



November 27th, November 28th, & November 29th, 2026

Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, 1201 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19107

Chairpersons

Keara Durand Miles, TCRG, Sara Locke, TCRG, Karen Petri, ADCRG, Lisa Petri, ADCRG,

Tehya Baxter, TCRG, Esther Pujol, ADCRG, Bethany Small, TCRG, LuAnn O'Rourke Boyd, ADCRG

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SOCIAL MEDIA

[MARO FACEBOOK](#)

[IG](#)

[@MIDATLANTICOIREACHTAS2026](#)

MARO WEBSITE

<http://www.mid-atlanticregion.com/>

This event will be utilizing the Guidebook App.

The 2026 Mid-Atlantic Oireachtas is a private event.

****The Committee & MARO Executive Board reserve the right to deny entry to any individual****

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2026 ASSESSORS & MUSICIANS

ASSESSORS

Dearbhail Bates
Russell Beaton
Peter Boylan
Laura Cass-Barrington
Casey Costello
Lisa Cregan
Elicia Greenway Folmar
John Godley
Anne Hall
Pat Hall
Jennifer Healy
Sarah Irwin-Groenewoud
Marcus Maloney
Breda O'Brien
Sharon O'Brien
John O'Keefe
Jackie O'Leary
Karyn Oster
Deirdre Penk O'Donnell
Carlene Stillson
Roisin Turley McCourt
Lisa Waites
Zach Warshaw

Ireland
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Canada
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Canada
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Ireland
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United States
Canada
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Canada
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England
England
United States

MUSICIANS

Annmarie Acosta Williams, ADCRG
Jessica Bell, TCRG
Danny Burke
Eric Crone
Roén Fraser
Brian Grant, ADCRG
Chris McLoughlin
Niall Mulligan
Linda Rutherford
Tony Rutherford
Claire Shirey, TCRG
Luke Sooy
Ryan Ward
Regan Wick, TCRG

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ENTRY FEES AND CLOSING DATES

Entries will be accepted online starting September 1, 2026 from teachers who are members in good standing of An Coimisiun le Rincí Gaelacha, Irish Dance Teachers Association of North America, and the Mid-Atlantic Region. Competitors in the Oireachtas are restricted to amateurs whose teachers hold a TCRG/TMRF certificate.

Entry Deadline: October 1st, 2026

Entries and payment must be submitted online at www.feisentry.com by teachers or their appointed representatives only. Individual submissions from parents or dancers will not be accepted. All entries must be complete, containing all requested information and all fees.

There will be a dropdown box where teachers must designate Open/Prelim for all boys and girls' solo competitions.

An additional layer of dancer verification may be required after entries close.

Teachers must have paid their designated assessment fees before the time of entry due date. Entries will be rejected if teachers are not registered at the time of entry due date. Teachers with entries and assessors without entries who assess Feisanna from the Mid-Atlantic Region are expected to fulfill their volunteer requirements at the Oireachtas. Each school with entries is encouraged to submit 5 parent volunteers to help over the weekend.

In the event that competitions and/or the entire event is cancelled, entry fees will be refunded and/or adjusted accordingly (minus processing fees).

Entry Fees

Marks are included in Solo and Traditional Set Fees.

Solo Dancing:	\$100
Traditional Set:	\$50
Ceili:	\$25 per competitor/competition
Figure:	\$15 per competitor/competition
Dance Drama:	\$15 per competitor/competition
Family Weekend Admission Fee:	\$65
Family Maximum:	\$300 (not including the \$65 Family Fee)

Late Fees/Change of Entry Fees

Entries submitted after October 1st 2026 will be accepted with the following fees:

10/2 through 11/16

Late Fee for new solo or trad set entry	double entry fee + any applicable family fees
Late Fee for new ceili/figure/dance drama	double entry fee + any applicable family fees
Change fee for solo, trad set, or team entry	\$100 change fee

After 11/16

Late Fee for new solo or trad set entry	entry fee + \$500 + any applicable family fees
Late Fee for new ceili/figure/dance drama	entry fee + \$250 + any applicable family fees
Change fee for solo entry	\$500 change fee
Change fee for ceili/figure/dance drama	\$250 change fee
Change fee for trad set	\$200 change fee

Teachers Only: Assessment Fee

\$100 per school Assessment Fee paid through Feisentry

Please note: 2025 winners who do not return perpetual trophies will incur a penalty.

QUALIFICATIONS & AWARDS

Solo Dancing

- Any dancer who has received a first place in Prizewinner in their respective age group's required soft and heavy dance is eligible to compete in the Solo Championship at this year's Oireachtas. Please note: Individual dance schools may have their own requirements beyond this regional requirement.
- Dancers in the U8 and U9 age groups are eligible to dance at the Oireachtas at their teacher's discretion.

Traditional Set Dancing

- Any dancer in Advanced Beginner-Prizewinner is eligible to enter the Traditional Set Competition at their teacher's discretion.
- A dancer may not enter into both a Traditional Set Competition and a Solo Championship.
- Dancers in Preliminary or Open Championship may **NOT** enter a Traditional Set Competition.

Awards

All dancers will receive a participation patch.

All recalled dancers will receive an official MARO medal.

- **Recalls**: For Solo Championship competitions with 30 or more dancers, 50% will be recalled. Competitions of less than 30 will have a 100% recall. In all cases, awards will be determined by the actual number of participants (which will not include registrants who do not dance).
- **Prelim awards** are based on the first two rounds of the Solo Championship.
- **NAIDC Qualifiers (from age U9 & up)** shall be the Top 10 dancers plus 25% of the competition. *Example: if 84 dancers compete, there will be 31 North American Irish Dance Championship qualifiers.*
- **World Qualifiers (from age U10 & up)** shall be the Top 5 if the competition is fewer than 20 dancers. In competitions with 21 or more dancers, the number shall be 5 plus one additional qualifier for each 10 participants in excess of the first 20 participants. *Example: If 84 dancers compete, there will be 12 world qualifiers.*
 - In the case of the Senior Men's Solo Championship, World Qualifiers shall be the Top 7 (for the first 20 dancers) plus one for every additional 5 participants in excess of the first 20.

RULES & DIRECTIVES FOR SOLO DANCING

- The required dances for each Solo Championship are set out on pages 6-7 for U8-Senior Men/Ladies and page 16 for Adults.
- A competitor's age will be determined as of 1/1/2026. When a dancer's birth date falls on this date, they will be considered under the attained age. (i.e. if a dancer turns 12 on 1/1 of a specific year, they will dance U12 all year) All solo competitors must compete in their own age group. Competitors who are eligible to dance Under 12 or older as of 1/1/2026 are permitted to do block/en-pointe work. Competitors in younger age groups are not permitted to dance such movements.
- Competitors will dance **TWO AT A TIME (all ages)** for 48 bars in the Reel and Heavy Jig and 40 bars in the Slip Jig and Hornpipe after an 8-bar introduction. Competitors who begin to dance before or after the stipulated 8 bar introduction will automatically receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round.
- Championships will commence with the heavy shoe round followed by the soft shoe round. Dancers who are in the recall will then dance a set dance as their third round. Dances will be as stipulated in this syllabus.
- In all competitions, only recalled competitors will perform their set dances.

- In competitions with less than 30 dancers, all will be recalled for the set dance round.
- A dancer who checks in for their competition and misses their rotation will not be allowed to dance out of order. They will be awarded a **ZERO** for that round and will not be allowed to recall, regardless of the score from the dancer's other round.
- Completion of the round is at the discretion of the assessors. [Per IDTANA Rule passed July 2009].
- Prior to the commencement of the recall round of each championship, competitors will submit the name and metronomic speed of the set dance nominated by them. All set dances nominated must be on the list given on page 8 of this syllabus. In the 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 nominated set dance will rest with the competitor.
 - An incorrect metronomic speed submitted for an open set dance can only be changed prior to the commencement of the set dance round.
 - Introductions to set dances will be played only once and no alteration in that speed of music will be permitted.
 - Should a competitor commence dancing to an incorrect metronomic speed submitted to the stage manager, then that competitor must continue to dance at that speed as no further opportunity of tempo change will be afforded.
 - Competitors beginning to dance before or after the stipulated set dance introduction will automatically receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round.
- Any competitor who does not complete the first 2 rounds of competition cannot be recalled to dance in the third round. [Per IDTANA Rule Passed 2009]
 - **If a competitor fails to check in and the first set of dancers have commenced dancing, that competitor will be disqualified and not allowed to dance.**
 - If a competitor fails to dance round one of a championship, that competitor will be allowed to dance round two as a courtesy but will receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round and will not be allowed to appear in the set dance round regardless of the score from the dancer's other round.
 - If a competitor fails to dance the second round of a championship, no courtesy will be extended and that competitor will receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round and will not be allowed to appear in the set dance round regardless of the score from the dancer's other round.
 - A competitor who fails to dance or complete the set dance round will receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round.
- Dancers in the U8 and U9 solo championships do not have to submit their traditional set at time of entry, but they will submit the traditional set name side-stage upon earning a recall and prior to the commencement of the set dance round.
- All dancers in the recall round will dance one at a time. Sets and speeds are stipulated in this syllabus.
- Respect for fellow competitors on stage is a requirement at all times. Lack of respect or courtesy for competitors by aggressive dancing on stage will be subject to penalty at the discretion of the assessors.

Release, Waiver and Hold Harmless Agreement

Enrollment in this event is an acknowledgement that this activity involves exertion and carries with it the potential for injury. I hereby agree to waive the right to take legal action or join in any actions against The Irish Dancing Teachers Association of North America Mid-Atlantic Region, Inc (IDTANA-MAR), its Executive Board and its members; and the Downtown Philadelphia Marriott and/or any affiliates and associates for injuries incurred during practice and/or performance in any location. I hereby agree to indemnify, protect and save harmless the parties above or any of them from all judgments, cost and expenses whatsoever arising on account of any action, claim or demand by the minor child of mine, or any child for which I am acting in guardianship or supervisory capacity. It is understood and agreed that the participant is physically fit and prepared for participation in the activities which will be undertaken, and the participant has not been advised by any doctor or other medical person that participation in these activities should be avoided and/or limited. Participation in any competition or performance is at the sole discretion and decision of the parent. I hereby give permission to the IDTANA-MAR and the parties to use my name and/or my child's name, photographic likeness in all forms and media for advertising, trade and any other lawful purpose without any remuneration.

SOLO DANCING CHAMPIONSHIP LADIES/GIRLS

Comp #	Championship Name	Age Group	Heavy Round	Light Round	Set Dance
1	Ladies 22 & Over	2003 or earlier	Heavy Jig	Slip Jig	Hornpipe
2	Ladies Under 22	2004/2005	Heavy Jig	Slip Jig	Hornpipe
3	Ladies Under 20	2006	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
4	Ladies Under 19	2007	Heavy Jig	Slip Jig	Hornpipe
5	Ladies Under 18	2008	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
6	Girls Under 17	2009	Heavy Jig	Slip Jig	Hornpipe
7	Girls Under 16	2010	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
8	Girls Under 15	2011	Heavy Jig	Slip Jig	Hornpipe
9	Girls Under 14	2012	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
10	Girls Under 13	2013	Heavy Jig	Slip Jig	Hornpipe
11	Girls Under 12	2014	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
12	Girls Under 11	2015	Heavy Jig	Slip Jig	Hornpipe
13	Girls Under 10	2016	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
14	Girls Under 9	2017	Heavy Jig	Reel	Traditional
15	Girls Under 8	2018 or later	Heavy Jig	Reel	Traditional

SOLO DANCING CHAMPIONSHIP

MEN/BOYS

Comp #	Championship Name	Age Group	Heavy Round	Light Round	Set Dance
16	Senior Men	2005 or earlier	Heavy Jig	Reel	Hornpipe
17	Men Under 20	2006	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
18	Men Under 19	2007	Heavy Jig	Reel	Hornpipe
19	Men Under 18	2008	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
20	Boys Under 17	2009	Heavy Jig	Reel	Hornpipe
21	Boys Under 16	2010	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
22	Boys Under 15	2011	Heavy Jig	Reel	Hornpipe
23	Boys Under 14	2012	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
24	Boys Under 13	2013	Heavy Jig	Reel	Hornpipe
25	Boys Under 12	2014	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
26	Boys Under 11	2015	Heavy Jig	Reel	Hornpipe
27	Boys Under 10	2016	Hornpipe	Reel	Heavy Jig
28	Boys Under 9	2017	Heavy Jig	Reel	Traditional
29	Boys Under 8	2018 or later	Heavy Jig	Reel	Traditional

OFFICIAL LIST OF MUSIC

Round 1 and 2 Metronomic Speeds		Traditional Set Metronomic Speeds			
Dance	Speed	Dance	Speed	Dance	Speed
Heavy Jig	73	Blackbird	144	Jockey to the Fair	90
Hornpipe	113	Garden of Daisies	138	Three Sea Captains	96
Reel	113	Job of Journeywork	138	Saint Patrick's Day	94
Slip Jig	113	King of the Fairies	130		

Set Dance Minimum Metronomic Speed			
Jig Set	Speed	Hornpipe Set	Speed
Blackthorn Stick	66	Ace and Deuce of Piping	76
Drunken Gauger	66	Blue Eyed Rascal	76
Rub the Bag	66	Bonaparte's Retreat	76
Three Sea Captains	66	Downfall of Paris	76
Planxty Hugh O'Donnell	66	Four Masters	76
Fiddler Around the Fairy Tree	66	Garden of Daisies	76
Humours Of Bandon	66	Job of Journeywork	76
Hurling Boys	66	Kilkenny Races	76
Hurry the Jug	66	King of The Fairies	76
Is the Big Man Within?	66	Lodge Road	76
Jockey to The Fair	66	Madame Bonaparte	76
Miss Brown's Fancy	66	Piper Thro' The Meadow Straying	76
Orange Rogue	66	Planxty Davis	76
Planxty Drury	66	Rambling Rake	76
Sprig of Shillelagh	66	Rodney's Glory	76
St. Patrick's Day	66	Roving Pedlar	76
The Charlady	66	The Blackbird	76
The Storyteller	66	The Hunt	76
Vanishing Lake	66	The White Blanket	76
Wandering Musician	66	Youghal Harbour	76

RULES & DIRECTIVES FOR TEAM DANCING

- Age:
 - Dancers in Ceili, Figure, and Dance Drama may compete in their own age group or in the next age group up. Dancers may **NOT** compete in an age group lower than their actual age.
 - Dancers who move up an age group cannot move up more than one age group (Ex: Under 10 dancers can compete in U10 or U12 but not U15 & older). 50% of the team must be in the correct age group.
 - When necessary to complete an 8-hand team, 25% (two dancers) may repeat/move up **one** age group. When necessary to complete a 4-hand team, 25% (one dancer) may repeat/move up **one** age group. When necessary to complete a 6-hand team, two dancers may repeat/move up **one** age group.
 - Adult ceili competitions are confined to those over the age of 18 who have not competed except as an Adult during the past five years.
 - Teams in the Adult 40 and Over 4-Hand Competition perform the same dance and figure as the other 4-hand competitions. Teams in this competition can be either an Adult Ladies or an Adult Mixed Team. The same rules as above apply for substitutions and/or dancing in their own age group. Adults may dance in the Adult Ladies 4-Hand, Adult Mixed 4-Hand, AND in the Adult 40 and Over 4-Hand.
- Mixed Teams:
 - For 4-hand and 8-hand Ceilis, 25% of the team must be male dancers (minimum of one male per 4-hand dance and 2 males per 8-hand dance). **For 6-hand Ceilis, 1 dancer must be male.**
- Multiple Teams:
 - Dancers may not compete in more than one team in the SAME competition.
 - When there is more than one team from a school entered in the same competition, please differentiate teams by using A, B, or C etc.
 - If a school enters more than one team in a competition, and there is one team that does not participate, the remaining team(s) must dance in the earliest rotation spot assigned to the school. (ex. If teams A, B, C from the same school are assigned #1, 4, and 9 and only B & C teams participate then they must appear as #1 & 4.)
- Entry:
 - Changes in teams will be accepted until November 1st, 2026. No changes in teams will be accepted after November 1st, 2026 except in the case of an extreme emergency. In such a case, the Mid-Atlantic Executive Board, Entry Committee, and Chairpersons must be advised of all changes **in writing**. A doctor's note may be requested.
 - All teams will be split if there are more than 50 entries.
- Awards:
 - If fewer than six teams dance, all will be awarded. If six or more teams dance, there will be a 50% recall. Awards are based on the number of teams that *dance*, not the number of teams that are *entered*.

*The members of a team must be pupils of the same school of dancing. A dancer may be borrowed with the permission of the Mid-Atlantic Executive Board only in an emergency, i.e. injury or illness which occurs during the actual Oireachtas. A formal application must be made **in writing** to the Mid-Atlantic Executive Board for the above or in any other circumstances.*

RULES & DIRECTIVES FOR 8-HAND CEILIS

Will be governed by the CLRG Rules as published in the Oireachtas Rince Na Cruinne syllabus

- Each team can perform any 8-hand (except progressives) from the most recent version of Ar Rince Ceili & must be performed in strict accordance to what is written in the book. Unnecessary embellishments must be avoided.
- Tempos can be requested upon check in.
- Dancing will be done one team at a time.
- The top couple will have their backs to the assessors.
- For the purposes of the Oireachtas, the Gates of Derry and Lannigan's Ball will be regarded as 8-hand dances. The Three Tunes will be accepted as either reel or jig time.
- In the case of The Sweets of May, teams will perform the dance from the beginning, up to and including the see-saw, irrespective of whether Part A or Part B has been drawn.
- In the case of The Gates of Derry, teams will dance from the beginning, up to and including "swing around" of the first repeat of the dance, irrespective of whether Part A or Part B has been drawn.
- In the case of Lannigan's Ball, teams will perform the full dance, irrespective of whether Part A or Part B is drawn.
- In the case of The Three Tunes, teams will dance from the beginning, up to and including Hook and Chain, irrespective of whether Part A or Part B has been drawn.

Dance	PART A (1st Figure)
Morris Reel	Lead Around, Body, and 1st Figure (Tops Only)
Cross Reel	Lead Around, Body, and 1st Figure (Tops Only)
Eight-Hand Reel	Lead Around, Body, and 1st Figure (Tops Only)
Eight-Hand Jig	Lead Around, Body, and 1st Figure (Tops Only)
Trip to The Cottage	Lead Around, Body, and 1st Figure (1 st Tops only)
High Cauld Cap	Lead Around, Body, and 1st Figure (1 st Tops only)
St. Patrick's Day	Lead Around, Body, and 1st Figure (Tops Only)

RULES & DIRECTIVES FOR 4-HAND CEILIS

- Each team will perform the 4-Hand Reel, in which they will dance:
 - Lead Around
 - Body
 - Figure - **U8 & U10 will perform the 2nd Figure. U12, U15, 15&O, & Adults will perform the 1st Figure.**
- Teams will dance two at a time, and the top couple will be to the LEFT of the assessors.

RULES & DIRECTIVES FOR 6-HAND CEILIS

- In 6-hand competitions, teams may perform their choice of:
 - **GLENCAR REEL** - all 56 bars (complete dance). Teams will perform the entire dance from the beginning, up to and including the Full Chain.
 - **FAIRY REEL** - all 96 bars (complete dance). Teams will perform the entire dance from the beginning, up to and including Advance, Retire, & Pass Through. Each trio will turn to their right to face the trio they dance with, finishing the eight bars.
 - **DUKE REEL** - 80 bars. This includes the **FIRST FIGURE** for Couples 1 & 2 and Couples 2 & 3 inclusive.
- For all 6-hand dances, the formation will be in accordance with the latest edition of *Ar Rinci Ceili*.

RULES & DIRECTIVES FOR FIGURE DANCING

Will be governed by the CLRG Rules as published in the Oireachtas Rince Na Cruinne syllabus

These rules and directives must be read in conjunction with the General Rules and other relevant sections of this syllabus.

Teams:

- Each team must consist of no fewer than eight and no more than sixteen dancers.
- The names of all team members must be submitted with the entry and any requested modifications must be submitted prior to the competition.
- A mixed team must have a minimum of 4 boys. It is not permissible to dance a girl as a boy or vice versa.
- A dancer must not be a member of more than one team in the same competition except in the case of an unforeseen emergency and then only with the permission of the Mid-Atlantic Region Board or its designated representatives.

Music:

- **MUSIC MUST NOT EXCEED 4 MINUTES IN DURATION.** Each dance will be electronically timed and the timing will commence from the start of the music playing and finish when the music stops. Additional music will be permitted for walk-offs.
- Only Irish music or music of related ethnic origin in 2/4, 4/4, or 6/8 time, or a combination of those times, will be permitted. Any change of music must last for at least 16 bars. No slip jig timing allowed.
- It is imperative that the person submitting the music for use as accompaniment owns all rights to the music or has been licensed to use the music for the purpose of a stage performance. Where it is suspected that a commercially produced work is included in such music, IDTANA and Mid-Atlantic Region reserve the right to seek written evidence of such licensing before allowing such music to be played during the competition. Please submit your music via email to midatlanticoireachtas@gmail.com no later than November 1st, 2026.
- Teams must supply their own music. All teams must have their music on an IPOD, MP3 player, or phone. All teams must have someone from the school (not teachers) to work their device. Note: Each stage will be equipped with a 1/8 jack (IPOD connector). Teams are responsible for ensuring that they have all necessary connectors/convertors to be compatible with the 1/8 jack.

Assessment:

- Teams will be assessed under the following headlines:
 - Portrayal of the Story Through Dance
 - Figure Content
 - Footwork and Execution
 - Teamwork and Presentation

General Rules:

- Each dance must portray, in a manner suitable for a general audience, a specifically Irish historical or traditional story, event, or theme. Stance and body movement must be performed with modesty in mind.
- Each team member must be on stage from the commencement of the dance and shall dance continuously for the duration of the dance except where, to emphasize a figure, short pauses for up to 4 bars may be permitted. Pauses for longer than 4 bars by some team members are allowed (as in ceili dancing) if other team members continue to dance.
- Every dance must be capable of being performed on a stage not greater than 28' x 28'.
- Basic steps, found in *Ar Rince Ceili* are strongly recommended. Solo dancing steps are not permitted as part of a figure dance.
- There are no restrictions on hand movements, and hand claps are permitted.
- The throwing of a dancer or any form of acrobatics, including, but not limited to, somersaults, backward and forward rolls, handstands, etc. is strictly prohibited.
- Narratives must be typed and submitted one hour prior to the competition. There needs to be a copy for each assessor and a copy for the stagehands. Teams may use their own narrator to read the story. Any narrator may not be dressed in a school uniform, colors, or attire that identifies the school. No TCRG affiliated with the school will be permitted to read the story.
- Any team found to be in contravention of any of the above cannot be placed in a medal winning position.

RULES & DIRECTIVES FOR DANCE DRAMA

Will be governed by the CLRG Rules as published in the Oireachtas Rince Na Cruinne syllabus

These rules and directives must be read in conjunction with the General Rules and other relevant sections of this syllabus.

Teams:

- Each team must consist of no fewer than eight and no more than twenty dancers.
- The names of all team members must be submitted with the entry and any requested modifications must be submitted prior to the competition.
- A dancer must not be a member of more than one team in the same competition except in the case of an unforeseen emergency and then only with the permission of the Mid-Atlantic Region Board or its designated representatives.

Music:

- Teams must supply their own music.
- No combination of music and live musicians will be permitted.
- The music must not exceed six minutes in duration.
- Each dance will be electronically timed, and the timing will commence from the start of the music playing and finish when the music stops. Additional music will be permitted for walk-offs. Only Irish music or music of related ethnic origin, which must consist of reels, slip jigs, single jigs, hornpipes, Irish marches, or Irish slow airs, or a combination of any of those dance tunes, marches, or slow airs, will be permitted. Where drumming is used, this must also be in the stipulated tempos.
- It is imperative that the person submitting music for use as accompaniment for a Dance Drama either owns all rights to the music or has been licensed to use the music for the purpose of a stage performance. Where it is suspected that a commercially produced work is included in such music, IDTANA and the Mid-Atlantic Region reserve the right to seek written evidence of such licensing before allowing such music to be played during the Dance Drama competition. Music must be submitted via email to midatlanticoireachtas@gmail.com no later than November 1st, 2026.
- Spoken words or songs are not permitted as part of a Dance Drama. This includes miming to spoken words, songs on tape, or another recorded medium.
- Teams must supply their own music. All teams must have their music on an IPOD, MP3 player, or phone. All teams must have someone from the school (not teachers) to work their device. Note: Each stage will be equipped with a 1/8 jack (IPOD connector). Teams are responsible for ensuring that they have all necessary connectors/convertors to be compatible with the 1/8 jack.

General Rules:

- Each dance must portray, in a manner suitable for a general audience, a specifically Irish historical or traditional story, event, or theme. Stance and body movement must be performed with modesty in mind.
- Each team member must remain on stage, or in the side stage wings, for the duration of the dance.
- A Dance Drama should be capable of being performed on a stage 28' x 28'.
- Entrances can be from either side of the stage.
- Lighting can be dimmed or raised, but excessive or complicated changes of lighting must be avoided. The ordinary stage lighting provided at the venue must be used, i.e. additional lighting, strobes, etc. will not be permitted.
- Where stage props are required, they must be provided by teams themselves. Props must be portable and of a kind that can be placed and removed easily and quickly. This rule will be strictly enforced.
- Teams will be allowed up to five minutes to prepare the stage and up to five minutes to clear the stage. The time allowed for music during the performance is a minimum of four minutes and a maximum of six minutes. This rule will be strictly enforced.
- Narratives must be typed and submitted one hour prior to the competition. There needs to be a copy for each assessor and a copy for the stagehands. Teams may use their own narrator to read the story. Any narrator may not be dressed in a school uniform, colors, or attire that identifies the school. No TCRG affiliated with the school will be permitted to read the story.
- Video or image projection before, during, or on completion of a performance is not permitted.
- The throwing of a dancer or any form of acrobatics, including, but not limited to, somersaults, backward and forward rolls, handstands, etc. is strictly prohibited.
- The written account of the dance (i.e. story) should not exceed 250 words.

Assessment:

- Elements to be considered in a team's performance will include:
 - Choice of theme, event, or story
 - Portrayal of theme, including dance content and music
 - Dancing
 - Impact (on assessor)
 - Costume
- Any team found to be in contravention of any of the above cannot be placed in a medal winning position.

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

#	Competition Name	Girls/Mixed	Age Group	Figure
30	Primary	Girls 8-Hand	Under 10	1st Figure
31	Minor	Girls 8-Hand	Under 12	1st Figure
32	Junior	Girls 8-Hand	Under 15	1st Figure
33	Senior	Ladies 8-Hand	Under 18	1st Figure
34	Senior	Ladies 8-Hand	18 & Over	1st Figure
35	Primary	Mixed 8-Hand	Under 10	1st Figure
36	Minor	Mixed 8-Hand	Under 12	1st Figure
37	Junior	Mixed 8-Hand	Under 15	1st Figure
38	Senior	Mixed 8-Hand	15 & Over	1st Figure
39	Primary	Girls 6-Hand	Under 10	Please see Rules & Directives on Page 10
40	Minor	Girls 6-Hand	Under 12	Please see Rules & Directives on Page 10
41	Junior	Girls 6-Hand	Under 15	Please see Rules & Directives on Page 10
42	Senior	Girls 6-Hand	15 & Over	Please see Rules & Directives on Page 10
43	Primary	Mixed 6-Hand	Under 10	Please see Rules & Directives on Page 10
44	Minor	Mixed 6-Hand	Under 12	Please see Rules & Directives on Page 10
45	Junior	Mixed 6-Hand	Under 15	Please see Rules & Directives on Page 10
46	Senior	Mixed 6-Hand	15 & Over	Please see Rules & Directives on Page 10
47	Sub-Minor	Girls 4-Hand	Under 8	2nd Figure
48	Primary	Girls 4-Hand	Under 10	2nd Figure
49	Minor	Girls 4-Hand	Under 12	1st Figure
50	Junior	Girls 4-Hand	Under 15	1st Figure
51	Senior	Ladies 4-Hand	15 & Over	1st Figure

52	Sub-Minor	Mixed 4-Hand	Under 8	2nd Figure
53	Primary	Mixed 4-Hand	Under 10	2nd Figure
54	Minor	Mixed 4-Hand	Under 12	1st Figure
55	Junior	Mixed 4-Hand	Under 15	1st Figure
56	Senior	Mixed 4-Hand	15 & Over	1st Figure
57	Primary	Figure Dance	Under 10	N/A
58	Minor	Figure Dance	Under 12	N/A
59	Junior	Figure Dance	Under 15	N/A
60	Senior	Figure Dance	15 & Over	N/A
61	Dance Drama	Dance Drama	All Ages	N/A
62	Adult	Ladies 8-Hand	18 & Over	1st Figure
63	Adult	Mixed 8-Hand	18 & Over	1st Figure
64	Adult	Ladies 6-Hand	18 & Over	Please see Rules & Directives on Page 10
65	Adult	Mixed 6-Hand	18 & Over	Please see Rules & Directives on Page 10
66	Adult	Ladies 4-Hand	18 & Over	1st Figure
67	Adult	Mixed 4-Hand	18 & Over	1st Figure
68	Adult	4-Hand	40 & Over	1st Figure

RULES & DIRECTIVES FOR TRADITIONAL SET

- Dancers who fail to complete their dance will be given a zero for their traditional set.
- Set dances will be played with the step introduction, then the right & left foot of the step, followed by the set on the right foot only. Dancers must start after the intro and will not be permitted to dance beyond the end of the allotted music. Once the musician begins to play, they will only play the allotted music for that set and cannot accommodate dancers who commence their dance incorrectly.
- All Trad sets will be split if there are more than 50 entries.

#	Age	Age Description
69	Under 7	Boys & Girls born in 2019 or later
70	Under 8	Boys & Girls born in 2018
71	Under 9	Boys & Girls born in 2017
72	Under 10	Boys & Girls born in 2016
73	Under 11	Boys & Girls born in 2015
74	Under 12	Boys & Girls born in 2014
75	Under 13	Boys & Girls born in 2013
76	Under 14	Boys & Girls born in 2012
77	Under 15	Boys & Girls born in 2011
78	Under 16	Boys & Girls born in 2010
79	Under 18	Men & Ladies born in 2009 & 2008
80	18 & Over	Men & Ladies born in 2007 or earlier
81	Special Needs	Boys & Girls of all ages

ADULT CHAMPIONSHIP & TRAD SET

NO.	Competition Name	Age	Age description
82	Adult Trad Set	Adults 18-30	Rules for definition of “adult dancer” apply
83	Adult Trad Set	Adults 31 & Over	Rules for definition of “adult dancer” apply
84	Adult Championship	Adults 18-29	Rules for definition of “adult dancer” apply
85	Adult Championship	Adults 30-39	Rules for definition of “adult dancer” apply
86	Adult Championship	Adults 40 & Over	Rules for definition of "adult dancer" apply

ADULT RULES & REGULATIONS

- In the Adult Championship, all participants shall dance a **HEAVY JIG**, followed by **SLIP JIG (REEL for Men)**, and a traditional set dance for the recall.
- This championship is a mixed competition, and dancers are eligible to dance at the Oireachtas by teachers' discretion.
- Adult Championship competitions are confined to those aged 18 & Over who have not competed except as an adult during the past five years.
- A dancer registered for Adult Traditional Set may not be entered for Adult Championship, and a dancer registered for Adult Championship may not be entered in Adult Traditional Set.
- Dancers will dance two at a time for both heavy shoe and soft shoe. Competitors will dance for 48 bars in the Reel and Heavy Jig and 40 bars in the Slip Jig after an 8-bar introduction. Competitors beginning to dance before or after the stipulated 8 bar introduction will automatically receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round.
- Championships will commence with the hard shoe round, followed by the soft shoe round. Dancers that are in the recall will then dance a traditional set dance as their recall round.
- Only recalled competitors will perform their set dances. In competitions with less than 30 dancers, all will be recalled for the traditional set round.
- A dancer who checks in for their competition and misses their rotation will not be allowed to dance out of order. They will be awarded a zero for that round and will not be allowed to recall, regardless of the score from their other round.
- Completion of the round is at the discretion of the assessors **[Per IDTANA Rule passed July 2009]**.
- Prior to the commencement of the recall round of each championship, competitors will submit the name of the traditional set dance nominated by them. All set dances nominated must be on the list given on page 8 of this syllabus. The onus of ensuring that the stage manager is informed of the correct name of the nominated traditional set dance will rest with the competitor.
- Competitors beginning to dance before or after the stipulated set dance introduction will automatically receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round.
- Any competitor who does not complete the first two rounds of competition cannot be recalled to dance in the third round **[Per IDTANA Rule Passed 2009]**.
- If a competitor fails to check in, and the first two dancers have commenced dancing, that competitor will be disqualified and not allowed to dance.
- If a competitor fails to dance the first round of a championship, that competitor will be allowed to dance the second round as a courtesy but will receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round and will not be allowed to appear in the traditional set dance round regardless of the score from the dancer's other round. If a competitor fails to dance the second round of a championship, no courtesy will be extended and that competitor will receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round and will not be allowed to appear in the traditional set dance round, regardless of the score from the dancer's other round.
- A competitor who fails to dance or complete the traditional set dance round will receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round.
- All dancers in the recall round will dance one at a time. Sets and speeds are stipulated in this syllabus.
- Respect for fellow competitors on stage is a requirement at all times. Lack of respect or courtesy for competitors by aggressive dancing on stage will be subject to penalty at the discretion of the assessors.

ORDER OF DANCING AND MISHAPS

Check In: Stagehands will begin to check in dancers approximately 60 minutes before the scheduled commencement of the competition. A dancer must check in at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the competition.

Rotations: The draw for starting numbers will be done randomly by computer and posted. The starting number for Round 2 will be 1/3 of the competition added to the first round's starting number. The starting number for Round 3 will be 1/3 of the competition added to the second round's starting number. Dancers must follow the rotation as listed on the Mid-Atlantic Region Oireachtas Website.

Mishaps:

- Should a dancer lose a heel or a complete shoe, they may stand back – allowing the other dancer(s) to continue dancing uninhibited. In such a case, the dancer concerned will be permitted to re-dance without penalty as soon as it is deemed practical by the stage manager. They must wait at least five rotations.
- Should a dancer fall on stage, whether in solos or in teams, the assessor **MUST** ring the bell in order to stop the performance of the dancer(s). Dancers so affected will be permitted to re-dance and will then be marked at the discretion of each individual assessor. If a dancer falls during the last 8 bars of any performance, then they would only be required to dance the last 16 bars of that dance again at a time convenient to both dancer and stage managers. Where feasible, dancers will be brought back no sooner than five rotations.
- If additional questions arise, refer to the CLRG Worlds Syllabus.
 - If the assessor rings the bell to stop a performance during the last 8 bars in Rounds 1 or 2, dancers will only be required to dance the last 16 bars of that dance.
 - If the assessor rings the bell to stop a performance during any part of the dancer's open solo set dance, the dancer will perform the entire dance for their re-dance.
 - If the assessor rings the bell to stop a performance any sooner than the last 8 bars during a RE-DANCE in Round 1 or Round 2, the assessors will decide (by majority vote) if a full dance is required or if an exception can be made to require only the last 16 bars of that dance.
- Re-dances shall occur as soon as it is deemed practicable by the stage manager and no sooner than after five rotations of dancers. When re-dances occur at the end of a competition, an equivalent amount of recovery time (approximately seven minutes) will be afforded to the dancer(s).
- Should a dancer slip, bump into another dancer, or have a costume malfunction whether in solos or in teams, the bell will be rung at the discretion of the assessors to stop the performance of the dancer(s). Dancers so affected will be permitted to re-dance and will be marked then at the discretion of each individual assessor. Where feasible, dancers will be brought back no sooner than five rotations.
- Should, in the opinion of the stage manager, having obtained medical advice if necessary, a dancer be unfit to re-dance and if such dancer insists on their right to do so, then the dancer concerned will only be permitted to re-dance on completion of a declaration form exonerating IDTANA and the Mid-Atlantic Region of liability for any consequences. Any repeat accident/incident which results in that dancer being unable to complete the required number of bars of any round will result in the dancer withdrawing without question from the competition.
- A competitor must not walk off the stage during a performance unless instructed to do so by an assessor. A dancer who dismisses themselves from the stage without the permission of assessors will not be marked for that particular dance.
- If at any point during a performance on stage, an assessor feels that due to the health and safety of a performer on stage that the performance should be stopped, the assessor must ring the bell.
- If a dancer falls and recovers, that dancer may still place in the top three of the final result.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Line Of Sight Of Assessors: Teachers and dancers wearing school clothing depicting their school names must not be allowed side-stage at major events in North America to interact with competitors once they are in the line to compete and/or to greet the dancer at the other side of the stage after their performance if it is in the line of sight of the assessors.

Mischief: Any person caught damaging property (whether private property or that of the hotel and/or the organization) will be required to leave the premises immediately and will not be permitted at any remaining events during the Oireachtas. All parties involved will be billed for damages. Parents/Guardians are fully responsible for the actions of their children. The IDTANA, Mid-Atlantic Region, and the venue owners will not be held responsible for personal injury, property damage, loss, or any claim.

Videos: No use of video recorders, movie cameras, camcorders, or any camera/cell phone that is capable of taking videos will be allowed in the competition halls, except for news media as approved by the Chairpersons of the event. No flash photography is permitted during competitions.

Coaching: No coaching will be allowed during the dancers' performance, regardless of age.

GENERAL RULES

Artificial Carriage Aids:

- Any competitor found to be using artificial carriage aids and who subsequently refuses to remove the same will be subject to disqualification from that particular competition. Medically prescribed apparatuses (proof of which will be required) will be exempt from this ruling.
- Any competitor wearing their shoes on the wrong feet will be treated in the same manner as if using carriage aids and be subject to disqualification from that particular competition.
- In order to comply with health and safety measures, all dancers lining up side stage prior to a competition may be asked to perform the simple exercise of raising arms to shoulder level unhindered. Any dancer unable to do so due to costume stitching or arm attachments will not be permitted to dance in that competition.

Emergencies

- **Medical** - In the event that a dancer is having an obvious medical emergency, assessors should ring the bell to stop the competition until the health and well-being of the dancer is assessed. In the event a dancer is having a medical emergency (i.e. mild seizure, asthma attack, diabetic reaction and it is not obvious to the assessor), it must be brought to the IMMEDIATE attention of the stage manager by the dancer's teacher. The stage manager should then instruct the assessor to ring the bell after identifying the medical emergency brought to his/her attention. It is the responsibility of the stage manager to then immediately inform the Regional Director and the Chairpersons. Should, in the opinion of the MAR Executive Board, having obtained medical advice if necessary, deem a dancer be unfit to re-dance and if such dancer insists on his/her right to do so, then the dancer concerned will only be permitted to re-dance on completion of a declaration form exonerating IDTANA and the Mid-Atlantic Region of liability for any consequences. Any repeat accident/incident which results in that dancer being unable to complete the required number of bars of any round will result in the dancer withdrawing without question from the competition. In both instances, the competition cannot be signed off on, nor tabulated until the incident is investigated. The competition envelope should remain in the ballroom until the Regional Director is notified. An assessment of the incident will be investigated. The final decision by the Executive Board is final. When such a situation may arise, the incident form in the stage manual must be completed and signed by all parties involved.
- **Power & Lighting** - In the event a ballroom loses power or lighting, assessors should ring the bell. If it is not immediately restored, all score sheets should be placed upside down or in an envelope left on the table until power is restored. Once a safe environment is established, and lighting and music is available, dancers that were on stage during the outage should repeat the round.

Music:

- Official musicians will play for solo, ceili, and traditional set events.
- Speeds for all dances in solo and ceili events will be in accordance with officially recognized speeds as set forth by An Coimisiun le Rincí Gaelacha.
- Metronomes will be in use at each stage. Dancers may NOT use their own metronomes.
- Dancers must start after the 8-bar introduction and dance for the full 40 bars of Slip Jig/Hornpipe or 48 bars of Reel/Heavy Jig.
- Set dances will be played with the step introduction, then the right & left foot of the step, followed by the set on the right foot.
- Dancers will not be permitted to dance beyond the end of the allotted music, and musicians will be instructed not to add music for those who miss their introductions.

Refusals: The Mid-Atlantic Region Oireachtas Co-Chairs and Mid-Atlantic Region Executive Board reserve the right to refuse any entry.

Appeals: Legitimate complaints must be submitted to the MARO Committee Chairperson(s) **IN WRITING** by the dance teacher involved. All such appeals must be submitted **no later than one hour after the completion of the competition and must be accompanied by a USD \$100.00 cash fee.** If the appeal is upheld, the fee will be returned.

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

Decisions: All decisions made in accordance with the rules for this event and all MARO rules are final. All decisions made by assessors in accordance with the rules for this event and all MARO rules are final.

Scoring and Assessment:

- When the first two rounds in a championship have been completed, the official points system will be used to place the competitors in order of merit over the two rounds. On the basis of that order of merit, one half of the number of competitors who dance will be recalled for the set-dance round. In competitions with less than 30 participants, all dancers will be recalled to the set dance round.
- Any points allotted to a dancer will stay with the dancer.
 - If a competitor fails to check in and the first two dancers have commenced dancing, that competitor will be disqualified and not allowed to dance.
 - If a competitor fails to dance the first round of a championship, that competitor will be allowed to dance the second round as a courtesy but will receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round and will not be allowed to appear in the set dance round regardless of the score from the dancer's other round.
 - If a competitor fails to dance the 2nd round of a championship, no courtesy will be extended and that competitors will receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round and will not be allowed to appear in the set dance round regardless of the score from the dancer's other round.
 - A competitor who fails to dance or complete the set dance round will receive **ZERO** marks from all assessors for that round.
- The decision of the assessors is final.

2026 MARO Teacher Checklist

Due Date	Date Complete	2026 Oireachtas Checklist Activity
10/1/26		Registration: Registered & paid for CLRG, IDTANA, & MAR Teacher Dues.
10/1/26		Entries and entry payment to be made ONLINE ONLY by October 1st via Feisentry. Checks will not be accepted. For questions, please email Mary Kay Heneghan at rincenatiarna@gmail.com . <i>Please note the importance of designating Prelim dancers.</i>
10/1/26		Assessment Fee (aka Digital Journal Advertisement) of \$100.00 - paid through Feisentry.
10/1/26		Trophies: Return perpetual trophies to the trophy committee. For information, contact Patsy Wrabley Swope: patswrabs@verizon.net
10/1/26		Digital Journal Ads: Email your advertisement(s) and Honoree ads for digital journal to debweb1242@gmail.com EMAIL DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 1st <u>Hard copy is no longer needed.</u> Payment NAME or SUBJECT line MUST include Dance School/Business placing the ad.
10/15/26		Teacher Volunteer: Sign up online to volunteer to help run the Oireachtas to fulfill your volunteer requirement. The online sign up form will be cross checked with entries for the event.
10/31/26		Schools with solo entries must double check that every dancer's status is correct on their entry confirmation. The status (Open v. Prelim) is based on the entry date of 10/1. ANY CORRECTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 10/31.
10/31/26		Trophy Donations: Please contact Patsy Wrabley Swope at patswrabs@verizon.net with donation requests. Donations are \$500, payable by check to Sue Fuller.
11/1/26		Parent Volunteer: Teachers are encouraged to secure at least 5 parent volunteers to sign up online to help with committees such as the dress shop, raffle baskets, and lost & found during the Oireachtas event weekend. The volunteer coordinator will disseminate a sign up form. Please email alifitz86@yahoo.com for inquiries.

- Please note that the draw for Assessors is scheduled to take place daily at 7:40AM in Ballroom A