

**IDTANA Southern Region Standardized Feis Syllabus  
Effective January 1, 2013**

**Note: If an item in the SR Standardized Feis Syllabus is not specified, the prevailing SR Oireachtas syllabus rule will be followed (July 2010)**

**Beginner Grade**

<u>Age</u>	<u>Reel</u>	<u>Light Jig</u>
Under 5	X	X
Under 7	X	X
Under 9	X	X
Under 11	X	X
Under 13	X	X
Under 15	X	X
15 and Over	X	X

Options:

1. Add single jig for all age groups
2. Add slip jig for all age groups
3. Add treble jig for some age groups
4. Add hornpipe for some age groups
5. Separate boys into a separate competition if there are 5 or more boys entered in a specific dance within a single age group
6. Add age groups by single year designations (ex Under 5, Under 6, Under 7, Under 8, Under 9, Under 10, Under 11, Under 12, Under 13, Under 14, Under 15, Under 16, 16 & Over)

**Advanced Beginner Grade** (\*Hard shoes are traditional speed only)

<u>Age</u>	<u>Reel</u>	<u>Light Jig</u>	<u>Single Jig</u>	<u>Slip Jig</u>	<u>TrebleJig*</u>	<u>Hornpipe*</u>
Under 5	X	X	X	X	X	X
Under 7	X	X	X	X	X	X
Under 9	X	X	X	X	X	X
Under 11	X	X	X	X	X	X
Under 13	X	X	X	X	X	X
Under 15	X	X	X	X	X	X
15 & Over	X	X	X	X	X	X

Options:

1. Add age groups by single year designations (see example # 6 under beginner options)
2. Separate boys into a separate competition if there are 5 or more boys entered in a specific dance within a single age group

**Novice Grade** (\*Hard shoe, choice of speed)

Age	Reel	Light Jig	Single Jig	Slip Jig	Treble Jig*	Hornpipe*
Under 7	X	X	X	X	X	X
Under 9	X	X	X	X	X	X
Under 11	X	X	X	X	X	X
Under 13	X	X	X	X	X	X
Under 15	X	X	X	X	X	X
15 and Over	X	X	X	X	X	X

Options:

1. Add age groups by single year designations (see example #6 under beginner options)
2. Add traditional Set for some or all age groups
3. Separate boys into a separate competition if there are 5 or more boys entered in a specific dance within a single age group

**Prizewinner Grade**(\*Hard shoe, choice of speed)

Age	Reel	Slip Jig	Treble Jig*	Hornpipe*
Under 7	X	X	X	X
Under 9	X	X	X	X
Under 11	X	X	X	X
Under 13	X	X	X	X
Under 15	X	X	X	X
15 & Over	X	X	X	X

Options:

1. Add age groups in single year designations (see example #6 under beginner options)
2. Add Traditional Set for some or all age groups
3. Add Non-Traditional Set for some or all age groups
4. Separate boys into a separate competition if there are 5 or more boys entered in a specific dance within a single age group.
5. Add light jig for some or all age groups.
6. Add single jig for some or all age groups.

**Adults** (\*Hard shoe dances done at traditional speed only)

**Please note: Adult competitions are all Optional Offerings**

Category	Reel	Light Jig	Single Jig	Slip Jig	Treble Jig	Hornpipe
Beginner	X	X	X	X	X*	X*
Novice	X	X	X	X	X	X
Prizewinner	X	X	X	X	X	X

Additional Options:

1. Add Traditional Set for some categories
2. Add an Advanced Beginner Category

**Figure Dances—Jan 1st-June 30th (8 bar introduction and 48 bars of dancing)**

<u>Age</u>	<u>2 Hand</u>	<u>3 Hand</u>
Under 10	X	
Under 13	X	X
Under 16	X	X
16 and Over	X	X

Options:

- 1) Add Under 8,--- 2Hand
- 2) Add Under 8, Under 10, --- 3Hands
- 3) Offer figure dances limited to solo grades (e.g. beginners only, prizewinner/champ only)
- 4) Offer unique figure dance events (original choreography, dance drama, parent/child etc)

**Ceili Dances for Feiseanna held from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>**

<u>Age</u>	<u>4 Hand (these dances are done “by the book”)</u>
Under 13	X
Under 16	X
16 and Over	X

Options:

- 1) Add Under 10, 4Hand
- 2) Add Under 10, Under 13, Under 16, 16 and Over, 8 Hands—by the book
- 3) Add Mixed Ceilis in any of the above age groups
- 4) Ceili teams may perform any figure as outlined in Ar Rinci Foirne (July 2012)

**Figure Dances----July 1<sup>st</sup> – Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> (8 bar introduction and 48 bars of dancing)**

<u>Age</u>	<u>2 Hand</u>	<u>3 Hand</u>
Under 9	X	
Under 12	X	X
Under 15	X	X
15 and Over	X	X

Options:

- 1) Add Under 7, 2 Hand
- 2) Add Under 7, Under 9, 3 Hand
- 3) Offer figure dances limited to solo grades (e.g. beginners only, prizewinner/champ only)
- 4) Offer unique figure dance events (original choreography, dance drama, parent/child Etc)

## Ceili Dances for Feiseanna held from July 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>

<u>Age</u>	<u>4 Hand (these dances are done "by the book")</u>
Under 12	X
Under 15	X
15 and Over	X

### Options:

- 1) Add Under 10, 4 Hand
- 2) Add Under 10, Under 12, Under 15, 15 and Over, 8 Hand – by the book
- 3) Add Mixed Ceilis in any of the above age groups
- 4) **Ceili teams may perform any figure as outlined in Ar Rinci Foirne (July 2012)**

## Championships

<u>Age</u>	<u>Preliminary*</u>	<u>Open**</u>
Under 9	X	X
Under 10	X	X
Under 12	X	X
Under 14	X	X
Under 16	X	X
16 and Over	X	X

(June 2011)

### Options:

- 1) Add age groups by single year designations (Under 7, Under 8, Under 11, etc)
- 2) Add additional age groups for older dancers
- 3) Add a third required dance (hard shoe or set dance as appropriate)
- 4) Add special solo competitions for preliminary or open championship dancers (separate or combined)
  - Opposite light shoe dance
  - Opposite hard shoe dance
  - Traditional Set
  - Non-traditional Set
- 5) Preliminary Championship competitions with 26 or more competitors may be split in half according to age
- 6) Offer separate Open Championships for Boys and Girls---see \*\* below

\* In Preliminary Championships--Separate boys into a separate competition if there are five (5) or more boys entered in a specific competition within a single age a group

\*\* In Open Championships--Girls and Boys competitions in Open Championships may be combined in the syllabus. If three (3) or more boys are entered in a specific age group in a combined Open Championship competitions the boys and girls **MUST** be split into separate competitions. If separate Boys and Girls competitions in Open Championships are offered in the syllabus, they may **NOT** be combined under ANY circumstances on the day of the Feis

## **Special Solo Competitions** (may be added at feis' discretion)

### Trophy Competitions:

- for specific age groups and/or grade in a selected dance
- For boys or girls separately or together

### Treble Reel

- all grades mixed
- separated by championship or grade categories
- separated by age groups as in solo competitions
- combined in larger age groups (e.g. Under 15 , 15 and Over)

## **IDTANA Southern Region-Dancing Competition Rules**

*These rules were approved by the IDTANA Southern Region on June 30, 2011 and are effective January 1, 2012*

*These rules are required to be included in the syllabus for all feiseanna taking place in the IDTANA Southern Region.*

- 1) In the case of all solo and team competitions in all grades, the age of a competitor on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in which the competition is held will determine the right of entry. For the purpose of this rule a competitor whose birthday occurs on January 1<sup>st</sup> 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 fact—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.
  - d) Any competitor found to be "altering" their shoes or wearing them on the "wrong feet" will be treated in the same manner as is using carriage aids, and will be subject to disqualification from that particular competition (CLRG AGM 2011)
- 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 will not pertain to a situation where competitors are involved in stage conflicts: in that case the competition(s) will remain open for a reasonable amount of time to allow the dancer(s) in question to arrive at the stage and compete.
- 5) Solo competitors in 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.
- 6) Steel taps or "bubble" heels on dancing shoes, display of awards, wearing of shorts or other unconventional dress is prohibited. Dancers competing in First Feis (if offered), Beginners and Advanced Beginner, a.k.a. 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. Costumes for both boys and girls should not include representations, such as globes, medals, or any other item symbolic of an award having been achieved effective Jan 1, 2013. ( CLRG AGM 2012). Costume or costuming is defined as any element of performance/presentation clothing, worn by a dancer in the course of a competition, including but not limited to dress, waistcoat, trousers, shoes, headgear, capes, shawls, socks and underwear (CLRG AGM 2012)
- 7) Competitor's number must be worn and visible to adjudicators when performing in all competitions, except in Championships. Use of clear 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 ten-dollar fee (cash) 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 on the entry form as required by the Feis Entry committee, including teacher's name, and enclose the entry fee when mailing. Failure to do so will 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 committee and published on the syllabus and/or entry form. There will be no refund of entry fees for any reason.

13) Open Championships:

a) Entrants in any Open Championship event may not enter in any other regular grade solo events, but may enter in Figure Dances and/or special competitions for which they are eligible (tradition set, treble reel non-traditional set dance)

b) Entrants in Open Championships should specify on the entry form their choice of set dance

c) Open Championship competitions in the minimum required age groups must be offered separately in the syllabus, yet the feis committee may combine an age group with the next higher age group if there are fewer than 5 competitors entered in the lower age groups. A feis committee is not permitted to combine dancers from one open championship age group with any age groups which is more than one age groups higher than the age group in which the dancers are entered

d) A dancer is required to perform a light shoe dance (reel or slip jig for ladies and reel only for men) and a set dance. A Feis can also opt to require a third dance (choice of jig/hornpipe)

e) Dancers must qualify for Open Championship via the method now in place for Preliminary Championship i.e. two 1<sup>st</sup> place wins.

f) Dancers must compete in the Preliminary Championship competition in order to qualify for Open Championship.

14) Girls and Boys competitions in Open Championship may be combined in the syllabus. If three or more boys are entered in a specific age group in a combined Open Championship competition, the boys and girls **must** be split into separate competitions. If separate Boys and Girls competitions in Open Championships are offered in the syllabus, they may **not** be combined under any circumstance on the day of the Feis.

15) Preliminary Championships:

a) Are open to those who at any NAFC recognized Feis:

1. Have placed 1<sup>st</sup> in both an Open (Prizewinner) light and heavy shoe competition and
2. Have never won 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in Open Championship.

b) A dancer who wins two (2) first place preliminary championship awards in one calendar year will move on to Open Championship the following year (as of Jan 1); if the second first-place win does not occur in the same feis year as the first win, as soon as the second win is achieved, in any age category, the dancer must move up to open championship level immediately. Only in the case of a back to back Feiseanna (successive days) the first-place win in the first Feis will not change the dancer's status for the second Feis

c) A dancer in a preliminary championship is required to perform a light shoe dance (reel of 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 or (c) both a set dance and jig/hornpipe

d) Boys and Girls will be combined in preliminary championships –Please note the separation policy involving five or more boys

e) Preliminary Championship competitions must be offered separately in the syllabus for the minimum required age groups, yet the feis committee may combine an age group with the next higher age groups if there are fewer than 5 competitors entered in the lower age group. A feis committee is not permitted to combine dancers from one preliminary championship age group with any age group which is more than one age group higher than the age group in which the dancers are entered.

16) Open 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. If after competing for two full feis years at the Open Championship level, a dancer has not placed first, second or third, he/she may opt to return to Preliminary Championship status.

18) The status of the dancer does not change unless there are five or more dancers in a competition.

19) In championship events or solo set dance events: Introductions for set dances will be played only once and competitors must set their speeds during that one playing, no variation in speed will be allowed once dancing is due to commence. Dancers beginning before or after the stipulated set-dance introduction will automatically receive a zero for that round from the/or all adjudicators. (CLRG AGM 2011)

20) Grade Category Definitions:

**Beginner:** A beginner is a competitor who has not taken a full year of Irish Dance lessons, thereby giving beginners a full year with such status. A Beginner must move into the Advanced Beginner category for the next year.

**Advanced Beginner:** An Advanced Beginner who wins 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> place will advance to the Novice category in that particular dance.

**Novice:** A Novice dancer who wins a 1<sup>st</sup> place in a dance will advance to the Open (Prizewinner) category in that particular dance. In addition, if there are twenty or more dancers, a dancer who wins 1<sup>st</sup> place or 2<sup>nd</sup> place in a dance will advance to the Open/Prizewinner category in that particular dance. (Dec. 2012)

**Open (Prizewinner):** A competitor who does not qualify as a Beginner, Advanced Beginner or 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.

**Other Adult Grades:** will follow the descriptions provided above.

\*\* Competitors have the option to remain in the same category for the remainder of the Feis year (until the following January 1<sup>st</sup>)

\*\* The syllabus must contain all grade categories

\*\* Boys and Girls enter the appropriate age group in the appropriate grade for each dance; after entries have been closed, in any competition where five or more boys are entered, the feis committee will run a separate competition for these boys.

\*\* A feis committee may only combine two consecutive calendar year age groups (within that grade only) when fewer than five(5) competitors are entered in either age group, with the exception of the oldest age group listed.

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 positions when the competition is announced. Competitors may compete in their own age group or in the next higher age group, however a competitor may compete in only one age group.

24) In matters pertaining to adjudicators, the decision of the adjudicator 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 and Advanced Beginner dancers are required to dance at traditional speeds only. Novice and Open (Prizewinner) dancers may choose between traditional and Oireachtas speeds. Adult categories are included in these specifications

27) Any form of unauthorized photography which has the capability to capture a dancer's image while in motion, using electronic or manual means, i.e. mobile phone, standard camera, video camera, or commercial film, with or without enhancement is expressively forbidden in competition: **except in Beginner and Advanced Beginner Categories (CLRG AGM 2011)**

28) 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 Sept 1<sup>st</sup> of each year an exception is made for those dancers who are 11 dancing in the under 12 age group.

29) Make up is prohibited on a dancer in the first three grades (First Feis [if offered]), Beginner and Advanced Beginner or their equivalent) up to and including the under 12 age group.

30) 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.

31) No substance that can become airborne should be used on any dance floor in an attempt to improve traction.