

PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIP RULE FOR IRELAND

EFFECTIVE FROM 1st JANUARY 2022

A Preliminary Championship must be adjudicated by 3 or more Adjudicators and must consist of 2 Rounds, 1 Light Round – Reel/Slip Jig, and 1 Heavy Round – Heavy Jig/Hornpipe. Preliminary Championships may run as a “stand alone” competition or may be incorporated into the Open Championship. Dancers may compete in an Open or a Preliminary Championship or both.

RULES AND ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to compete in a Preliminary Championship:

- Dancers must not have placed in the top 3 in an Open Championship judged by 3 or more adjudicators.
- Dancers must not have won a Preliminary Championship more than 2 times in the current year, **HOWEVER**, if there are 5 or less in a Preliminary competition the dancer is still eligible to compete in Preliminary Championship.
- Dancers must not have qualified for Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne in the current year (2023) or previous year (2022).
- Dancers must not have recalled in the actual Championship at Oireachtas Rince na hEireann in the current year (2023) or previous year (2022).
- Dancers having won 2 Preliminary Championships may not compete in any Mean grad competition for the remainder of the year **HOWEVER**, if a dancer has won only one Preliminary Championship they may continue to compete in Mean grad (with the exception of the dances that they won the Prelim Championship with).

EXCEPTIONS PERTAINING TO OIREACHTAS IN INDIVIDUAL REGIONS

- Dancers who qualify for Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne where there are five dancers or less in the competition at their Regional Oireachtas are exempt from this ruling. They may remain in the Preliminary Championships if they so wish.
- Boys who have qualified for Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne, but were not placed in the top 3 at their Regional Oireachtas and who otherwise fulfil the Prelim Criteria, may continue to compete in Preliminary Championships.