

THE EMERALD ISLE DANCERS' ASSOCIATION PROUDLY PRESENTS

Celebrating 21 years!

Mattierin Spring FEIS IN THE WEST

HOME OF THE

Best in the West
CHAMPIONSHIP BELT

April 18 - 19, 2026

The Westin Hotel | Edmonton, AB





Welcome!

Mattierin Irish Dance and the Emerald Isle Dancers' Association are very pleased to invite you as we celebrate the 21st Annual Mattierin Spring Feis in the West.

The Mattierin Spring Feis in the West is coming your way and we can't wait to see all your smiling faces at our FEIS! We will be doing everything in our power to give all the dancers and their family and friends a fantastic weekend they deserve.

The Mattierin Spring Feis in the West is registered with An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha, the North American Irish Dance Teachers' Association and the Western Canada Irish Dance Teachers' Association.

The Mattierin Spring Feis in the West is offering dancers many chances to dance on stage such as:

- DOUBLE Preliminary Championships
- DOUBLE Open Championships
- DOUBLE Beg/Adv Beg Reel Trophy competitions
- DOUBLE Nov/Prz Treble Jig Trophy competitions
- Best in the West Championship Belts
- Madonna Nixon Slip Jig Special
- Boys Championship Cup
- Treble Reel, Slip Jig & Tir Na Nog Special

There will be Perpetual Trophies awarded to all Championship and Trophy competitions. Preliminary Championships will be single year from U10 through U16. Based on minimum five competitors for each age group.

Special Competitions:

Feis in the West Music, Art, and Soda Bread Competitions!

The annual Music Competition will be held on Saturday afternoon and times will be published in the final schedule.



General Information

Registration, Accommodation, Vendors, Sponsorship

Register at feisworx.com

Closing date for entries is March 27th, 2026.

Entry Fees

• Family Admission Fee	\$50 /family*
• Solo Competitions	\$7 /dance per competitor
• Figure Dancing	\$5 /competitor per team
• Beg/Adv. Beg Trophy	\$20 /each per competitor
• 2nd Chance Beg/Adv. Beg Trophy	\$20 /each per competitor*
• Nov/Prz Trophy	\$20 /each per competitor
• 2nd Chance Nov/Prz Trophy	\$20 /each per competitor*
• First Feis Trophy	\$20 /each per competitor*
• Slip Jig & Treble Reel Trophy	\$20 /each per competitor*
• Tir Na Nog	\$10 /each per competitor*
• Prelim and Open Champ A (Saturday)	\$50 /each per competitor
• Prelim and Open Champ B (Sunday)	\$50 /each per competitor*
• Choreography	\$45 /dancer per team
• Family Maximum	\$150**

* Not included in family max

** Excluding competitions noted above with an *

***Second chance Beg/Adv Beg and Nov/PW Trophy Sunday

Payments by E-transfer or Cheque

Payment can be made via e-transfer or cheque using the payment information notes below. Please include your dancer's name and dance school in the memo or comments. For questions, please contact Feis Registrar Nadine Smith at info@feisinthewest.ca

Interac E-Transfer	Cheque
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Email: payments@feisinthewest.ca• Question: What is the password?• Answer: west2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Payable to: EIDA• Address: c/o Greg Melnychuk 9227 190th Street Edmonton AB T5T 5P7

Late Entries & Cancellations

Payment must be received prior to the feis, or late fees will apply. Entries after March 27th, 2026 are subject to a \$25 late fee. Your entry on Feisworx is your commitment to pay. If you decide not to attend the feis, please withdraw your entry prior to the closing date. No substitutions, or changes accepted after the closing date, with the exception of updates to dancer status.

There are no refunds after the closing date.

Accommodation

We have secured a fantastic group rate of **\$149/night** for a standard room at the beautiful **Westin Downtown Edmonton**. The block is under EIDA-Mattierin Spring Feis in the West. Rooms are ready to be booked – to secure your room at the block rate please book by Friday, March 20th, 2026. Online booking will be available at: <https://www.mattierin.com/feisinthewest>. Stay tuned to our official instagram @feisinthewest for the hotel block opening date.

Vendors

Vendor tables are available at the feis for \$100 for the first table plus \$50 for each additional table. Tables are limited, so please book as soon as possible. Please contact Aoiffe Keohane info@feisinthewest.ca to reserve a table.

Deadline: April 6, 2026

Online Program Advertising and Sponsorships

Online Program adverts are available at the following rates:

- Full page: \$100
- Half page: \$50
- Quarter page: \$25
- Social Media Post \$100

We also have a wide variety of sponsorship and advertising opportunities available. For more information, please contact Dallas Currow at info@feisinthewest.ca for more information.

Program Ad Deadline: March 27, 2026





DAYS ONLY

SCHEDULE

APRIL 18 - 19

The schedule is tentative and subject to change.



Saturday April 18

First-Feis & Grades Solos (Beg-PW)
First Feis Reel Trophy Specials
Tir Na Nog Special
Beg/Adv-Beg Trophy & Nov/PW Trophy
Grades Treble Reel/Slip Jig Specials
Preliminary and Open Championships
Beginner, Open & Adult Teams
Soda Bread, Music and Art Competitions

Sunday April 19

Beg/Adv-Beg Trophy & Nov-PW Trophy
Preliminary and Open Championships
Champ Slip Jig & Treble Reel Specials
Adult Solos & Championship
Best in the West Championship Belts
Madonna Nixon Slip Jig Special
Boys Championship Cup

Championship Specials

Madonna Nixon Memorial Slip Jig Special

1st place winners in the Championship Slip Jig specials perform one step down the line.

The "Best in the West" Perpetual Belts

- Minor Belt (U13)
- Junior Belt (U16)
- Senior Belt (16&O)

First-place winners in Preliminary and Open Championships by age group qualify to dance one soft shoe and one hard shoe step. The Senior Belt winner also receives the Londyn Nachtigal Perpetual Trophy.

Boys Championship Cup

All boys who dance in championships qualify to dance - one hard shoe, one soft shoe.



Tir Na Nog

The Tir Na Nog competition gives our youngest (U6), non-competitive dancers a chance to hit the stage and show off their dancing skills. All entrants will receive an award at the end of the competition.

Perpetual Trophies

Reel & Treble Jig Trophy, Slip Jig Specials, All Championships

Perpetual trophies are provided for all Championships and Reel, Treble Jig, and Slip Jig Trophy competitions, including Perpetual Belts for the "Best in the West" Minor, Junior, and Senior Belt championship specials, a Perpetual Cup for the Boys Championship Special, and a Perpetual for the Madonna Nixon Memorial Slip Jig Special.

Sashes

Provided for Preliminary and Open Championships 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners.

Music Competitions

Non-Dancer entrants who are not officially part of a dance school may enter by emailing info@feisinthewest.ca and specifying the competition, name and age of entrant. **Music competitions are open to all - dancers and non-dancers alike.** Performances are limited to 2.5 min wherein competitors can play up to two Irish tunes of their choice. Ages as of January 1, 2026. You can enter (\$15/entrant) on Feisworx.com or at the feis.

Art Competition

Non-Dancer entrants who are not officially part of a dance school may enter as well at the Feis on Saturday. **The Art competition is open to all - dancers and non-dancers alike.** Entry is \$10/art piece. All art must be submitted by 11:00 AM at the feis on Saturday, April 18th and must be taken home after the awards. Be sure art is labelled clearly with name, age, and phone number. Art must have Irish cultural theme (legends, celtic knots, etc.) and can be created with any art medium (paint, sketch, crayon, sculpture, etc.).

Soda Bread Competition

Non-Dancer entrants who are not officially part of a dance school may enter as well at the Feis on Saturday. **The soda bread competition is open to all - dancers and non-dancers alike.** Entry is \$10/loaf. Entries will be judged on appearance, texture and taste. Soda Bread must be submitted by 11:00 AM at the feis on Saturday, April 18th. The winner will be announced after lunch. All entries are property of the feis once submitted.

Feis Rules



1. Competitions are open to amateurs only. Only students of teachers registered in good standing with the WCIDTA, IDTANA, and An Coimisiun Le Rinci Gaelacha may compete.

2. Competitors ages will be determined as of January 1st, 2026.

3. Entry forms are to be checked and signed by the registering teacher.

4. Music shall be in accordance with regulation metronome speeds.

5. Categories:

- **First Feis** - A dancer who has not qualified for Adv. Beginner for that dance.
- **Beginner** - A dancer who has not qualified for Adv. Beginner for that dance.
- **Advanced Beginner** - A dancer who has received qualifying place in that particular dance in the Beginner level but has not yet qualified to move on to Novice in that particular dance.
- **Novice** - A dancer who has received qualifying place in that particular dance in the Advanced Beginner level but has not yet qualified to move on to Prizewinner in that particular dance.
- **Prizewinner** - A dancer who has received qualifying place in that particular dance in the Novice level but has not yet qualified to advance to Preliminary Championships.
- **First Feis Trophy** - (Reel 32 bars) Open to dancers entered in their first feis, Dancers may not compete in any other Trophy competition.
- **Beginner / Advanced Beginner Trophies** — Open to dancers who dance the majority of their dances in the Beg / Adv. Beginner level in solos. A dancer must advance to Novice/Prizewinner trophy if they receive two first place trophies, or if they advance in the majority of their solo levels.
- **Beginner / Advanced Beginner Trophies** — Open to dancers who dance the majority of their dances in the Beg / Adv. Beginner level in solos. A dancer must advance to Novice/Prizewinner trophy if they receive two first place trophies, or if they advance in the majority of their solo levels.
- **Novice / Prizewinner Trophies** — (Treble Jig OR Hornpipe 32 bars, choice of two speeds) Open to dancers who dance the majority of their dances in the Novice or Prizewinner level in their solos. Also open to dancers who have previously won two first place trophies in the Beg/Adv Beginner Trophy competitions. Dancers in ALL age groups dance the Treble Jig.
- **Preliminary Championships** — Open to dancers who have won two first place trophies in the Novice/ Prizewinner Trophy competition, and who have not previously won two first place Preliminary Championships.

- **Open Championships** – Open to dancers who have previously won three first place Preliminary Championships, or two Prelim Championships prior to August 31, 2024.
- **Adult Championships** – Open to dancers aged 18 and over, who have not competed in nonadult competitions (also known as youth/&over categories) for solo or team events during the previous five (5) years.
- **Advanced Adult Championship:** Open to dancers aged 18 and over, who have previously placed in the top 3 of a Preliminary Championship or competed in Open Championship levels in the youth/&over levels, regardless of when the competitor was active. An Advanced Adult dancer has opted to leave the youth/&over categories, and once the dancer begins competing in Advanced Adult the dancer may not return to the youth/&over categories.

NOTE: Teachers with Adult dancers are strongly advised to consult the IDTANA Handbook for all rules related to adult dancing and competitions.

6. Competitors may only dance each dance once. Competitors entered in First Feis may repeat the Reel & Light Jig at the Beginner Level.

7. In Figure dancing, 50% of a team may be moved to a higher age group to complete a figure – unless the Feis Committee has granted special permission. All Ceili dances must be performed in accordance with the Official book “An Rince Foirne”

8. A competition may be cancelled or combined with a higher age group if there are less than 3 entries. If the entry is 40 or higher, the competition will be split.

9. Dancers should be in the hall 60 minutes before scheduled time of their competition.

10. All dancers must be in costume, complete with shoes and number to receive any award onstage.

11. Under no circumstances are the adjudicators or the musicians to be approached during the feis. The decision of the adjudicator is final.

12. No steel taps or bubble heels allowed. Shoes may be subject to inspection by adjudicators. Costumes must be in accordance with the IDTANA and An Coimisiun guidelines.

13. The Emerald Isle Dancers Association, Mattierin Spring Feis in the West, Mattierin School of Irish Dance, W.C.I.D.T.A., the venue, or any organization affiliated with same will not be held responsible for personal injury, property loss or damage during an event.

14. Protest against a breach of rules will be considered if made in writing and signed by the objector. The objection must also, be accompanied with a \$25.00 fee and reach the feis committee before prizes are presented. If the complaint is justified, the \$25.00 fee will be refunded.

15. Competitors may only compete in a Trophy competition OR a Championship, but not both. Specials (Treble Reel, Slip Jig) do not apply in this case.

16. Any form of unauthorized photography which has the capability to capture a dancer's image whilst in motion, using electronic or manual means ie: mobile phone, standard camera, video camcorder, commercial film, with or without enhancement, is expressly forbidden in competition.

17. Notwithstanding any other conditions specified herein, the Feis Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry and to alter or cancel any rule or condition as it may be deemed necessary in the best interest of the Feis. All teachers will be advised. 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.

18. Dancers shall advance in each individual solo dances as follows:

- <5 Dancers No placing advances
- 5 - 9 dancers 1st place moves up
- 10 - 19 dancers 1st, 2nd & 3rd move up
- 20 – 29 dancers 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th move up
- 30 or more dancers 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th move up

19. Dancers shall advance in Trophy competitions and Championship as follows:

- A dancer who wins two first place trophies in the Beginner/Advanced Beginner Trophy advances to the Novice/Prizewinner Trophy, or:
- A dancer who advances to Novice or Prizewinner for the majority of their solo levels (hard shoes in particular) +automatically advances to the Novice/prizewinner Trophy.
- A dancer who wins two first places Novice/Prizewinner Trophy competitions advances to Preliminary Championships.
- A dancer who wins three first place Preliminary Championship competitions advances to Open Championships
- Should a dancer win a third Preliminary Championship on the first day of competition, they are eligible to move to Open Championship on the second day of competition. If they choose to withdraw from a pre-registered second Preliminary Championship, they are not eligible for a refund from that competition, but may transfer that registration fee to the Open Championship competition.

21. All feis committees must award a minimum of 30% of competitors in Preliminary and Open Championships.

22. Shiny plastic number cards should not be used.

23. By entering the Mattierin Spring Feis in the West, dancers, teachers, and all spectators agree to be respectful and polite to all volunteers, competitors and their families. Disrespectful and abusive behaviour will absolutely not be tolerated. The Feis committee reserves the right to remove anyone from the event at their discretion.

24. All other Feis rules as per the An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha, the I.D.T.A.N.A. and the W.C.I.D.T.A.

Competition Numbers

Grades

First Feis	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	10&O		
Reel	3	5	7	9	11	13		
Light Jig	4	6	8	10	12	14		
Beginner	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	12 & O
Reel	107	114	121	128	135	142	149	163
Light Jig	108	115	122	129	136	143	150	164
Single Jig	109	116	123	130	137	144	151	165
Slip Jig	110	117	124	131	138	145	152	166
Treble Jig	111	118	125	132	139	146	153	167
Hornpipe	112	119	126	133	140	147	154	168
Trad Set	113	120	127	134	141	148	155	169
Adv. Beginner	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	12 & O	
Reel	214	221	228	235	242	249	263	
Light Jig	215	222	229	236	243	250	264	
Single Jig	216	223	230	237	244	251	265	
Slip Jig	217	224	231	238	245	252	266	
Treble Jig	218	225	232	239	246	253	267	
Hornpipe	219	226	233	240	247	254	268	
Trad Set	220	227	234	241	248	255	269	
Novice	U9	U10	U11	U12	12&O			
Reel	328	335	342	349	363			
Light Jig	329	336	343	350	364			
Single Jig	330	337	344	351	365			
Slip Jig	331	338	345	352	366			
Treble Jig	332	339	346	353	367			
Hornpipe	333	340	347	354	368			
Trad Set	334	341	348	355	369			
Prizewinner	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	13&O		
Reel	428	435	442	449	456	463		
Light Jig	429	436	443	450	457	464		
Single Jig	430	437	444	451	458	465		
Slip Jig	431	438	445	452	459	466		
Treble Jig	432	439	446	453	460	467		
Hornpipe	433	440	447	454	461	468		
Trad Set	434	441	448	455	462	469		
First Feis Reel Trophy	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U12	12&O	
Girls		900	901	902	903	904	906	907
Boys						919	921	922

Reel Trophy	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	12&O
Beg/Adv Beg	931	932	933	934	935	936	937
Second chance Beg/ Adv Beg	941	942	943	944	945	946	947

Nov/Prz Trophy	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	12&O
Nov/Prz	948	949	950	951	952	953
Second chance Nov/Prz	958	959	960	961	962	963

Championship

Preliminary	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U18	18&O
Prelim A	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	711	712
Prelim B	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	721	722
Open	U10	U12	U14	U16	U18	U20	20 & O		
Open A	723	725	727	729	731	732	744		
Open B	733	735	737	739	741	742	754		

Treble Reel Trophy		U9	U10	U12	12&O		
Beg/Adv Beg		999	1000	1001	1003		
		U10	U11	U12	U14	14&O	
Nov/Prz		1006	1007	1008	1010	1012	
		U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16
Prelim/Open		1014	1015	1016	1017	1018	1019
							1020
Slip Jig Trophy		U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	12&O
Beg/Adv Beg		1099	1100	1101	1102	1103	1105
		U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	13&O
Nov/Prz		1110	1111	1112	1113	1114	1116
		U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15
Prelim/Open		1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1126
							1127

Trophy Dance Eligibility & Requirements

- **Beg/Adv-Beginner Trophy:** Majority of a dancer' solo competitions (at least 4) must be must in the Beginner or Advanced Beginner Solo Category - 32 bars (two steps) Reel
- **Novice/Prizewinner Trophy :** 32 bars (two steps) Treble Jig OR Hornpipe with choice of speed
- **Slip Jig Special :** Dancers must dance in the same category as their Solo Slip Jig
- **Treble Reels :** 16 bars (one step down the line) Dancers must dance in the same category as their highest Hardshoe Solo

Teams/Figures

Beg-Prz Teams	U7	U9	U11	U13	U16	16&O	
2 - Hand	800	805	810	815	820	826	
3 - Hand	801	806	811	816	821	827	
4 - Hand	802	807	812	817	822	828	
6 - Hand	803	808	813	818	823	829	
8 - Hand	804	809	814	819	824	830	
Champ Teams	U7	U9	U11	U13	U16	U19	19&O
2 - Hand	850	855	860	865	870	875	880
3 - Hand	851	856	861	866	871	876	881
4 - Hand	852	857	862	867	872	877	882
6 - Hand	853	858	863	868	873	878	883
8 - Hand	854	859	864	869	874	879	884
Other Teams	U13	13&O					
Figure Choreography	890	891					
Progressive	892	893					



Adult Solos

Adult	Beg	Nov	Prz	Adult Champ	Adv Adult Champ	Teams	Treble Reel
Reel	540	547	554	561	562	2 - Hand 780	563
Light Jig	541	548	555			3 - Hand 781	
Single Jig	542	549	556			4 - Hand 782	
Slip Jig	543	550	557			6 - Hand 783	
Treble Jig	544	551	558			8 - Hand 784	
Hornpipe	545	552	559				
Trad Set	546	553	560				

Music

Music Competition	10&U	11-14	15&O
Fiddle	A	B	C
Voice	D	E	F
Any Instrument	G	H	I
All Ages			
Duet/Group	J		





Thank you!

MATTIERIN SPRING FEIS IN THE WEST

**The Emerald Isle Dancers Association and
Mattierin Irish Dance look forward to seeing you
at our 21st annual feis this April!**

Please contact us with any questions you might have, we are happy to help.

Merv Bell TCRG | Feis Chairperson

Erie Melnychuk | Feis Director

Email: info@feisinthewest.ca



MERV BELL TCRG | PATTI BELL | JESSICA BELL TCRG | REBECCA BELL ADCRG