BELFAST CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026



CHAMPIONSHIPS & PRELIM UNDER 9 & OLDER
Saturday 24th October 2026

UNDER 6 – UNDER 8 CHAMPIONSHIPS & GRADES
Sunday 25th October 2026

There will be no recall in open or prelim championships.
All competitors will perform a set dance.

ADJUDICATORS

RYAN CARROLL ADCRG
PORTUGAL

DOREEN O'CONNOR ADCRG
CONNAUGHT

EILEEN O'CONNOR O'KEEFE ADCRG
CONNAUGHT

MUSICANS

SEAN MORTALO – LEINSTER

Syllabus approved by feis registrar Comhairle Uladh:

LOCATION



Black Mountain Shared Space

280 Ballygomartin Road, Belfast, BT13 3NG

ENQUIRIES

Email: belfastchampionships@dp.dance

Gavin Doherty: +44 (0)7764 963 364

Seaneen Doherty O'Neill: +44 (0)7725 417 946

Caiome Doherty: +44 (0)7716 290 707

Deirdre Conlon Devine: +44 (0)7736 051 519

Sarah Lennon: +353 (0)87 609 7457

Syllabus approved by feis registrar Comhairle Uladh:

FINAL TIMETABLE

SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER

9:00 am	**Under 9 Championship** (Reel, Heavy Jig, Traditional Set Dance - alternating) **Under 10 Championship** (Heavy Round, Light Round, Set Dance - alternating)
11:00 am	**Under 11 Championship** **Under 12 Championship** (Heavy Round, Light Round, Set Dance - alternating)
2:00 pm	**Under 13 Championship** **Under 14 Championship** (Heavy Round, Light Round, Set Dance - alternating)
4:00 pm	**Under 15 Championship** **Under 16 Championship** (Heavy Round, Light Round, Set Dance - alternating)
6:00 pm	**16-18 Championship** **Over 18 Championship** (Heavy Round, Light Round, Set Dance - alternating)

SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER

	STAGE 1	STAGE 2
9:00 am	**Under 8 Bun, Tús & Mean**	**Under 9 Bun, Tús & Mean**
11:00 am	**Under 10 Bun, Tús & Mean**	**10 – 12 Bun, Tús & Mean**
1:00 pm	**Under 6 Championship** **Under 7 Championship** (Reel, Single Jig, Light or Heavy Jig - alternating) **Under 8 Championship** (Reel, Jig [light or heavy], Traditional Set Dance - alternating)	
2:00 pm	**Tiny Tots & Under 5 Ungraded**	
3:00 pm	**Under 6 Bun & Tús**	**Under 7 Bun & Tús**
4:30 pm	**12-14 Bun, Tús & Mean**	**Over 14 Bun, Tús & Mean**

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CHAMPIONSHIPS & PRELIM

- Championships Under 10 to Under 16 will incorporate a prelim result taken over the first 2 rounds.
- Trophies and sashes will be awarded to the top 5 dancers in open and prelim championships.

GRADES

TINY TOTS

Aimed at young dancers who may not be 100% ready for a feis. Each dancer can perform between 8 and 32 bars of reel music on stage. Parent or teacher may accompany the child. Each dancer will receive a sash.

COMPETITION	DANCES
Under 5 ungraded dances:	Trophy Reel, Light Jig, Single Jig
Bun Grád dances:	Reel, Light Jig, Single Jig, Slip Jig, Light Trophy Dance
Tús Grád dances:	Reel, Light Jig, Single Jig, Slip Jig, Light Trophy Dance, Traditional Set Trophy
Mean Grád dances:	Reel, Slip Jig, Single Jig, Light Trophy Dance, Heavy Jig or Hornpipe, Traditional Set Trophy

Trophies will be awarded to the top 5 dancers in trophy dances and 100% placement in reel and trophy dance

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ENTRY PROCESS

Entries via following link:

https://tinyurl.com/belf2026

Or scan the following QR code:

Entries close 6pm Monday 19th October 2026.

Competition entries will be capped and competitions with 4 or more boys will have a separate boys' competition.

FEES

U6 & U7 Championship: £30
(Overall result, 3 solo results)

U8 – O20 Championship: £35
(Overall result, 2 solo results)

Open and Preliminary combined: £40

Solo dances: £5

Trophy dance / Tiny Tots £6

Door entry: £5 payable on the day

Syllabus approved by feis registrar Comhairle Uladh:

GENERAL FEIS RULES

COMPETITION RULES

1. No refunds except in the case that the event does not run.
2. Entries only accepted from teachers registered with An Coimisiún le Rince Gaelacha.
3. The adjudicator's decision is final.
4. Age taken as at 1st January 2026.
5. Competitors in Bun Grád and Tús Grád, up to and including Under 12 age group, may only wear traditional class costumes or long/short sleeved blouses/shirts & skirt/trousers, polo tops & skirt/trousers, body suits & skirts or tunics that conform to the regular costume length rule. Low-cut tops and short tight skirts are not permitted.
6. Make-up (including false eyelashes and face-tan) is not permitted for dancers, in either solo or team competitions, up to and including the Under 10 age group.
7. Make-up will not be permitted for any dancer in the first two grades (Bun Grád & Tús Grád or equivalent) up to and including the Under 12 age group.
8. Length of costumes must adhere to principles of modesty and enable dancers to safely execute their movements and steps. Adjudicators who determine a costume to be too short or to lack modestly may ask a competitor to change into black tights (of a denier not less than 70 per cent) in order for the dancer to continue in the competition.
9. Appropriate undergarments covering the midriff must be worn. Undergarments must provide full coverage (as per illustration on www.clrg.ie). Dancers wearing undergarments that do not cover the areas of the body as in the illustrated example will be asked to put on black tights of a denier not less than 70%. This is monitored by the adjudicator. For competitions adjudicated by a panel of more than one adjudicator, all adjudicators on the panel must agree to ask the dancer to put on tights.
10. Bun Grád competitions are confined to competitors who at the time of entry have never won 1st place (or been graded as per below) in that particular dance in any age group or grade. Basic steps only are permitted in Bun Grád.
11. Tús Grád competitions are confined to dancers who have never won 1st place (or been graded as per below) for that particular dance in any age in Tús Grád, Mean Grád or Ard Grád. Dancers may perform either basic steps or their first hard/difficult version of each dance. Steps in Tus Grad Heavy Jigs and Hornpipe must be similar to those used in St. Patrick's Day and Blackbird.
12. In Bun and Tús Grád competitions, one dancer moves up to the next grade if there are less than 20 competitors; two dancers move up if there are between 21 and 40 competitors and three dancers move up if there are over 40 competitors.
13. Mean Grád competitions are confined to dancers who at the time of entry have never won 1st place for that particular dance in Mean or Ard Grád in that age group or a higher age group.
14. A Prelim Championship must be adjudicated by 3 or more adjudicators and must consist of 2 rounds: 1 Light Round (Reel/ Slip Jig) and 1 Heavy Round (Heavy Jig/Hornpipe). Prelim

Championships may run as a 'stand-alone' competition or may be incorporated into the Open Championships. Dancers may compete in an Open or a Prelim or both.

15. To be eligible to compete in a Prelim Championships: Dancers must not have placed in the top 3 in an Open Championships judged by 3 or more adjudicators. Dancers must not have won a Prelim Championships more than 2 times in the current year, HOWEVER, if there are 5 or less in a prelim Competition the dancer is still eligible to compete in Prelim. Dancers must not have qualified for Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne in the current year or previous year. Dancers must not have recalled in the actual Championship at Oireachtas Rince na hEireann in the current year or previous year. Dancers having won 2 Prelim Championships may not compete in any Mean Grád competition for the remainder of the year, HOWEVER, if a dancer has only won one Prelim Championship they may continue to compete in Mean Grád (with the exception of the dances that they have won the Prelim Championships with). Dancers who qualify for Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne where there are five dancers or less in the competition at their Regional Oireachtas are exempt from this ruling. They may remain in the Prelim Championships if they so wish. Boys who have qualified for the Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne, but were not placed in the top 3 at their Regional Oireachtas and who otherwise fulfil the Prelim Criteria, may continue to compete in Prelim Grade.
16. Music Speeds:BUN GRÁD: Reel 122-124, Light Jig 116, Single Jig 124, Slip Jig 124, Heavy Jig 96, Hornpipe 144 TÚS GRÁD: Reel 116-118, Light Jig 116, Single Jig 124, Slip Jig 120, Heavy Jig 82, Hornpipe 130 MEAN/ARD GRÁD: Reel 113, Light Jig 116, Sing Jig 124, Slip Jig 113, Heavy Jig 73, Hornpipe 113 TRADITIONAL SET DANCES: St Patrick's Day 94, The Blackbird 144, Job of Journeywork 138, Garden of Daisies 138, King of the Fairies 130, Three Sea Captains 96 or Jockey to the Fair 90.
17. All competitors will be required to dance a MINIMUM number of 40 bars, except the Slip Jig, Hornpipe & Bun Grád Reel where a MINIMUM number of 32 bars will be required. The adjudicator's decision is final.

OTHER RULES

18. Any form of unauthorised photography which has the capability to capture a dancer's image whilst in motion, using electronic or manual means e.g mobile phone, standard camera, video camera, with or without flash enhancement, is forbidden during competition.
19. Any parent who would not like their child to appear in photos taken by the feis committee should make the feis organiser aware prior to results being announced.
20. Changing of costumes, dressing or undressing is not permitted in the halls or public areas.
21. No black, en point, stationery or moving will be allowed for all ages up to and including Under 12. However, dancers who will be competing in the 12-13 age group in the following year will be exempt from this rule from 1st September.
22. The feis committee will not accept any responsibility for personal injuries or articles lost at the feis.
23. The feis committee reserves the right to transfer competitions/results to a different stage or to alternate competitions if it becomes necessary in order to help the feis run smoothly. The committee reserves the right to use a relief adjudicator.
24. The feis committee reserve the right to refuse feis entries or entrance into the feis.

Syllabus approved by feis registrar Comhairle Uladh: 

25. The Child Protection Designated Liason Officer for the Ulster region is Chantelle Deazley. If you have any concerns for any child's safety at the event, please contact her: vettingni@clrg.ie.

DATA PROTECTION

As a feis organiser and a member of An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha (CLRG), I aim to protect all user information in accordance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation 2018. Please see link for more information:

http://www.eugdpr.org/eugdpr.org-1.html

http://www.clrg.ie/index.php/en/about-us/privacy-policy.html

Some personal data is required to be shared in order to gain information about who is taking part in our competition. This information will be given to the feis organiser via email. This information may be shared with An Comhairle Uladh, CLRG and members of the feis committee. If you have any concerns, please contact belfastchampionships@dp.dance.



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