (Traditional) Hornpipe and <u><i>Walls of Limerick</i></u>	Advanced Reel 113 (Intermediate/Primary/Open) Basic Hornpipe 144 <u><i>Walls of Limerick</i></u>
6	Port Luascach Cruaidh (Méan/ Primary/Ard),) An Londubh agus <u><i>lonsaí na hInse</i></u> Advanced Slip Jig (Intermediate/Primary/Open) Blackbird (Traditional) and <u><i>Siege of Ennis</i></u>	Advanced Slip Jig 113 (Intermediate/Primary/Open) The Blackbird (trad) 144 <u><i>Siege of Ennis</i></u>
7	Port Trom Cruaidh, Gáirdíní na Nóiníní agus <u><i>An Ríl Ceathrair</i></u> Advanced Heavy Jig, Garden of Daisies (Traditional) and <u><i>Four Hand Reel</i></u>	Advanced Heavy Jig 73 Garden of Daisies (trad) 138 <u><i>Four Hand Reel</i></u>
8	Cornphíopa Cruaidh, Greas Giúimála agus <u><i>Pléaracha na Bandain</i></u> Advanced Hornpipe, Job of Journeywork (Traditional) and <u><i>Humours of Bandon</i></u>	Advanced Hornpipe 113 Job of Journeywork (trad) 138 <u><i>Humours of Bandon</i></u>
9	Dhá rince Leithleach, ceann acu in am 6/8 agus an ceann eile in am 2/4 nó 4/4 (Nach Rincí traidisiúnta iad) agus <u><i>Caip an Chúil Aird</i></u>	Two modern sets, one in 6/8 time and the other in 2/4 or 4/4 time <u><i>High Caulead Cap</i></u>
10	Dhá rince Leithleach, ceann acu in am 6/8 agus an ceann eile in am 2/4 nó 4/4 (nach rincí traidisiúnta iad) (éagsúil ó iad i nGrád 9) agus <u><i>an Port Ochtair</i></u> .	Two modern set dances, one in 6/8 time and the other in 2/4 or 4/4 time (different from those in Grade 9) <u><i>The Eight Hand Jig</i></u>
11	Ríl Cruaidh, Port Luascach Cruaidh, Port Trom Cruaidh. Rí na Siog, móide dhá rince leith-leacha nua a roghnóidh an scrúdaitheoir as liosta cúig rince a sholáthróidh an Iarrthóir (éagsúil ó iad i nGrád 9 & 10) agus <u><i>An Cor Octair</i></u> agus <u><i>Port an Fhómhair</i></u> . All of the above, plus two modern set dances selected by the examiner from a list of 5 submitted by the candidate (different from those in Grades 9 and 10)	Advanced Reel 113 Advanced Slip Jig 113 Advanced Heavy Jig 73 King of the Fairies (trad) 130 <u><i>The Eight-Hand Reel</i></u> and <u><i>Harvest Time Jig</i></u>
12	Port Eadtrom, Port Singil, Cornphíopa Cruaidh, Triúr Captaen Mara, An Marcach Chuig an Aonach, móide dha rince leithleach nua a roghnóidh an scrúdaitheoir as liosta cúig rince a soláth-Róidh an Iarrthóir (éagsúil ó iad i nGrádanna 9, 10 and 11) agus <u><i>Cor Muirghéis</i></u> agus <u><i>Cor Sé Dhuine Dhéag</i></u> . All of the above, plus two modern set dances selected by the examiner from a list of five submitted by the candidate (different from those in Grades 9, 10 and 11)	Light Jig 116 Single Jig 124 Advanced Hornpipe 113 Three Sea Captains(trad) 96 Jockey to the Fair (trad) 90 <u><i>The Morris Reel</i></u> and <u><i>The Sixteen Hand Reel</i></u>

- St. Patrick's Day, Blackbird, Job of Journeywork, Garden of Daisies, King of the Fairies, Three Sea Captains and Jockey to the Fair must be performed in a traditional manner.
- 40 bars of music must be danced for all Reels, Single or Hop Jigs, Light Jigs, Slip Jigs, Heavy Jigs and Hornpipes.
- Music speeds as per CLRG rules.

Rules and Regulations for Grade Examinations

From the CLRG March 2024 Syllabus

All examiners must be aware of and adhere to the procedures, rules, etc. to ensure that examinations are conducted in the same manner worldwide.

1. Candidates must be associated with a currently registered CLRG teacher.
2. All 12 grade examinations must be completed for a candidate to be eligible to apply to take the T.C.R.G. examination.
3. Grade examiners of choice may be used for Grades 1-6, with a minimum of 2 different examiners to be used through these grades.
4. The same grade examiner may not examine in the same class for a period of 3 years. This also applies where a regional authority or group of teachers/classes hold the examinations. As an example, for applications for 2021, grade examiners may not have examined in the class for the years 2020, 2019 or 2018.
5. Rotation lists are in operation by An tUdarás Scrúdaithe for Grades 7-10. They are grouped as follows:

Examiner Rotation List:	Examination Locations:
Ireland	Ireland
Great Britain	England, Scotland, Wales
Europe (IRL, GB, EU)	Europe, Asia, South Africa
North America	USA, Canada, Mexico, South America
Australia/New Zealand	Australia and New Zealand

6. Five names are given to the organizer from the rotation list. Notification of the chosen grade examiner must be returned to grades@clrg.ie as soon as possible to ensure continuity of the rota. Grade examiners must respond to a request within two - three days of the invitation.
7. Grade exams must be examined by at least 4 different examiners for grades 1- 10.
8. Grades 11 and 12:
 - a. Grades 11 and 12 must be conducted by S.D.C.R.G. examiners.
 - b. As grades 11 and 12 are both uniquely tied to the T.C.R.G. examination, and graded by an S.D.C.R.G. examiner, briefing and questions/answers will be included to help the candidate understand the requirements and preparation necessary for all parts of the T.C.R.G. examination.
 - c. Special application forms must be submitted for these exams.
 - d. Candidates must be at least 16 years or older to take grade 11.
 - e. Candidates must be at least 17 years or older to take grade 12.
 - f. A different S.D.C.R.G. examiner must examine each of grades 11 and 12.
 - g. Where possible, these examiners must be different from the examiners who assessed any grade between grades 7-10.
 - h. An tUdarás Scrúdaithe, where necessary, may appoint an S.D.C.R.G. examiner who has examined at any of the candidate's previous examinations.
 - i. The results of grades 11 and 12 are not given to the candidates until they have been ratified by An tUdarás Scrúdaithe.
 - j. The candidates will receive diplomas signed by both the examiner and chairperson of An tUdarás Scrúdaithe for grades 11 and 12. The chairperson of An Coimisiún will also sign the grade 12 diploma.
9. Each grade must be passed before a candidate may attempt the next grade.
10. Candidates must produce previous grade exam reports before proceeding to take the next grade. Reports must be presented at the examination. **Grades 11 and 12** require that exam reports are submitted along with the specific application form to the office of CLRG 8 weeks in advance of the exam.
Grade 11 = Application & grade 1-10 examination reports to grades@clrg.ie
Grade 12 = Application & grade 11 report only to grades@clrg.ie

11. Grade examiners must ensure that all grades have been taken before examining the next grade. Please ensure that all previous grades are in order, as any exam taken in the future without confirmation of previous grades may not stand.
12. A candidate must take all grades in order, beginning with Grade 1 (the Preliminary grade is optional).
13. Scrúdú Béil, or oral Irish exam, is required for grades 1-4 in Ireland.
14. A candidate may only attempt three consecutive grades at any one exam.
15. A three-month period must elapse before the next grade is attempted.
16. A candidate would be permitted to retake any grade for a better score upon submission of a specific written request to the Udarás Scrúdaithe, with the understanding that the second result would replace the earlier one and that the dancer would be required to pay the usual fee for the grade being retaken.
17. A candidate undergoing a six-month restyling period may take a grade examination.
18. A certificate is awarded for each grade. Grade examinations are unlike competitions in that each candidate performs the dances individually and receives a detailed written assessment.
19. A grade should be given for each solo dance performed and averaged to achieve the overall grade. Céilí dances should not be included in the average grade. Comments should be noted on the theoretical knowledge.
20. Candidates must be able to adequately demonstrate practical and theoretical knowledge of all céilí dances as per Ár Rincí Céilí as specified in the syllabus for Grades 5 -12. The candidates must not be asked to teach these dances.
21. Dance costumes should not be worn.
22. Only basic steps may be danced in the preliminary grade and grades 1, 2 and 3.
23. St. Patrick's Day, Blackbird, Garden of Daisies, Job of Journeywork, King of the Fairies, Three Sea Captains, and Jockey to the Fair must be performed in a traditional style and manner.
24. 40 bars of music must be danced for all Reels, Single or Hop Jigs, Light Jigs, Slip Jigs, Heavy Jigs and Hornpipes.
25. Music speeds on the syllabus as per CLRG rules.
26. All modern set dances in grades 9-12 must not be repeated in any of these grades.
27. An Comhdháil Grades are accepted by An Coimisiún. Proof of having taken these examinations (certificates and marking sheets) must be submitted beforehand to An tÚdarás Scrúdaithe, and produced at the examination.