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The 2017 Eastern Canada Regional Syllabus

Adopted March 6, 2005
Amended November 6, 2008
Amended December 4, 2013
Amended May 2, 2017

Amended December 3, 2006
Amended August 10, 2011
Amended November 13, 2014

Amended January 27, 2008
Amended November 23, 2011
Amended December 30, 2016

Rules

All regional feiseanna must submit their syllabus to the IDTAC Feis Liaison for approval at least one month prior to the anticipated publication date, and the entry list (sorted by competition) must be sent one week prior to the feis date so the splits and mergers can be checked. Please send your information to Eileen Moran, TCRG at: eileenmoran28@hotmail.com

Requests to hold competitions which are not specified in this syllabus must be submitted in writing to the Regional Director for approval, at least three months in advance of the anticipated publication date. Such requests must be submitted each year as permission will be granted for one year only. Please submit requests to Ryan Carroll, ADCRG at: ryan@goggin-carroll.com

Please note the NAFC rules requiring that: one third of Adjudicators must be from out of region, and all Adjudicators/Musicians must be published on the syllabus and/or website.

The following ECR rules must be published, as shown below, in the syllabus of all feiseanna in the Eastern Canadian Region:

1. **Boys and girls must be combined in all levels.**
2. **Competitions with four (4) or fewer solo or team entries (a full team being a single entry) must be combined with the next highest age group. Exempt from this rule are: Beginner level competitions (effective Jan 1 2014) and Open Championship Under 9 (effective Jan 1 2012). A maximum of two age groups may be combined.**
3. **Advanced Beginner, Novice and Prizewinner competitions with 15 or more entries and figure dancing competitions with 25 or more entries shall be split to single age groups (effective Jan 1 2017), and should one side of the split have four or fewer entries, it will not be re-merged. Double-aged competitions with four or fewer entries will not be merged.**
4. **Preliminary and Open Championship competitions with 25 or more competitors must be split by year of birth (or exactly in half in the case of senior level age groups) (effective Jan 1 2017).**
5. **Competitions not reaching the thresholds noted above may not be split.**
6. **Entries received after splits/mergers have been approved by the Feis Liaison and communicated to the Feis Chair shall not mandate further adjustments (effective Jan 1 2017).**
7. **Preliminary Championship: In addition to the NAFC definition, a Preliminary Championship dancer in the ECR is "one who has achieved 1st place in one light dance (reel or slip jig), AND 1st place in one heavy dance (treble jig or hornpipe) in the Prizewinner grade."**
8. **Dancers in Under 8 and Under 9 competitions must dance a traditional set dance from the An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha approved list. Such will be danced three at a time (except for Open Championship, which will be danced one at a time) where stage size permits; otherwise, they will be danced two at a time.**

9. All dancers (solo and teams) must be in full costume and Irish dance shoes for award presentations.
10. There is to be an 8-bar break between lines of dancers in Beginner competitions.
11. All speeds **MUST** be listed on the feis syllabus as shown in the regional syllabus.
12. Feiseanna may apply on an annual basis for additional age groups for grade level competitions and/or single age groups for Preliminary and Open Championship events.

Grade Levels

Grades are restricted to the following:

Beginner:	as per NAFC definition; skirt/blouse or school costume only
Advanced Beginner:	as per NAFC definition; skirt/blouse or school costume only
Novice:	as per NAFC definition
Prizewinner:	as per NAFC definition
Preliminary Championship:	as per NAFC definition plus ECR Rule #7
Open Championship:	as per NAFC definition

Age Groups

Grades are restricted to the following:

Beginner:	Under 5, and every age up to and including 12 & Over
Advanced Beginner:	Under 7, Under 9, Under 11, Under 13 and 13 & Over
Novice:	Under 8, Under 10, Under 12, Under 14 and 14 & Over
Prizewinner:	Under 9, Under 11, Under 13, Under 15 and 15 & Over
Preliminary (Jan01-Aug31):	Under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 18 & Over
Preliminary (Sep01-Dec31):	Under 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 18 & Over
Preliminary Sets (Jan01-Aug31):	Under 9, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 16 & Over
Preliminary Sets (Sep01-Dec31):	Under 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16 and 16 & Over
Open Championship:	Under 9*, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 19 & Over

*Open Championship Under 9 may NOT be combined with Under 11.

Length of Dances

Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Novice and Prizewinner:

Reel, Light Jig, Single Jig, Slip Jig, Treble Jig, and Hornpipe	32 bars
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Preliminary and Open Championship:

Introduction (other than for certain set dances)	8 bars
Reel and Treble Jig	48 bars
Slip Jig and Hornpipe	48 bars
2-Hand and 3-Hand	48 bars

If a dancer does not start after the proper introduction, the musician(s) **MUST NOT** add the number of bars to the dancers' performance (i.e. if the dancer false starts or misses the start). This applies to set dances as well. The onus is on the dancer to start correctly.

Required Solo Dances and Speeds

The following dances must be offered at the following speeds (effective Jan 1 2017):

Beginner:	Reel (122), Light Jig (115), Slip Jig (122), Single Jig (124)
Advanced Beginner:	Reel (122), Light Jig (115), Slip Jig (122), Single Jig (124) Treble Jig (92), Hornpipe (138), St. Patrick's Day (94)
Novice:	Reel (113), Light Jig (115), Slip Jig (113), Treble Jig (92 or 73), Hornpipe (138 or 113), Traditional Set Dance (see speeds below)
Prizewinner:	Reel (113), Light Jig (115), Slip Jig (113), Treble Jig (92 or 73), Hornpipe (138 or 113), Traditional Set Dance (see speeds below)
Preliminary Championship:	Reel (113) (boys and girls) OR Slip Jig (113) (girls only), AND Treble Jig (73) or Hornpipe (113)
Preliminary Championship Set:	Set Dance of Choice from the Official List (see ECR rule 8)
Open Championship:	Reel (113) (boys and girls) OR Slip Jig (113) (girls only), AND Treble Jig (73) or Hornpipe (113) and Set Dance of Choice from the Official List (see ECR rule 8)

Novice and Prizewinner level dancers may choose between traditional and contemporary speeds for Treble Jig and Hornpipe.

Novice Traditional Set must be a single competition, as must the Prizewinner Traditional Set competition. Dancers may choose any traditional set dance from An Coimisiún's Official List.

Traditional Set Speeds:

St. Patrick's Day	94	Blackbird	144
Job of Journeywork	138	King of the Fairies	130
Jockey to the Fair	90	Garden of Daisies	138
Three Sea Captains	96		

Required Figure Dancing

The following requirements must be offered:

Dances:	2-hand reel, 3-hand reel and 4-hand dance (teams' choice from Ár Rincí Ceili), must be offered in each age group stipulated below.
Age Groups:	U10, U12, U15, 15 & Over (additional age groups are not permitted for 2-hand or 3-hand competitions; see Optional Categories/Optional Figures for more info)

Entries must be submitted by dancers. Teachers cannot be required to submit entries.

Optional Categories

Optional competitions are limited to the following:

Alternate solos:	The requirements for alternate solos must be published: Preliminary Championship and Open Championship dancers will be combined for Reel, Slip Jig, Treble Jig and Hornpipe. Age groups must remain the same as for Preliminary Championships, adding U11 after September 1. Competitions will be judged by one Adjudicator. Dances are restricted to 32 bars. Competitors will dance <u>two at a time</u> regardless of stage size or age group.
Prizewinner Set Dance: (contemporary)	In the Prizewinner grade, a contemporary set dance competition may be offered. At the time of entry, dancers must be qualified for the Prizewinner grade in at least three of the following: Reel, Slip Jig, Treble Jig and Hornpipe - and be entered to dance those dances at the feis. Age groups must be the same as the other Prizewinner dances, beginning with Under 11. <u>Dancers competing Under 9 are not eligible to dance a contemporary set.</u> Dancers have a choice of contemporary set dance from the Official List.
Adult:	Adult competitions (meeting the NAFC definition) may be offered. A choice of speed for hard shoe must be offered. Contemporary set dance competitions may NOT be offered.
Arts:	The NAFC requires non-dancing competitions such as: Art, Music, Singing, Recitation, Baking and Language. Age groups are at the discretion of the feis committee.
Treble Reel:	Treble Reel competitions - three age groups must be offered. Age and grade restrictions are at the discretion of the feis committee.
Trophy Specials:	Competitions deemed "trophy specials", in which dancers in one or more grades compete in a single dance, are permitted.
Tir na nÓg	A non-competitive event may be held, in which young dancers dance a short (at the stage manager's discretion) reel. This event is restricted to dancers Under 6 who have never competed at any grade level. No make-up or wigs are permitted. No Irish dancing costumes or shoes are required. The non-competitive aspect of the event is to be highlighted, and the feis committees are encouraged to award all dancers.
Optional Figures:	6-hands, 8-hands, Figure Choreography and Dance Drama may be offered. 6-hands and 8-hands must be from <i>Ár Rincí Ceili</i> (latest edition). Under 8 may be offered for 4-hands, 6-hands and 8-hands IF this age group is offered at the corresponding year's Oireachtas.

Special Child:	A non-competitive event may be held, called Special Child, or Special Needs, in which dancers who self-identify as special (including those with mobility devices) may participate. The feis committee is encouraged to award all dancers.
Single Jigs:	Single Jigs may be offered in the Novice and Prizewinner grades. Required age groups apply.
Dance Offs:	At the Preliminary and Open Championship levels, dance offs, in which the top award winners are eligible to compete in a single dance for a single award, are permitted.
Reminder:	<p>Requests to hold competitions which are not specified in this syllabus must be submitted in writing to the Regional Director for approval, at least three months in advance of the anticipated publication date. Such requests must be submitted each year. Permission will be granted for one year only. Please provide as much detail as possible to help the approval process go quickly.</p> <p>Submit to Ryan Carroll, ADCRG, ryan@goggin-carroll.com</p>