

# Mid-America Standardized Syllabus for 2010

## Please Note:

- ❑ Each Feis may use their own numbering system if they want – however, the attached numbering system is encouraged and was put together by Jack Richens and is based on the following:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Digit – Category: FIRST FEIS Dances all begin with 1, and so forth
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Digits – Age Group, Girls begin at 01 and Boys begin at 51
  - 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Digits (Letters) – Dance Type
    - RL = REEL, LJ = LIGHT JIG, SN = SINGLE JIG, SJ = SLIP JIG, TJ = TREBLE JIG, HP = HORNPIPE, PD = ST PATRICK DAY, TS = TRADITIONAL SET
- ❑ All entry fees are at the discretion of the Feis.
- ❑ Optional Competitions are marked with a (\*) and highlighted in blue.
- ❑ Each Feis may add additional competitions at their discretion
- ❑ Any questions, concerns, feedback, etc – feel free to ask.
- ❑ Remember that this is a starting point – all suggestions and concerns for changes in the 2007 Syllabus will be taken into consideration.

# THE STANDARD MID AMERICA SYLLABUS FOR 2010 FEISEANNA

**\* Optional competition at Feis discretion.**

## FIRST FEIS

The First Feis level has been established for dancers who are competing in their very first Feis. Once a dancer competes in the First Feis category, the dancer must move into Beginner 1 or Beginner 2.

	GIRLS								BOYS				
	U5	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	O11	U5	U7	U9	U11	O11
REEL	105RL	106RL	107RL	108RL	109RL	110RL	111RL	112RL	155RL	157RL	159RL	161RL	162RL
LIGHT JIG	105LJ	106LJ	107LJ	108LJ	109LJ	110LJ	111LJ	112LJ	155LJ	157LJ	159LJ	161LJ	162LJ
SINGLE JIG*	105SN	106SN	107SN	108SN	109SN	110SN	111SN	112SN	155SN	157SN	159SN	161SN	162SN
SLIP JIG	105SJ	106SJ	107SJ	108SJ	109SJ	110SJ	111SJ	112SJ					

## BEGINNER 1 (BEGINNER)

All hard shoe dances at traditional speeds.

A dancer who has been dancing for less than one year. A Beginner 1 must move to Beginner 2 no later than January 1<sup>st</sup> of the dancers second year of instruction, or may move to Beginner 2 earlier with teacher's permission and provided that the Feis has not closed to changes. Note: a Beginner 1 dancer who starts in September, may continue as a Beginner 1 until December of the following year (16 months) before moving into Beginner 2.

	GIRLS								BOYS				
	U5	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U12	O12	U6	U8	U10	U12	O12
REEL	205RL	206RL	207RL	208RL	209RL	210RL	212RL	213RL	256RL	258RL	260RL	262RL	263RL
LIGHT JIG	205LJ	206LJ	207LJ	208LJ	209LJ	210LJ	212LJ	213LJ	256LJ	258LJ	260LJ	262LJ	263LJ
SINGLE JIG*	205SN	206SN	207SN	208SN	209SN	210SJ	212SN	213SN	256SN	258SN	260SN	262SN	263SN
SLIP JIG	205SJ	206SJ	207SJ	208SJ	209SJ	210SJ	212SJ	213SJ					

## BEGINNER 2 (ADVANCED BEGINNER)

All hard shoe dances will be at traditional speeds.

A dancer who has been dancing for more than one year and who has not won a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup>, in Beginner 2. A dancer who has won a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> in a Beginner 2 dance must move into Novice in that dance no later than January 1<sup>st</sup> of the next calendar year or with teacher's permission as soon as the next Feis (if said Feis has not closed to changes).

	GIRLS									BOYS				
	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	O13	U6	U8	U10	U12	O12
REEL	306RL	307RL	308RL	309RL	310RL	311RL	312RL	313RL	314RL	356RL	358RL	360RL	362RL	363RL
LIGHT JIG	306LJ	307LJ	308LJ	309LJ	310LJ	311LJ	312LJ	313LJ	314LJ	356LJ	358LJ	360LJ	362LJ	363LJ
SINGLE JIG*	306SN	307SN	308SN	309SN	310SN	311SN	312SN	313SN	314SN	356SN	358SN	360SN	362SN	363SN
SLIP JIG	306SJ	307SJ	308SJ	309SJ	310SJ	311SJ	312SJ	313SJ	314SJ					
TREBLE JIG	306TJ	307TJ	308TJ	309TJ	310TJ	311TJ	312TJ	313TJ	314TJ	356TJ	358TJ	360TJ	362TJ	363TJ
HORNSPIPE	306HP	307HP	308HP	309HP	310HP	311HP	312HP	313HP	314HP	356HP	358HP	360HP	362HP	363HP
ST PATRICK DAY	306PD	307PD	308PD	309PD	310PD	311PD	312PD	313PD	314PD	356PD	358PD	360PD	362PD	363PD

## NOVICE

All hard shoes dances can be done at either traditional speed or slow speed.

A dancer moves into Novice as a result of placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> in that dance as indicated above in Beginner 2. A dancer who wins a 1<sup>st</sup> in Novice must move into Prizewinner in that dance no later than January 1<sup>st</sup> of the next calendar year or with teacher's permission as soon as the next Feis (if said Feis has not closed to changes).

	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	O15	U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	O15
	REEL	407RL	408RL	409RL	410RL	411RL	412RL	413RL	414RL	415RL	416RL	457RL	459RL	461RL	463RL	465RL
LIGHT JIG	407LJ	408LJ	409LJ	410LJ	411LJ	412LJ	413LJ	414LJ	415LJ	416LJ	457LJ	459LJ	461LJ	463LJ	465LJ	466LJ
SINGLE JIG*	407SN	408SN	409SN	410SN	411SN	412SN	413SN	414SN	415SN	416SN	457SN	459SN	461SN	463SN	465SN	466SN
SLIP JIG	407SJ	408SJ	409SJ	410SJ	411SJ	412SJ	413SL	414SJ	415SJ	416SJ						
TREBLE JIG	407TJ	408TJ	409TJ	410TJ	411TJ	412TJ	413TJ	414TJ	415TJ	416TJ	457TJ	459TJ	461TJ	463TJ	465TJ	466TJ
HORNSPIPE	407HP	408HP	409HP	410HP	411HP	412HP	413HP	414HP	415HP	416HP	457HP	459HP	461HP	463HP	465HP	466HP
TRADITIONAL SET	407TS	408TS	409TS	410TS	411TS	412TS	413TS	414TS	415TS	416TS	457TS	459TS	461TS	463TS	465TS	466TS

## PRIZE WINNER

All hard shoes dances can be done at either traditional speed or slow speed.

A dancer moves into Prizewinner as a result of placing 1<sup>st</sup> place as indicated in Novice.

	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	O15	U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	O15
	REEL	507RL	508RL	509RL	510RL	511RL	512RL	513RL	514RL	515RL	516RL	557RL	559RL	561RL	563RL	565RL
LIGHT JIG*	507LJ	508LJ	509LJ	510LJ	511LJ	512LJ	513LJ	514LJ	515LJ	516LJ	557LJ	559LJ	561LJ	563LJ	565LJ	566LJ
SINGLE JIG*	507SN	508SN	509SN	510SN	511SN	512SN	513SN	514SN	515SN	516SN	557SJ	559SJ	561SJ	563SJ	565SJ	566SJ
SLIP JIG	507SJ	508SJ	509SJ	510SJ	511SJ	512SJ	513SJ	514SJ	515SJ	516SJ						
TREBLE JIG	507TJ	508TJ	509TJ	510TJ	511TJ	512TJ	513TJ	514TJ	515TJ	516TJ	557TJ	559TJ	561TJ	563TJ	565TJ	566TJ
HORNSPIPE	507HP	508HP	509HP	510HP	511HP	512HP	513HP	514HP	515HP	516HP	557HP	559HP	561HP	563HP	565HP	566HP
TRADITIONAL SET	507TS	508TS	509TS	510TS	511TS	512TS	513TS	514TS	515TS	516TS	557TS	559TS	561TS	563TS	565TS	566TS

## PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS

A dancer who wins 1<sup>st</sup> place in each of the Open dances (reel, slip-jig, treble jig, and hornpipe) can move into Preliminary Championships with teacher's permission. Boys and Girls will compete against each other, however if there are at least 5 boys entered, the boys will be moved into a separate competition. In cases where a Feis elects to split a competition due to a large entry, the split must be done by birth date age in the same manner as the North American Championships.

Dancers will perform 48 bars of the reel or 40 bars of the slip-jig **and** 40 bars of the hornpipe or 48 bars of the treble jig.

Preliminary Championship will be judged and scored by all 3 judges. In addition, awards will also be posted for each solo round (light and heavy round) based on the scores of one judge (different judges scores for light and heavy).

	<u>U9</u>	<u>U10</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>U12</u>	<u>U13</u>	<u>U14</u>	<u>U15</u>	<u>U16</u>	<u>U17</u>	<u>O17</u>
<b>Preliminary Championship</b>	608PC	610PC	611PC	612PC	613PC	614PC	615PC	616PC	617PC	618PC
<b>Set Dance *</b>	608SD	610SD	611SD	612SD	613SD	614SD	615SD	616SD	617SD	618SD
<b>Treble Reel *</b>	610TR		612TR		614TR		616TR		618TR	

## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

A dancer who wins two First Place awards in one calendar year will move on to Open Championship the following year, or as soon as the second win is achieved, in any age category, in the following years. Only in the case of back-to-back Feiseanna (successive days), in which case the first win in the first Feis will not change the dancer's status for the second Feis. Placing in a Regional or National Oireachtas does not change the status of a competitor.

Dancers will perform: 48 bars of reel or 40 bars of slip-jig, 40 bars of the hornpipe or 48 bars of the treble jig, and a Set Dance. A Feis may elect to have a recall of 50% of the competitors for the set-dance round if there are over 20 dancers in the competition.

Open Championship will be judged and scored by all 3 judges. In addition, awards will also be posted for each solo round (light, heavy, and set) based on the scores of one judge (different for each round).

# May be combined with the next higher age group.

	<u>GIRLS / LADIES</u>						<u>BOYS / MEN</u>				
	<u>U10</u>	<u>U12</u>	<u>U14</u>	<u>U16</u>	<u>U18#</u>	<u>018</u>	<u>U11</u>	<u>U13</u>	<u>U15</u>	<u>U17#</u>	<u>017</u>
<b>Championship</b>	710OC	712OC	714OC	716OC	718OC	719OC	761OC	763OC	765OC	767OC	768OC
<b>Treble Reel *</b>	710TR	712TR	714TR	716TR	718TR#	719TR	761TR	763TR	765TR	767TR#	768TR

**NOTE:** A dancer who has not received a legitimate placing (sufficient competitors within the normal placing scale) along with a dancer who has not placed in Open Championships for two consecutive years, may return to their previous competition level. For example, an Open Championship dancer that does not place in two consecutive years may return to Preliminary Championships, the same as a Preliminary dancer who does not place can return to Prizewinner.

## ADULT

**All hard shoe dances will be at traditional speeds.**

A dancer over the age of 18 who has not danced in the above described competitions for a period of five years. Dancers who are in the Adult categories cannot enter any competition other than Adult specified competitions. A dancer who wishes to return to any category other than Adult **must** remain out of Adult competitions until they retire from dancing for five consecutive years.

	<u>BEGINNER 1 AND 2</u>	<u>NOVICE/PRIZEWINNER</u>
<b>REEL</b>	835RL	855RL
<b>LIGHT JIG</b>	835LJ	855LJ
<b>SINGLE JIG *</b>	835SN	855SN
<b>SLIP JIG</b>	835SJ	855SJ
<b>TRADITIONAL TREBLE JIG</b>	835TJ	855TJ
<b>TRADITIONAL HORNPIPE</b>	835HP	855HP
<b>TRADITIONAL SET *</b>	835TS	855TS

FIGURE DANCING				CEILI DANCING *	
	2 HAND REEL	3 HAND REEL	4 HAND REEL/JIG		8 Hand Ceili Dance
Under 7	921*	931	941	Under 8	981*
Under 9	922*	932	942	Under 10	982*
Under 11	923*	933	943	Under 12	983*
Under 13	924*	934	944	Under 15	984*
Under 15	925*	935	945	Over 15	985*
Over 15	926	936	946	Adult	986*

Figure Dancing: Teachers or team captains are responsible that their teams are complete and in position when the competition is announced. Competitors may compete in the next higher age group; however, a competitor may compete in only one age group, with the exception of 8 hands (see Rule 23).

- **\* Optional competition at Feis discretion.**
- **Feiseanna are encouraged to add additional cultural, family, and dance competitions at their discretion, in addition to the one non-dancing competition required by the North American Feis Commission.**

## **DANCING COMPETITION RULES**

**Adopted By The North American Feis Commission, 2009, Effective 1/1/2010  
WITH MIDWEST REGIONAL VARIATIONS, Updated 3/2/2010)**

1. 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 right of entry. 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.
  2. Competitions are open to all but those holding a TMRF, TCRG, or ADCRG designation. All dancers must be pupils of a person currently registered with An Coimisiun as a Dancing Teacher of any category.
  3. 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): Competitor will be disqualified from the Feis at which the occurrence happened and from all NAFC – registered Feiseanna for a period of one year beginning at the date of the occurrence.
4. Competitions may be closed if there are no competitors at the assigned stage ready to compete when the competition is scheduled or announced. This does not pertain to a situation where competitors are involved in stage conflicts, and such conflicts will be handled by the stage monitor.
  5. Solo competitors in First Feis (if offered), Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Novice or Open (Prizewinner) competitions:
    - (a) Must compete in their own age group.
    - (b) Must be prepared to perform two steps in each event.
    - (c) Cannot change competition on the day of the Feis.

With the exception of First Feis and Beginner 1, a dancer's level is determined in each dance (Reel, Light Jig, Single Jig, Slip-Jig, Hornpipe, Treble Jig, and Traditional Set). Traditional Set Dances are limited to those dances determined by An Coimisiun Le Rince Gaelacha as traditional set dances.

6. 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 (if offered), Beginner and Advanced Beginner, aka Beginner I and II, must wear a class costume, or a skirt and blouse. All other categories are excluded from this rule. Modest attire is encouraged when a competitor is not dancing.
7. Competitor's number must be worn and visible to adjudicators when performing in all competitions, except in Championships. Use of reflective plastic number covers is discouraged.
8. Awards will be determined in proportion to the number of entries in each competition and to the degree of proficiency shown.
9. Complaints must be in writing stating names and other factual information and signed by the complainant. A \$25.00 fee must be enclosed and presented to the Feis Chairman within one hour of the occurrence. The fee will be returned if the complaint is upheld.
10. The Feis Committee and any organization affiliated with same, will not be held responsible for personal injury, property loss or damage. Destruction of Feis property or rental property will be punishable by law.

11. 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.
12. Competitors must answer all questions as required by the Feis Entry committee, including teacher's name, and enclose the entry fee when mailing. Failure to do so may result in a rejected entry. Entries must be postmarked on or before the closing date or they will be subject to a late fee as determined by the Feis.
13. Entrants in any Championship event may not enter in any other (Grade) events, but may enter in Figure Dances. Entrants in Championships should specify, on the entry form, their choice of soft shoe, hard shoe, and 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. two 1st place wins.
  - (b) Dancers must compete in the preliminary championship competition in order to qualify for open championship
  - (c) The regional syllabus where the Feis is being held may have different qualifications for entry.
14. Combining male and female dancers in any age category is left to the discretion of each region of the IDTANA. Competitions may be combined with the next higher age group if there are less than 5 competitors entered. Competitions can only be combined up one age group. Boys and girls CANNOT be combined [except, effective 6-1-10, all boy competitions below the Preliminary Championship level with less than 5 entries must be combined with the girls competition of the corresponding age group(s), and then run as one competition.]
15. Preliminary Championships are open to those who, at any NAFC 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. A dancer who wins two first place awards will move on to Open Championship at the next Feis they enter, or as soon as the second win is achieved, in any age category, in the following years. Only in the case of back-to-back Feiseanna (successive days), in which case the first win in the first Feis will not change the dancer's status for the second Feis. 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.
  - (c) The regional syllabus where the Feis is being held may have different qualifications for entry.
16. Championships and Preliminary Championships require at least three adjudicators.
17. 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 after their last placement. The regional syllabus where the Feis is being held may have different qualifications for entry.
18. The status of the dancer does not change unless there are five or more dancers in a competition.
19. Each region may determine the system for moving dancers from one grade to another, as they see appropriate for their region. The syllabus is to contain all grade categories. 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. (See Rule 14, above). Competitors have the option to remain in the same category for the remainder of the Feis year. A dancer, at the discretion of the teacher, may move into the next Grade (not Open Championships) without satisfying the requirements. However, once a dancer competes in the higher level, they can never move back to a lower category. [except as outlined in Rule 17, above].
20. **Grade Levels:**
  - Beginner 1 (Beginner) Grade:** A beginner is a competitor who has not yet taken a full year of Irish Dance lessons, thereby giving beginners a full year with such status. A Beginner must move into the Beginner 2/Advanced Beginner category the next year.
  - Beginner 2 (Advanced Beginner) Grade:** An advanced beginner who wins 1st, 2nd or 3rd place will advance to the Novice category in that particular dance. Competition dances are reel, light jig, slip jig, traditional treble jig and traditional hornpipe, as a minimum requirement.
  - Novice Grade:** A novice who wins a 1st place will advance to the Open (Prizewinner) category in that particular dance.

Open Grade (Prizewinner): A competitor who does not qualify as a beginner, advanced beginner or as a novice.

  - Adult Beginner:** An adult beginner is a competitor who never took Irish dancing lessons as a juvenile and is over 18 years of age.
21. 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.
22. Musicians employed by the Feis Committee will be solely under the direction and management of the Feis Committee on Feis day.
23. Teachers or team captains are responsible that their teams are complete and in position when the competition is announced. Competitors may compete in the next higher age group; however, a competitor may compete in only one age group, with the exception of 8 hands, which are allowed to repeat dancers at all Mid-West feisanna in accordance with the world and regional Oireachtas rules.
24. In matters pertaining to adjudication, the decision of the adjudicators is final.
25. Adjudicators are to monitor the quality of music at the stage(s) to which they are assigned.

26. First Feis (if offered), Beginner 1, Beginner 2 and Adult dancers are required to dance at traditional speeds. Novice and Open/Prizewinner dancers may choose between traditional and Oireachtas speeds.
27. The length of 2 hand and 3 hand dances in competition are to be 48 bars of music plus an 8 bar introduction
28. 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 to 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. Additionally, 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).
29. 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.
30. Make up is prohibited on a dancer in the first three grades (First Feis (if offered), Beginner 1 and Beginner 2 or their equivalent) up to and including the under 12 age group.
31. 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 aids (proof of which may be required) will be exempt from this rule.
32. Each Feis is required to list their adjudicators on their syllabus and/or website at least three weeks before the close on entries, one-third of which are to be from outside the region where the Feis is being held.
33. Competitors in girl's competitions at the First Feis (if offered), Beginner 1 and Beginner 2 Grade will wear only the competitor's dancing school costume or a skirt and blouse.
34. No substance that can become airborne should be used on any dance floor in an attempt to improve traction.