



CANADIAN NATIONAL IRISH DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS SYLLABUS

JANUARY 29 - FEBRUARY 1, 2026 | CALGARY, AB
REGISTRATION ON [FEISFWD.COM](https://feisfwd.com)

Dancing will begin each day at 8:00 a.m.
Find additional details, including adjudicators and musicians, at cnidc.ca.



Important dates

Registration opens	October 1, 2025
Registration closes	October 31, 2025
Full schedule published	December 1, 2025
CNIDC	January 29 - February 1, 2026

Contact information

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Event website
<https://www.cnidc.ca>



Days only schedule



Thursday January 29, 2026

#15 Boys 7-8	#29 Girls 9-10
#14 Boys 8-9	#28 Girls 10-11
#13 Boys 9-10	#27 Girls 11-12
#12 Boys 10-11	#26 Girls 12-13
#11 Boys 11-12	#25 Girls 13-14
#10 Boys 12-13	#32 Mixed 6-7
#9 Boys 13-14	#72-75 Non-Champ Trad
#31 Girls 7-8	#78-81 Non-Champ
#30 Girls 8-9	Treble Reel
	#86-89 Champ Trad

Friday January 30, 2026

All Team dances:

2-hands	8-hands
3-hands	Figure choreography
4-hands	Freestyle
6-hands	

Saturday January 31, 2026

#8 Boys 14-15	#34 Adult Championship
#7 Boys 15-16	#33 Advanced Adult
#6 Boys 16-17	#70-71 Non-Champ Trad
#5 Boys 17-18	#76-77 Non-Champ
#24 Girls 14-15	Treble Reel
#23 Girls 15-16	#84-85 Champ Trad
#22 Girls 16-17	#82 Adult Champ/Adv. Trad
#21 Girls 17-18	Mini-Feis

Sunday February 1, 2026

#4 Men 18-19	#18 Ladies 20-21
#3 Men 19-20	#17 Ladies 21-23
#2 Men 20-21	#16 Ladies O23
#1 Men O21	#83 O18 Champ Trad
#20 Ladies 18-19	
#19 Ladies 19-20	



The organizing committee reserves the right to adjust the schedule based on entries. A final schedule will be released once entries have been processed.



Fees & admission

Championship Solos	\$100
Championship Traditional Sets	\$20
Teams	\$15/dancer/dance
Figure Choreography	\$15/dancer/dance
Freestyle	\$20
Non-Championship Traditional Set	\$20
Non-Championship Treble Reel	\$20
Family admission & program services fee	\$55

**Please note there is a 3% service fee per transaction.*

Mini-feis

CNIDC will host a mini-feis on Saturday January 31, 2025. It will be open to grade level dancers (Tir na nog, beginner, advanced beginner, novice, and prizewinner). Placements will count towards advancement. The mini-feis will have a separate syllabus on FeisFWD. Dances will cost \$7, with a \$50 family fee.





Competitions - Boys/Men

Comp #	Competition	Born	Round 1		Round 2		Final Round Set
			Hard shoe	Dancing at a time	Soft shoe	Dancing at a time	
1	Men 21 and over	2004 or earlier	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
2	Men 20-21	2005	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
3	Men 19-20	2006	Treble Jig	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
4	Men 18-19	2007	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
5	Boys 17-18	2008	Treble Jig	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
6	Boys 16-17	2009	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
7	Boys 15-16	2010	Treble Jig	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
8	Boys 14-15	2011	Hornpipe	3	Reel	2	Set of choice
9	Boys 13-14	2012	Treble Jig	3	Reel	2	Set of choice
10	Boys 12-13	2013	Hornpipe	3	Reel	2	Set of choice
11	Boys 11-12	2014	Treble Jig	3	Reel	2	Set of choice
12	Boys 10-11	2015	Hornpipe	3	Reel	2	Set in Jig Time Only
13	Boys 9-10	2016	Treble Jig	3	Reel	2	Trad Set
14	Boys 8-9	2017	Treble Jig	3	Reel	2	Trad Set
15	Boys 7-8	2018	Treble Jig	3	Reel	2	Trad Set

Competitions - Girls/Ladies



Comp #	Competition	Born	Round 1		Round 2		Final Round Set
			Hard shoe	Dancing at a time	Soft shoe	Dancing at a time	
16	Ladies 23 and over	2002 or earlier	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
17	Ladies 21-23	2003-2004	Treble Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set of choice
18	Ladies 20-21	2005	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
19	Ladies 19-20	2006	Treble Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set of choice
20	Ladies 18-19	2007	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
21	Girls 17-18	2008	Treble Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set of choice
22	Girls 16-17	2009	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
23	Girls 15-16	2010	Treble Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set of choice
24	Girls 14-15	2011	Hornpipe	3	Reel	2	Set of choice
25	Girls 13-14	2012	Treble Jig	3	Slip Jig	2	Set of choice
26	Girls 12-13	2013	Hornpipe	3	Reel	2	Set of choice
27	Girls 11-12	2014	Treble Jig	3	Slip Jig	2	Set of choice
28	Girls 10-11	2015	Hornpipe	3	Reel	2	Set in Jig Time Only
29	Girls 9-10	2016	Treble Jig	3	Reel	2	Trad Set
30	Girls 8-9	2017	Treble Jig	3	Reel	2	Trad Set
31	Girls 7-8	2018	Treble Jig	3	Reel	2	Trad Set



Competitions – Mixed

Comp #	Competition	Born	Round 1		Round 2		Final Round
			Dance & Length	Dancing at a time	Dance & Length	Dancing at a time	
32	Mixed 6-7	2019 or later	Reel (48 bars)	2	Single Jig (40 bars)	2	Light or Treble Jig (40 bars)

Competitions – Adults

Comp #	Competition	Born	Round 1		Round 2		Final Round
			Hard shoe	Dancing at a time	Soft shoe	Dancing at a time	
33	Adult Advanced	2008 or earlier	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set of choice
34	Adult Championship	2008 or earlier	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Trad Set

Adult dancers

The Adult Championship competition is open to any dancers who began as an adult and progressed to the Championship level, or any dancers who competed as youths, sat out the minimum 5 years, and did not place top three of a Preliminary Championship competition or competed in Open Championships.

The Advanced Adult competition is open to adult dancers who have previously placed in the top three of a Preliminary Championship or competed in Open Championship levels in the youth/& over levels regardless of when the competitor was active.

Note: An Advanced Adult dancer has opted to leave the youth/&over categories, and once the dancer begins competing in Advanced Adult, the dancer may not return to the youth/&over categories.



Competitions - Specials

Non-Championship Specials

Non-Championship Trad Set

- #70 - Adult Non-Championship Trad Set
- #71 - O14 Non-Championship Trad Set
- #72 - U14 Non-Championship Trad Set
- #73 - U12 Non-Championship Trad Set
- #74 - U10 Non-Championship Trad Set
- #75 - U8 Non-Championship Trad Set

Non-Championship Treble Reel

- #76 - Adult Non-Championship Treble Reel
- #77 - O14 Non-Championship Treble Reel
- #78 - U14 Non-Championship Treble Reel
- #79 - U12 Non-Championship Treble Reel
- #80 - U10 Non-Championship Treble Reel
- #81 - U8 Non-Championship Treble Reel

Championship Specials

Championship Trad Set

- #82 - Adult Adv./Championship Trad Set
- #83 - O18 Championship Trad Set
- #84 - U18 Championship Trad Set
- #85 - U16 Championship Trad Set
- #86 - U14 Championship Trad Set
- #87 - U12 Championship Trad Set
- #88 - U10 Championship Trad Set
- #89 - U8 Championship Trad Set

Non-Championship competitions are open to dancers in Grade Levels (Beginner-Prizewinner). Championship Trad Set competitions are open to dancers in Championship Levels (Preliminary & Open Championships). The Adult Championship Trad Set competition is open to Adult dancers in Adult Championship or Advanced Adult.

Freestyle & Figure Choreography

Championship Trad Set

- #500 - Freestyle
- #600 - O16 Figure Choreography
- #601 - U16 Figure Choreography
- #602 - U13 Figure Choreography
- #603 - U11 Figure Choreography

Please refer to the current Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne syllabus for rules pertaining to these events.



Competitions - Teams

Please see Rules for Teams competitions in the Rules section of this syllabus for details on age groups, length of dance, figures to perform, etc.

2-Hands & 3-Hands

2-Hands

#89 - U7 2-Hand

#90 - U9 2-Hand

#91 - U11 2-Hand

#92 - U13 2-Hand

#93 - U15 2-Hand

#94 - O15 2-Hand

3-Hands

#95 - U7 3-Hand

#96 - U9 3-Hand

#97 - U11 3-Hand

#98 - U13 3-Hand

#99 - U15 3-Hand

#100 - O15 3-Hand

4-Hands

Comp #	Age Group	Dances	Figure
35	Ladies O16	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure
36	Girls 13-16	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure
37	Girls 11-13	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure
38	Girls 8-11	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure
39	Girls U8	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure
40	Mixed O16	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure
41	Mixed 13-16	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure
42	Mixed 11-13	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure
43	Mixed 8-11	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure
44	Mixed U8	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure
45	Adult	The Four Hand Reel or Humours of Bandon	Choice of Figure

Competitions - Teams cont'd



6-Hands

Comp #	Age Group	Dances	Figure
46	Ladies O16	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)
47	Girls 13-16	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)
48	Girls 11-13	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)
49	Girls 8-11	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)
50	Girls U8	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)
51	Mixed O16	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)
52	Mixed 13-16	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)
53	Mixed 11-13	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)
54	Mixed 8-11	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)
55	Mixed U8	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)
56	Adult	The Fairy Reel or The Duke Reel	Choice of Figure (Duke Reel)

Competitions - Teams cont'd



8-Hands

Comp #	Age Group	Dances	Figure
57	Ladies O19	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
58	Ladies 16-19	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
59	Girls 13-16	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
60	Girls 11-13	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
61	Girls 8-11	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
62	Girls U8	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
63	Mixed O19	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
64	Mixed 16-19	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
65	Mixed 13-16	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
66	Mixed 11-13	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
67	Mixed 8-11	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
68	Mixed U8	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules
69	Adult	As listed and described in the rules	As listed and described in the rules

Please review the ceili dance rules to understand the dances permissable at CNIDC 2026.

Rules



Registration procedures

Eligibility:

- Only students of teachers in good standing with WCTIDA and/or IDTACE will be eligible to compete at CNIDC 2026.
- Competitors must reside in Canada, although exceptions can be made for teams WITH PRIOR APPROVAL.
- All dancers must compete in their exact age group for Solo Championship events. For Specials, dancers must compete in the proper age group.
- No dancer may be entered twice in the same competition.
- All ages and levels are calculated as of January 1st and birth years must be supplied to register for any competition. Falsification of identity, age, competitive status, or other pertinent details will result in disqualification.

Entries & tabulation

- Entries & tabulation will be completed on FeisFWD.com. Teachers must create accounts to register their dance school in FeisFWD. We recommend doing this before entries open on October 1.
- Families (rather than dance teachers) complete Solo entries for this event. Teachers complete Team entries.
- Step-by-step instructions for using FeisFWD will be provided before entries open. We'd recommend dance teachers review dancers' entries to ensure they're correct prior to entries closing on October 31.

Volunteering

- All WCIDTA and IDTACE teachers are required to Volunteer at least two hours at the CNIDC 2026. An invitation to sign up for volunteer roles will be sent out to WCIDTA and IDTACE members within one month of the event. Teachers who either fail to sign up for a volunteer spot, fail to perform their minimum 2-hour volunteer assignment (or provide a reasonable proxy where appropriate) will be fined. We look forward to working with all IDTACE members this year to ensure the CNIDC 2026 is a huge success.

Rules for dancing

- In Solo Dancing, the age of a competitor shall be taken as on the 1st January of the current year. Where a competitor's birthday falls on January 1st, they shall, for the purpose of the Oireachtas, be regarded as under the age attained on that day.
- Competitors in younger age groups are not permitted to dance on block/pointe.
- In all competitions, competitors must commence performance of Reels, Slip Jigs, Heavy Jigs and Hornpipe from the designated start position.
- All dancers/teams must collect their competitor number prior to the first group of dancers taking the stage. Any numbers not collected at that point will be destroyed and any dancers arriving late will not be permitted to participate. All dancers must perform in the order published in the official program. Dancers who collect their number but are not present when it is their turn to perform will be disqualified and will not be permitted to dance at a later time. Courtesy dances will not be permitted.

Rules continued



Music

- Musicians will be instructed to play sixteen (16) bars of music prior to the start of each of the first two (2) rounds for Solo Championship Competitions.
- All dancers must commence correctly after the appropriate introduction of music has been played. c) It is the responsibility of the dancer to ensure the correct music is announced and played before commencing.
- Dance speeds will be:

Solo Championship dances & speeds

- Reel (113) – 48 bars
- Treble Jig (73) – 48 bars
- Slip Jig (113) – 40 bars
- Hornpipe (113) – 40 bars

Mixed 6-7 Championship dances & speeds

- Reel (122 or 113) – 48 bars
- Single Jig (124) – 40 bars
- Light Jig (115) – 40 bars OR Treble Jig (92) – 40 bars

Set dances must be from the official CLRG set dance list, and tempos must be within official CLRG guidelines.

Traditional set dances

Choices for Boys/Girls 7-8, 8-9, and 9-10 solo championships and/or for Traditional Set Specials are:

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

Completing dances

- Competitors who begin to dance before or after the stipulated introduction, in any of the three rounds, will automatically receive zero marks and zero points from all adjudicators on that round.
- Should a competitor reach the final round, they will be required to submit the name and metronomic speed of their set dance to the stage manager. All set dances must be on the official Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne list. In the open set dance round a competitor may choose their starting position.
- The onus of ensuring that the stage manager is informed of the correct name and metronomic speed of the open set dance will rest with the competitor.
- An incorrect metronomic speed submitted for a set dance can only be changed prior to the musician commencing to play the set dance for that competitor.
- Introductions to set dances will be played once and no alteration in the speed of music will be permitted once music has started playing.
- Should a competitor commence dancing to an incorrect metronomic speed submitted to the stage monitor then that competitor must continue to dance at that speed as no further opportunity of tempo change will be afforded.
- If a competitor fails to complete the First Round of a Championship they will receive zero marks and zero points from all adjudicators for that round. As a courtesy, they will be allowed to dance the Second Round but will automatically receive zero points from each adjudicator and will not be allowed to progress further in the Solo Championship.

Rules continued



- If a competitor fails to complete the Second Round of the Championship, they will receive zero marks and zero points from all adjudicators for that round and will not be allowed to progress any further in the Championship.
- A competitor who fails to complete the open set dance round will receive zero marks and zero points from all adjudicators for that round and cannot appear in a medal winning position.
- Definition of “complete” means that all bars as outlined in the syllabus are danced without any stops. Choreographed pauses in steps are permitted.

Check-in & disqualification

- Dancers **MUST** check in and collect their number with the stage manager prior to the scheduled start time for their competition.
- **IMPORTANT:** Once the first dancer has commenced, late arrivals will be disqualified and will not be allowed to compete.
- Start numbers for each round will be drawn prior to the competition. Dancers must follow the rotation as listed in the official program. If a dancer misses their rotation on any round, they will receive a zero from adjudicators for that round.
- Rotations:
 - The draw for start numbers will be done randomly. The start number for Round 2 will be determined by adding 1/3 of the competition numbers to the first round start number. The start number for Round 3 will be determined in the same manner.

Costuming: Current CLRG directives will be applied and enforced. Please refer to the CLRG Rule Book and website for the most current rules. (www.clrg.ie)

Make-up: Current CLRG directions will be applied and enforced, which, at the time of publication, includes a ban on makeup, false lashes, and/or facial tanner for dancers in solo and team events in the 7-8/8-9/9-10 categories.

Carriage aids: Any competitor found to be using artificial carriage aids who subsequently refused 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.

Stages: will be examined at the commencement of each event by the CNIDC Committee, Stage Managers or the event Adjudicators.

Photography/videography

- Use of video recorders, movie cameras, camcorders, and/or any camera/cell phone that is capable of taking videos will not be permitted during competitions, except for news media as approved by the CNIDC Committee. Further, no flash photography will be permitted during competitions, other than by the official photographer and live streaming service provider.
- Please note that by submitting an entry to the event, all entrants acknowledge their agreement to abide by the live streaming rules for the event, and thereby remove CNIDC and its associates from any liability associated with the same.

Rules continued



- By entering the event, dancers have opted into participating in Live Streaming during competitions and at awards. There is no option to opt out as the event has contracted for Live Streaming for the event in its totality.

Mishaps

- Adjudicators will be instructed to ring a bell to stop the performance when the health and/or safety of a dancer (in solo or team events) is at risk, due to collision with another dancer, injury, or falling, and adjudicators will be instructed to use their best judgment in the case of open laces, shoes falling off, or issues with costumes/accessories. Should a dancer lose a heel or an entire shoe, they may stand at the back to allow the other dancer(s) to complete their performance, and they will be permitted to re-dance without penalty when deemed practical by the Stage Manager.
- Should, at the opinion of the Stage Manager, the CNIDC Committee, a medical professional, and/or the adjudicators, a dancer be deemed unfit to re-dance, and a dancer/parent insists on doing so, a waiver exonerating CNIDC from any and all liability must be completed and signed by the legal parent and/or guardian of the dancer (if under the age of 18) before the dancer may re-dance. Any repeat incident which results in the dancer being unable to complete the required number of bars for that dance will result in the dancer having to withdraw from the event.
- If the judges ring the bell to stop a performance during the last eight (8) bars in Round 1 or Round 2 of a solo championship, the dancers will only be required to dance the last 16 bars of that dance. If the judges ring the bell to stop a performance during any part of an open solo set dance or traditional set dance, the dancer will perform the entire dance for their re-dance.
- Where feasible, the dancers will be brought back to re-dance no sooner than three rotations later, and no later than five rotations later. Dancers so affected by the bell being rung and permitted to re-dance will be marked at the discretion of each adjudicator.
- A competitor who exits the stage during a performance, unless instructed to do so by an adjudicator, will receive zero marks for that particular round by each adjudicator.
- Should a dancer lose a heel or a complete shoe, or if their shoe breaks, they may stand back and allow the other dancer(s), where applicable, to continue dancing uninhibited. In such a case, the dancer(s) will be allowed to re-dance as soon as it is deemed practical by the stage manager.

Leaving the stage

- A competitor must not walk off the stage during a performance unless instructed to do so by an adjudicator. A dancer who dismisses themselves from the stage without the permission of the adjudicators will receive a zero for that particular dance.

Scoring & recalls for Solo Championships

- CNIDC has employed 15 adjudicators based on a vote and draw system operated by the WCIDTA and IDTACE.
- Each round will be adjudicated by a panel of five (5) adjudicators.
- Each round will be tabulated, and Irish Points will be assigned to each dancer.
- Each dancer's highest and lowest Irish Points awarded will be dropped.
- Irish Points will be added from rounds 1 and 2 and then ranked to determine the recalls.

Rules continued



- **Solo Championship recalls:**
 - Fifty percent (50%) of each competition with twenty-one (21) or more competitors who actually dance (not the number entered), will be recalled to perform a set dance (per current CLRG rules).
 - For competitions with twenty (20) or fewer participating dancers, all will return to perform their set dance.
 - For competition #32 Mixed 6-7, all dancers will automatically recall.
 - Dancers 7-8, 8-9 and 9-10 must perform a traditional set dance. Dancers 10-11 MUST do a set dance in 6/8 timing and dancers 11-12 and older may perform a set dance of their choosing.
- For recalled dancers, each dancer's Irish points from all three rounds will be added together, then dancers will be ranked to determine the winner.
- In each round, a dancer will accumulate a maximum of 300 Irish Points.
- In each competition, a dancer may accumulate a maximum of 900 Points.

Traditional sets, Team competitions, and Specials (Championship and Non-Championship) (excluding the mini-feis)

- Each competition will be adjudicated by a panel of five (5) adjudicators.
- Each competition will be tabulated, and Irish Points will be assigned to each dancer or team.
- Each dancer's or team's highest and lowest Irish points awarded will be dropped.
- All Irish points for each dancer or team will be added together, and then the dancers or teams will be ranked to determine the winner.
- In each competition, a dancer or team may accumulate a maximum of 300 Irish points.

Comportment/mischief

- No damage to the venue, property or accommodations will be tolerated (whether private property or that of the hotel and/or organization). In the event of damage, stains, spills, vandalism, tanning stains etc., all parties involved will be billed for damages. Parents/guardians are responsible for supervising their children and making reparations for any costs incurred in the event that repairs or replacement are required.
- Disruptive/aggressive behaviour or abuse toward volunteers or fellow attendees will not be tolerated. Dancers, teachers and parents are expected to display courteous and respectful behavior at all times.
- Anyone in breach of the above may requested to leave the premises by the committee or the venue staff and will not be permitted to attend any remaining events during the championships. No refunds for admission or entry will be offered.

Refusals: CNIDC reserves the right to refuse entry for any reason. CNIDC reserves the right to refuse admission to and remove persons from our events. CNIDC is a private event.

Decisions are made in accordance with the rules of this event and all CNIDC rules are final. All decisions made by adjudicators in accordance with CNIDC rules and the rules for this event, are final.

Schedule: CNIDC reserves the right to limit, cancel or postpone any event. It also reserves the right to make changes or adjustments to previously announced schedules or timetables as necessary.

Rules continued



Release: The CNIDC Committee, volunteers, the WCIDTA, the IDTACE, its parent bodies and the venue, are not responsible for personal injury, property loss or damage during the event. By entering and attending the event, participants and spectators agree to release and indemnify the organizing committee, the venue and the officials from loss or damage as a result of their attendance at the event.

Appeals: Legitimate complaints must be submitted to the CNIDC Chairpersons **IN WRITING** by the dance teacher involved. All such appeals must be submitted no later than one hour after the completion of the competition in question and must be accompanied by a \$25 fee (CDN cash only), which may be returned if the complaint or appeal is upheld.

Awards

- All dancers (solo and team) must be in full costume and black soft shoes for the award ceremonies. Estimated award times will be listed in the schedule but are subject to change. **NOTE:** Dancers are responsible for their awards after the presentation. The committee will not replace lost or damaged awards. All dancers shall receive a participation item.
- All recalled dancers in Solo Championships (including Adults) shall receive an official CNIDC medal, which will be presented on stage at an official awards ceremony.
- In all cases, the number of awards will be determined by the actual number of participants (not the number registered), and calculations will be rounded-up.
- CNIDC will calculate the results for Preliminary Championship dancers in each age group and place the top five Preliminary Championship dancers. The first place winner can count this placement towards advancement.

Specials

- Traditional Set dances are to be danced in their entirety
- Treble Reel specials are to be danced for 16 bars
- The mini-feis has its own separate syllabus and entry system, entries can be completed on FeisFWD

Website

- The official website for CNIDC 2026 is <https://www.cnidc.ca/> and all patrons are requested to navigate thoroughly through the information before contacting the committee with a query. Every effort will be made to keep the website updated.
- We will do our best to respond to all inquiries for matters not covered on the website within 72-hours. All inquiries for matters which are covered on the website may not receive a reply. The CNIDC Committee asks for your understanding.
- The CNIDC Committee reserves the right to change or adjust the syllabus to remain in compliance with CLRG and IDTANA rules, policies, or procedures that change before the event.

Program services

- Program Services will be offered via Instagram and on <https://www.cnidc.ca>. Program services are defined as:
 - General competition and venue information
 - All good luck ads and all other advertising
 - All competition information
 - Results

Rules continued



Rules regarding team competitions

Team age groups

- Events shall take place on Friday January 30.
- All teams shall perform their dance as detailed in Ar Rince Ceili (2014 version)
- Dancers may compete in their own and/or the next higher age group but may not compete in more than one team in the same age category and may not dance down an age group.
- All teams must have at least fifty percent (50%) from the proper age group.
- Fifty percent (50%) may be from a lower age group. Only twenty-five percent (25%) may be repeats from a team in the lower age group.
- Dancers may repeat only once in a four hand, once in a six hand and once in an eight hand. Written permission for exceptions must be submitted no later than October 19, 2025. Requests will be reviewed, and responses will be given no later than October 26, 2025.
- Teams performing with alternate dancers to their official entry must submit a letter stating so, presented by the teacher or team captain to a CNIDC Committee member. E-mail is acceptable.
- Written permission is required for out-of-region dancers to participate in team events.

Two-Hand & 3-Hand competitions

- All 2-Hands and 3-Hands will be danced to a reel. Teams will perform with two (2) teams on stage at a time.
- Length of dances:
 - Introduction (to be played for each team): 8 bars
 - 2-Hand and 3-Hand: 48 bars
- Note: If a dancer/team 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 their start). This applies to set dances as well. The onus is on the dancer to start correctly.

Four Hand competitions

- All teams must specify the dance and choice of figure on the entry form. Teams may perform either. (1) the Four Hand Reel or (2) Humours of Bandon.
- In even calendar years, teams dancing The Four Hand Reel will go first and in odd calendar years, teams dancing Humours of Bandon will go first.
- Teams will perform with two (2) teams on stage at a time.
- **For either dance, teams must set up the top couple on the left of the adjudicators (NEW).**
- Teams must perform the following: (1) Lead, (2) Body, (3) Figure of choice (Tops only), (4) Body (HOB only).
- A mixed team must have at least one male dancer (to a maximum of two).

Six Hand competitions

- All teams must specify the dance and choice of figure on the entry form. Teams may perform either. (1) The Fairy Reel or (2) The Duke Reel.
- Teams will perform one (1) team on stage at a time.
- Teams may choose the starting formation for The Fairy Reel, and since there is no official finish, teams can turn to face the adjudicators or turn to face the opposite line of dancers.

Rules continued



- In the case of The Duke Reel, teams must complete either the first or the second figure with all three combinations of couples.

Eight Hand competitions

- All teams must specify the dance choice of figure on the entry form. Teams may choose from the following dances, and (1) Lannigan's Ball (2) Eight Hand Reel (3) Morris Reel (4) Cross Reel (5) Eight Hand Jig (6) St Patrick's Day (7) Trip to the Cottage (8) High Cauleed Cap (9) Sweets of May (10) The Three Tunes (11) Gates of Derry
- Teams will perform one (1) team on stage at a time.
- In each round dance, tops will be positioned with their backs to the adjudicators and in the case of Gates of Derry, teams may line up horizontally or vertically. d) For each round dance, teams must perform the following: (1) Lead (2) Body (3) Figure of choice (Tops only)
- ***Some exceptions as taken from the World Championships syllabus:
 - Sweets of May – teams must perform from the beginning of the dance up to and including the end of the 2nd figure
 - The Three Tunes – teams must perform from the beginning of the dance up to and including the Hook and Chain
 - Gates of Derry – teams must perform from the beginning of the dance up to and including the swing around of the 1st repeat
 - Lannigan's Ball – teams must perform the entire dance.
- Teams that don't perform the dance as stipulated shall be disqualified per the ruling in the World Championship syllabus.
- **A mixed team must have at least one male dancer participating, but no more than four (new).**

Adult Team competitions

- Team requirements are the same as noted in rules pertaining to 4-hand, 6-hand, and 8-hand competitions.
- Adult Competitions are confined to dancers eighteen (18) years of age and older, who have not competed in solo or Ceili, except as an adult, during the past five years.
- These are NON-QUALIFYING events and entries must be received as a team from a registered WCIDTA and/or IDTACe dancing school.
- All adult ceili competitions (including 2-hands and 3-hands) will have ladies' teams and mixed teams compete together. All adult solo competitions will combine ladies and gentlemen in the same event.

Inclusivity statement

As a core value, the Irish Dance Teachers' Association of North America, Inc., IDTANA, is committed to preserving and promoting Irish Dance in an environment that is inclusive and free of discrimination and harassment. We support a culture where every dancer, family, teacher, and volunteer feels safe, respected and valued through creating an environment that provides dancers, regardless of age, ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, income, race or sexual orientation, opportunities to learn and grow as dancers and people. People of all ages benefit from the physical, mental, and social aspects of Irish Dance, and the IDTANA is supportive of including all those who want to learn and or compete.