Western US Region
IDTANA

Stephen Scariff, ADCRG-BG
Regional Director



Open Feis

Hosted by Pacific Celtic Foundation & An Daire Academy of Irish Dance

Saturday, January 16th, 2027

Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel

8235 NE Airport Way, Portland, OR 97220

Adjudicators

Janice Blakey, ADCRG *(Kelowna, BC)*
Debbie MacVoy,ADCRG *(Toronto, ON)*
Myriam Patiño, ADCRG *(Toronto, ON)*

Musician

TBA

Entry Deadline: Saturday, December 19th, 2026

Enter online at www.feisworx.com

SYLLABUS APPROVAL

PORTLAND NEW YEAR'S FEIS 2027

IS REGISTERED WITH THE
WESTERN U.S. REGIONAL COUNCIL

SYLLABUS APPROVED BY:

Annie Darlington

ADCRG - SERGEANT AT ARMS

NOVEMBER 12, 2026

DATE

LEVEL DEFINITIONS AND ADVANCEMENT RULES

First Feis is not per dance. It is the first Feis ever for the dancer. Dancers may only enter First Feis once, regardless of how many dances they are competing, even in the case of back-to-back Feiseanna.

In **Beginner 1, Beginner 2 and Novice** the following advancement rules will apply:

- Competitions with 5 - 9 dancers: 1st place will advance to the next grade.
- Competitions with 10 or more dancers: 1st and 2nd places will advance to the next grade.
- Dancers may not stay in level at teacher discretion, with the exception of back-to-back feiseanna.

Prizewinner: Advancement from Prizewinner to Preliminary Championship is at teacher discretion.

Preliminary to Open Championship:

- Dancer must have 3 overall wins in competitions with 5 or more dancers. Advancement to Open is not at teacher discretion.
- Upon winning 3rd overall win in Preliminary Championships, a dancer must move immediately to Open, even in the case of back-to-back Feiseanna. This includes 2-round and 3-round Preliminary Championships.

Adults: Dancers who started after the age of 18, or who have been out of Youth/&over competition for 5 years.

Advanced Adults: Dancers age 18 or older who previously placed in the top 3 of a Preliminary Championship or competed at the Open Championship level in the youth/&over levels, regardless of when the competitor was last active.

- Advanced Adults do not need to be out of competition for 5 years before moving from the youth/&over categories to Advanced Adults.
- Dancers who have already been competing in the regular Adult categories do not need to move to Advanced Adults, regardless of their level or placements achieved when competing in youth/&over.
- An Advanced Adult dancer has opted to leave Youth/&over categories, and once the dancer begins competing in Advanced Adult, the dancer may not return to Youth/&over categories.

Beginner Figures: Open only to dancers in beginner for at least one solo dance.

Open Figures: Open to all grade levels.

Portland New Year's Feis

Saturday, January 16th, 2027

Competitions may be split or combined based upon paid entries

FIRST FEIS (Age➤ / Year➤)	U11 2016+	11&O 2015-
Reel	51	61
Light Jig	52	62

First Feis Rules

Competitions are open to any dancer who has never competed before.

Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Novice, and Prizewinner Rules

Please see the complete rules for competition eligibility.

BEGINNER (Age➤ / Year➤)	U7 2020+	U9 18-19	U11 16-17	11&O 2015-	Adult
Reel	101	111	131	151	611
Light Jig	102	112	132	152	612
Slip Jig	103	113	133	153	613
Single Jig	104	114	134	154	614
Treble Jig	105	115	135	155	615
Hornpipe	106	116	136	156	616
St. Patrick's Day	107	117	137	157	617

ADVANCED BEGINNER (Age➤ / Year➤)	U7 2020+	U9 18-19	U11 16-17	11&O 2015-
Reel	201	211	231	251
Light Jig	202	212	232	252
Slip Jig	203	213	233	253
Single Jig	204	214	234	254
Treble Jig	205	215	235	255
Hornpipe	206	216	236	256
St. Patrick's Day	207	217	237	257

NOVICE (Age➤ / Year➤)	U9 2018+	U11 16-17	U13 14-15	13&O 2013-	Adult
Reel	311	331	351	371	631
Light Jig	312	332	352	372	632
Slip Jig	313	333	353	373	633
Single Jig	314	334	354	374	634
Treble Jig	315	335	355	375	635
Hornpipe	316	336	356	376	636
Traditional Set	317	337	357	377	637

PRIZEWINNER (Age➤ / Year➤)	U9 2018+	U11 16-17	U13 14-15	U15 12-13	15&O 2011-	Adult
Reel	411	431	451	471	481	641
Light Jig	412	432	452	472	482	642
Slip Jig	413	433	453	473	483	643
Single Jig	414	434	454	474	484	644
Treble Jig	415	435	455	475	485	645
Hornpipe	416	436	456	476	486	646
Traditional Set	417	437	457	477	487	647

TROPHIES (Age➤ / Year➤)	U9 2018+	U11 16-17	U13 14-15	13&O 2013-	Adult
First Feis Reel	901	903	905	906	-
Beg./Adv.Beg. Reel	911	913	915	916	919
Nov./PW Reel	921	923	925	926	929
Nov./PW Hornpipe	931	933	935	936	939
All-Grades Treble Reel	953		955	956	959

Trophy Special Rules

For all trophy specials, competitors will perform one step (16 bars) down the line. Dancers should enter the trophy level commensurate with the corresponding solo.

CHAMPIONSHIP (Age➤ / Year➤)	U9 2018+	U11 16-17	U13 14-15	U15 12-13	U17 10-11	17&O 2009-	Adult
Prelim/Adult	701	703	705	707	709		720
Open/ Adv. Adult	751	753	755	757	759	761	770
Champ Treble Reel	970		971	972	973		979

Championship Rules

Judged by a panel of three; one adjudicator's marks will determine solo results for each round. All dance 48 bars heavy jig or 40 bars hornpipe, 48 bars reel or 40 bars slip jig, and choice of trad. set (U9 and Adult) or modern set (9&O and Adv. Adult). Treble reel one step down the line.

TEAMS (Age➤ / Year➤)	U7 2020+	U9 18-19	U11 16-17	U13 14-15	U16 11-13	16&O 2010-	Adult
Beginner 2-hand	802	812	822	832			-
Beginner 3-hand	803	813	823	833			-
Open 2-hand	852			862	872	882	892
Open 3-hand	853			863	873	883	893
4-hand Book Dance	854			864	874	884	894
6-hand Book Dance	856			866	876	886	896
8-hand Book Dance	858			868	878	888	898

Team Rules

Competitors in Beginner teams must have at least one solo dance in Beginner or Adv. Beginner. 2-hand and 3-hand dances 48 bars. Book dances performed as in "Ár Rince Céilí." See complete rules for age concessions.

CAROL FORD MEMORIAL SLIP JIG	
990	All ages, all levels, one step down the line. All proceeds to benefit the Pink Wig Project.

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Competition Fees

Please note that entry fees are NON-REFUNDABLE.

Light Shoe Competitions	$35.00	*flat fee for all light shoe*
Heavy Shoe Competitions	$25.00	*flat fee for all heavy shoe*
Championships	$60.00	*including Adults and Advanced Adults.*
Trophies & Specials	$10.00	*per competition (except Mini-Champs)*
Mini-Champ Trophies	$25.00	*including solo results*
Team Competitions	$15.00	*flat fee for all teams*
Family Registration Fee	$35.00	*per family (includes online results)*
Late Entry	$35.00	*after December 19th, 2026*
Family Maximum	$175.00	*excludes registration fees, late fees, trophy specials*

Competition Rules

GENERAL RULES

1. All rules of An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha (CLRG), the Irish Dance Teachers Association of North America (IDTANA), the Western US Region, and supplementary competition rules noted in this syllabus are included by reference.
2. The feis committee and any organization affiliated with the same shall not be held responsible or liable for any personal injury, property loss, or damage. Destruction of feis property or rental property may be punishable by law.
3. Entry constitutes acceptance of the rules outlined herein.

ENTRIES

4. In the case of all solo and team competitions in all grades, the age of a competitor on 1st January of the year in which the competition is held will determine the age category. For the purposes of this rule a competitor whose birthday occurs on 1st January shall be deemed to be under the age attained on that date.
5. Competitions are open to all but those holding a TMRF, TCRG, or ADCRG designation. Unless open platform status has been granted by the Region, a feis can only accept entries from pupils of teachers registered with CLRG, regardless of their domicile, and where applicable, registered with both the IDTANA and the North American region in which they reside.
6. Competitors must answer all questions as required by the feis committee, including teacher's name, and enclose the entry fee when mailing. Failure to do so will result in a rejected entry. Entries after the closing date or they may be subject to a late fee.
7. Entrants in any Championship event may not enter in any grade events, but may enter in figure dances. Entrants in Championships should specify, on the entry form, their choice of contemporary 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. three 1st place wins.
    b. Dancers must compete in the Preliminary Championship competition in order to qualify for Open Championship.

8. The feis shall list their adjudicators on their syllabus and/or website. If adjudicators are not listed on the syllabus, they must be posted on the feis website by the registration deadline. Once the feis has closed for entries the adjudicators' names may be removed from the website.
9. The feis committee 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.



CONDUCT & COMPLAINTS

10. 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): The competitor will be disqualified from the feis at which the occurrence happened and from all feiseanna for a period of one year beginning at the date of the occurrence.
11. 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.
12. Competitors must be in costume, including soft shoes, to receive awards presented from stage.
13. Complaints regarding the running or rules of the feis must be in writing, stating names and other factual information and signed by the complainant. A $50 fee must be enclosed and presented to the feis chairperson within one hour of the occurrence. The fee will be returned if the complaint is upheld.

COSTUMING & MAKE-UP

14. A competitor's number must be worn and visible to adjudicators when performing in all competitions; the use of reflective plastic number covers is discouraged.
15. 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, Beginner, and Advanced Beginner must wear only the competitor's dancing school costume, a skirt and blouse, or pants and dress shirt. All other categories are excluded from this rule. Modest attire is encouraged when a competitor is not dancing.
16. Make-up is prohibited on a dancer in First Feis, Beginner, and Advance Beginner up to and including the under 12 age group.
17. Any competitor found to be using artificial carriage aids who subsequently refuses to remove the 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.

ADJUDICATORS & MUSICIANS

18. Only an ADCRG currently registered with CLRG and in good standing may adjudicate at a registered competition.
19. Awards will be determined in proportion to the number of entries in each competition and to the degree of proficiency shown.
20. In matters pertaining to adjudication, the decision of the adjudicators is final.
21. Adjudicators are to monitor the quality of music at the stage(s) to which they are assigned.
22. Musicians employed by the feis committee will be solely under the direction and management of the feis committee on the day of the event.

ORGANIZATION

23. The following are the agreed ranges to be used for numbering competitions in the Western US Region:

First Feis	001-099
Beginner	100-199
Advanced Beginner	200-299
Novice	300-399
Prizewinner	400-499
Adults	600-699
Championships	700-799
Figures	800-899
Specials & Cultural	900-999

24. Competitions will be numbered as follows; all other numbers will generally indicate age category:

General Numbering (100-999)		Solo Numbering (100-499)		Team Numbering (800-899)	
0xx	First Feis	**xx1**	Reel	**8x2**	2-Hand
1xx	Beginner solos	**xx2**	Light Jig	**8x3**	3-Hand
2xx	Adv. Beginner solos	**xx3**	Slip Jig	**8x4**	4-Hand
3xx	Novice solos	**xx4**	Single Jig	**8x6**	6-Hand
4xx	Prizewinner solos	**xx5**	Treble Jig	**8x8**	8-Hand
6xx	Adult solos	**xx6**	Hornpipe		
7xx	Championships	**xx7**	Traditional Set		
8xx	Teams				
9xx	Trophies/Specials				

25. Championships (Preliminary and Open) require at least three adjudicators. Championship-level competitions with fewer than three adjudicators may not be called a Championship and do not affect advancement.
26. Competitions may be closed if there are no competitors at the assigned stage ready to compete when the competition is scheduled or announced except where competitors are involved in stage conflicts.
27. The status of the dancer does not change unless there are five or more dancers in a competition.
28. 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.
29. No substance that can become airborne should be used on any dance floor in an attempt to improve traction.
30. In consideration of safety and in fairness to dancers performing at a feis, 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 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.
31. 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).
32. All feiseanna must have a process to allow parents to request that their child or children's name(s) not be listed on the posted competitor list prior to the day of the feis.

LEVELS & ADVANCEMENT

33. First Feis is not per dance, it is the first feis ever for the dancer. Dancers may only enter First Feis once even in case of back-to-back feiseanna.



34. In Beginner, Advanced Beginner, and Novice the following will apply:
    a. 5 - 9 dancers: 1st place will advance to the next grade.
    b. 10 or more dancers: 1st and 2nd places will advance to the next grade.
    c. Dancers may not stay in level at Teacher discretion, except in the case of back-to-back feiseanna.
35. Prizewinner: Advancement from Prizewinner to Preliminary Championship is at teacher discretion.
36. Preliminary to Open Championship:
    a. Must have 3 overall wins (2 wins for those from Alaska and Hawaii) with 5 or more dancers, not at teacher discretion.
    b. Upon the 3rd win (2nd win for those from Alaska and Hawaii) in Preliminary Championships, a dancer must move immediately to Open, even in the case of back-to-back feiseanna. This includes 2-round and 3-round Preliminary Championships.
37. Adults: Dancers who started after the age of 18, or who have been out of competitions for 5 years.
38. Advanced Adults:
    a. An Advanced Adult dancer is defined as anyone age 18 or older who has previously placed in the top 3 of a Prelim Championship or competed in Open Champ levels in the youth/&over levels regardless of when the competitor was active.
    b. An Advanced Adult dancer has opted to leave Youth/&over categories and once the dancer begins competing in Advanced Adult, the dancer may not return to Youth/& Over categories.
    c. Advanced Adult Championships at NAIDC 2024 and WUSR 2024 will dance Reel/hornpipe. In 2025, Advanced Adults shall follow the rotation of dances for the Senior Ladies/Men age groups. For the recall round, set of choice will be performed.
39. Beginner Figures: Open only to dancers in beginner for at least one solo dance.
40. Open Figures: Open to all grade levels.

SOLO COMPETITIONS

41. All regions in North America will follow this common set of speeds for all grade competitions at feiseanna in North America:

Dance	First Feis/Beginner	Adv. Beginner	Novice/P'winner	Championship
Reel	122	122	113	113
Light Jig	115	115	115	-
Slip Jig	122	122	113	113
Single Jig	124	124	124	-
Heavy Jig	-	92	73 or 92	73
Hornpipe	-	138	113 or 138	113

42. Competition levels:
    a. Beginner Grade: open to any dancer who has never placed 1st in Beginner in a competition with 5-9 competitors, or 1st or 2nd in a competition with 10 or more competitors.
    b. Advanced Beginner Grade: open to any dancer who has never placed 1st in Advanced Beginner in a competition with 5-9 competitors, or 1st or 2nd in a competition with 10 or more competitors.
    c. Novice Grade: open to any dancer who has never placed 1st in Novice in a competition with 5-9 competitors, or 1st or 2nd in a competition with 10 or more competitors.
    d. Prizewinner Grade: A competitor who does not qualify as a beginner, advanced beginner, or a novice.
    e. Adult Beginner: An adult beginner is a competitor who never took Irish dancing lessons as a juvenile and is over 18 years of age.
43. Solo competitors in First Feis, Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Novice, or Open (Prizewinner) competitions:
    a. Must compete in their own age group.
    b. Must be prepared to perform two steps (32 bars) in each event.



   c. Cannot change competition on the day of the feis.
44. First Feis, Beginner, and Advanced Beginner dancers are required to dance at traditional speeds. Novice and Open/Prizewinner dancers may choose between traditional and Oireachtas speeds. Adult dancers are allowed to dance traditional or Oireachtas speed dances in the novice and prizewinner grade levels, but this does not apply to contemporary set dances.
45. Preliminary Championships are open to those who, at any CLRG recognized feis:
    a. Have won 1st place in both an open/prizewinner light and heavy shoe competition, and
    b. Have never won 1st, 2nd or 3rd in Open Championship.
    c. A dancer who wins three first place awards in Preliminary Championship, or two wins in the case of dancers from Alaska and Hawaii as they are remote locations, will move to Open Championship at the next feis they enter, or as soon as the third win is achieved, in any age category, in the following years.
    d. 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.
46. 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 have passed since their last placement.
47. 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.

OPEN STATUS

48. Open status must be granted by the Western US Regional Council. Approval allows dance schools not registered with CLRG to compete at that specific feis only, under CLRG rules and judged by CLRG adjudicators.
49. Competitors from outside of CLRG should enter the level that corresponds to the level in their dance organization using the following table:

<table>
<tr><th>IDTANA</th><th>An Comhdháil</th><th>CRDM</th><th>CRN</th><th>IIDA</th><th>WIDA</th></tr>
<tr><td>Beginner</td><td>Beginner A</td><td>Beginner</td><td>Bunghad</td><td>Beginner</td><td>Beginner</td></tr>
<tr><td>Adv. Beginner</td><td>Beginner B</td><td>Intermediate</td><td>Ullmhúchán</td><td>Primary</td><td>Primary</td></tr>
<tr><td>Novice</td><td>Beginner C</td><td>Novice</td><td>Meánghrád</td><td>Intermediate</td><td>Intermediate</td></tr>
<tr><td>Prizewinner</td><td rowspan="2">Pre-Open</td><td rowspan="2">Prizewinner</td><td rowspan="2">Ardghrád</td><td rowspan="2">Preliminary</td><td rowspan="3">Open</td></tr>
<tr><td>Preliminary</td></tr>
<tr><td>Open</td><td>Open</td><td>Champion</td><td>Craobhghrád</td><td>Open</td></tr>
</table>

TEAM COMPETITIONS

50. Teachers or team captains are responsible that their teams are complete and in position when the competition is announced.
51. Dancers in team competitions may compete in their own age groups, or a higher age group, but may not compete in an age group lower than their actual age.
52. Dancers may NOT dance twice in the same competition.
53. The length of 2-hand and 3-hand dances in competition are to be 48 bars of music plus an 8 bar introduction.
54. Team members should be in the correct age category wherever possible.
    a. 50% of a team must be in the proper age category.
    b. 25% may repeat from a lower age category to complete the team.
55. For 4-hand dances, top couples will have backs to the adjudicator's left. Dancers will be required to dance:



    a. 4-Hand Reel - lead, body, completion of the 1st figure by top couple
    b. Humours of Bandon - lead, body, completion of the 1st figure by top couple, lead

56. For 6-hand book dances, top couples will have backs to the adjudicator's left.
57. For 8-hand book dances, top couples will have backs to the adjudicator. Dancers will be required to dance the lead, body, completion of the 1st figure by top couple(s) except in the following:
    a. Sweets of May - beginning up to and including the See Saw.
    b. Three Tunes - beginning up to and including the Hook & Chain
    c. Gates of Derry - beginning up to and including the swing around of the 1st repeat.
    d. Lannigan's Ball - complete dance
58. Movements in céilí dances are intended to flow naturally. Although the numbers of bars may be specified in *Ár Rince Céilí*, the natural flow and rhythm of the dance takes precedence over strict compliance with the written breakdown of bars.
59. In all céilí competitions, over-elaborate entrances and exits from stage must be avoided.