



Feis Rules

FEIS RULES AND CONDITIONS

- In Bun and Tus grad competitions, dancers are permitted to wear either class costumes or day wear e.g. skirts and tops This costume rule applies to any competitors dancing under 5. (Munster Specific rule)
- The use of artificial carriage aids is strictly forbidden except in cases of a medical condition where a doctor's certificate may be requested. 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 apparatus (proof of which may be required) will be exempt from this ruling.
- In order to comply with the health and safety measures, all dancers lining upside stage prior to any round of a competition will be required to perform the simple exercise of raising arms to shoulder level unhindered. If unable to do this due to the costume stitching or any arm attachments by the time of their rotation will not be permitted to perform.
- Makeup / false - eye lashes will not be permitted for dancers in either solo or team competitions, up to and including the Under 10 age group. Effective from 1st March 2014.
(Please note that dancers in this age group who might be in a Ceili Team Under 11 will be permitted makeup for team this age group competitions, i.e. Under 11 Ceili Championships.)
- Under no circumstances should dancers walk around any dancing venue in their underwear. Neither should dancers (regardless of age) change into or out of costume in the main dancing hall, if at all possible. At all times, dancers should be properly attired.
- In Reel competitions under 5 years, dancers must perform Easy Reel material only... (Munster specific rule).
- Should a dancer fall onstage, the adjudicator **MUST** ring the bell to stop the performance of the dancer(s). The dancer(s) so affected will be permitted to re-dance at the discretion of the adjudication panel, or by a majority of adjudicators, where there is a judging panel. Should, in the opinion of the stage steward, having obtained medical advice, if necessary, a dancer be unfit to re-dance and if such dancer insists on his/her right to do so then the dancer concerned may be permitted to re-dance on completion of a declaration form exonerating the committee of liability for any consequences.
- Should a dancer lose a heel or a complete shoe he/she may stand back allowing the other dancer, where applicable, to continue dancing uninhibited. In such a case, the dancer concerned will be permitted to re-dance as soon as it is deemed practicable by the stage steward.
- No blocks en pointe, stationary or moving, is allowed for all ages up to and including under 12 age group, with exceptions of 11 to 12 age group who may perform who may perform this work as, and from, 1st September.
- All Graded competitions are open to all regions
- Port competitions must have both a light and heavy result where both jig types have been performed.
- Grading up rule (Effective January 1st 2009) : For those competitions where grading up occurs :Less than or equal to 20 (1 dancer grades up); 21 – 39 inclusive (2 dancers grade up) ; Greater than or equal to 40 (3 dancers grade up)

Bun Grad:

- Confined to competitors who have never previously won first place for the dance specified for that competition in any other registered competition in any other grade or under any age limit
- Dancers must perform basic material only

Tus Grad:

- Confined to competitors who have never previously won first place for the dance specified for that competition in any other registered competition in any other grade or under any age limit other than in Bun Grad
- Dancers must perform their first advanced material. This should exclude clicks, twists, swivels, cross keys, rocks etc.

Primary Grad (Munster specific criteria):

- Confined to competitors who have never previously graded out of a competition for the dance specified for that competition in any other registered competition in any other grade or under any age limit other than Bun or Tus or Primary Grade.
- Dancers can perform the same level of material acceptable in Mean or Ard Grad competition.
- Solo costumes can be worn by dancers in this grade
- Once a dancer wins a dance in Primary grade, they are no longer eligible to enter that dance in that grade again

Mean Grad:

- Confined to competitors who have never previously won first place under the upper age-limit specified for the competition (or under a higher age-limit) outside of Bun grad and Tus grad.
- A registered competition for the dance specified for the competition
- The same level of material can be performed for Mean grad as Ard Grad.
- A competition in which there are five competitors or less shall not count for grading purposes i.e. the winner of such a competition shall be entitled to dance again in a competition for the same dance in the same age group and grade. (1994).

Ard Grad:

- Open to any dancer who:
 - is a pupil of a registered teacher
 - is qualified to compete as regards age and place of residence
 - is not suspended from competitions under any rule or by a decision of An Coimisiúnora Regional Authority.
 - is entered with the permission of his teacher.
- A competition in which there are five competitors or less shall not count for grading purposes i.e. the winner of such a competition shall be entitled to dance again in a competition for the same dance in the same age group at mean grad. (2007)



- Where a dancer has won first prize and thereafter fails to win a prize for that particular dance, the teacher of that dancer may, when a period of two years has elapsed, apply to the regional council to have the dancer re-graded as a mean grad dancer.

Craobh Comortas (Championship):

- A competition may be entitled a "Championship" only when it is an Ard Grad competition and
 - Is judged by at **least 3 Adjudicators**.
 - Competitions, in the case of a step dancing competition are required to perform at least two dances, one of which must be a heavy dance and the other a light dance.
 - U6 Craobh Comórtas are not permitted (Munster specific – Sep 1st 2015).
 - All competitors will receive an award in the light round of any Craobh Comórtas competition.

Priomh Comortas (Premier Championship):

- The title "Priomh Comortas" or Premier Championship may be ascribed to a competition in any grade judged by **one adjudicator**, where the following conditions apply:
 - **Two dances** to be performed by each competitor.
 - In a Priomh Comortas with an upper age of 8 years or less the compulsory dances must consist of either:
 - Those stipulated for the older age groups and set out above or
 - Two light dances (Munster Specific).
 - When a dancer wins First place in a Priomh Comortas competition, they are deemed to have won **both dances** in that competition, even if they are not awarded first place when individual round results are awarded.
 - U6 Championships must be Priomh Comórtas (Munster specific – Sep 1st 2015).

Preliminary Championship Ruling (Effective from Jan 1st 2022 - All of Ireland)

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 "standalone" competition or maybe 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 Rincena Cruinne in the current year (2025) or previous year (2024).
- Dancers must not have recalled in the actual Championship at Oireachtas Rincena hEireann in the current year (2025) or previous year (2024).
- 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 with which they won the Preliminary Championship).

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 Rincena Cruinne but were not placed in the top 3 at their Regional Oireachtas and who otherwise fulfil the Preliminary criteria, may continue to compete in Preliminary Championships.

Feis procedures

- The Feis Committee reserves the right to refuse Admission / Entry to the Feis.
- Any objections, other than those related to adjudicator's decisions, must be lodged in writing to the Feis Committee. There will be a fee of EUR 20 associated with such an objection. If the feis committee cannot resolve the issue satisfactorily, the objection will be forwarded to Comhairle na Mumhan.
- Any form of unauthorised photography which has the capability to capture a dancer's image whilst in motion, using electronic or manual means e.g., mobile phone, standard camera, video camcorder, cine recorder, commercial film, with or without flash enhancement, is expressly forbidden in competition. (Jan 2005), except in Bun & Tus Grád competitions.
- The use of taped music (e.g., iPad, iPod, Tape Recorder) is permitted for Subsidiary Ceili competitions.

Feis admin

- Entries will only be accepted from teachers currently registered with An Coimisiún.
- Age is reckoned from January 1st
- The Adjudicators decision is final.
- The committee, as far as is practicable, will provide a stage surface suitable for dancing. However, the committee cannot accept any liability whatsoever for injuries sustained while on stage. The lodgement of any entry will be deemed to be an acceptance of this provision by a dancer and by his/her parent/guardian/teacher.
- **Child Protection: Please email our Designated Liaison Person: munsterdlp@gmail.com**

