



City of
MANCHESTER
Championships

Registered with CLRG

Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th May 2026

**Toughsheet Community Stadium
De Havilland Way
Bolton
Greater Manchester
BL6 6SF**

Adjudicators

Steven Brunning (England) Deborah Mulvenna (Ireland)
Aidan Comerford (England) Sinead Mclaughlin (Scotland)
Owen Joe McAuley (Ireland) Pauline Shaw (England)

Musicians

Aidan O'Neill (England) Liam O Sullivan (England)

Enquiries: Facebook: 'The City of Manchester Championships'

Email: cityofmanchesterchampionships@gmail.com

Karen Gleeson Halliwell 07759 815300

Eamonn Sweeney 07818 060549

Dear Teachers, Parents & Dancers,

Cead Mile Failte to the City of Manchester Championships!

We have a fabulous feis venue, which offers free car parking throughout the weekend, along with a panel of esteemed adjudicators and two of the finest musicians to play for the dancers over the weekend.

Open Championships from U6-U9 will consist of a panel of three adjudicators.

From Under 10 upwards, we will run combined Open and Preliminary Championships which will be adjudicated by a panel of 3 adjudicators for Rounds 1 & 2, followed by a different panel of 3 adjudicators for Round 3.

We aim to offer 100% recall, time permitting. Otherwise, there will be a 50% recall if there are over 15 dancers.

Open Championships – Top 5 dancers will receive a sash plus the appropriate special awards.

Preliminary Championship – Top 3 dancers will receive a sash plus the appropriate special awards.

Solo results will be given for Round 1 & 2 of the combined Championships

There will be live streaming of the Open and Preliminary Championship results via 'The City of Manchester' Facebook page.

We will be inviting the top 3 dancers from each Open Championship and the winner of the Preliminary Championship to take part in a 'Parade of Champions' at the end of the first day.

To cater for all your dancing needs we will have **Feiswear by Chris Skehill, Paula's Wigs and Bling and Redmond Rose**

In anticipation of your attendance, we would like to thank you for your support and wish you all a very successful feis.

Warmest regards,

Karen Gleeson Halliwell ADCRG

Eamonn Sweeney TCRG

Approved by



NWRC Feis Secretary Nicola King

Age Groups & Competitions

U5 'Rising Stars' Ungraded

Novice (Bun)

U6-U11 Reel, Hop Jig, , Light Jig, Slip Jig, Light Trophy

Primary (Tus)

U6 & U7 Reel, Hop Jig, Light Jig, Slip Jig, Light Trophy

U8-13 & Over - Reel, Hop Jig, Light Jig, Slip Jig, Light Trophy, Heavy Jig, Hornpipe, Heavy Trophy

Intermediate (Mean)

U6-U11 Reel, Hop Jig, Light Jig, Slip Jig, Light Trophy

U7 Heavy Jig

U8-13 & Over - Reel, Hop Jig, Light Jig, Slip Jig, Light Trophy, Heavy Jig, Hornpipe, Heavy Trophy

Prelim Championships

U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, 15 & Over

Open Championships

U6, U7

Reel, Hop Jig and Light/Heavy Jig

U8, U9

Reel, Heavy Jig & Traditional Set

U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, Senior *

Reel or Slip Jig, Heavy Jig or Hornpipe & Open Set (U10 may do Trad Set)

***PLEASE NOTE SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP WILL BE SPLIT ACCORDING TO NUMBER ENTERED**

Open Championships & Preliminary Championships

From U10 upwards Open & Preliminary Championships will be combined, with the exception of the 15 & Over Preliminary

Round 1 will be the Light round, **Round 2** will be the Heavy round.

Required Bars: Reel & Heavy Jig 40 bars, Slip Jig & Hornpipe 32 bars.

Solos results These will be given for Rounds 1 & 2.

Ceili Competitions

2 hand dance, 3 hand dance, 4 hand dance, Fairy Reel, 8 hand ceili & Progressive dance (all to be taken from An Rince Foirne) Figure Dance (teachers own invention).

NB Saturday 16th May: All Preliminary/ Open Championships & Ceili

Sunday 17th May: All grades Competitions

A full timetable will be issued on receipts of entries

Grades are open to all areas.

Competitions will be brought forward up to 30 minutes earlier if the opportunity arises.

Entry Fees

'Rising Stars' Ungraded	£5
Solo dances	£5 each dance
Trophy Competitions	£6 per trophy
Open Championship U6-U9	£40
Preliminary Championship	£45
Open Championship	£45
Dancer maximum	£60
Family Fee (siblings only)	£75
Ceili Competitions	£5 p/p
Door Entry	£8
Concessions	£4

Marks packs are included with your entry fee and can be collected after the presentations. Closing date for prepaid entries is **Friday 1st May 2026.**

To be emailed to cityofmanchesterchampionships@gmail.com along with proof of payment.

NB Entries after this date including on the day of the championships will incur a £5 administrative fee per dancer.

Transport



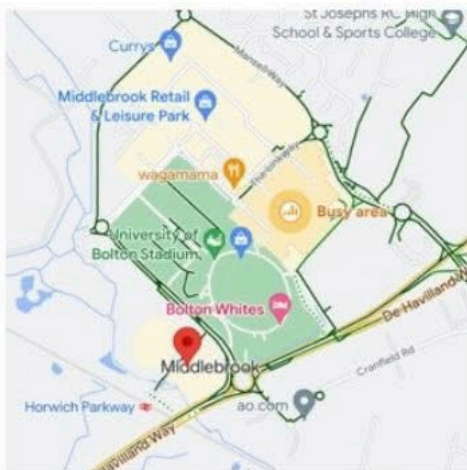
Nearest train station:

Horwich Parkway (2 minute walk from the venue)

Nearest Airport:

Manchester Airport (Approx. 40 minutes on the train from Manchester Airport to Horwich Parkway)

Accommodation



Base Hotel:

Bolton Whites Hotel,
De Havilland Way,
Bolton. BL6 6SF
(4 star)

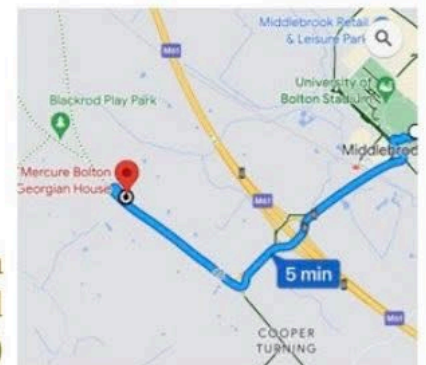
Alternative:

Premier Inn Bolton (Stadium/Arena) Hotel,
3 Arena Approach,
Horwich, Bolton, BL6 6LB
(3 star)



Premier Inn Bolton West Hotel ,
991 Chorley New Road,
Horwich, Bolton, BL6 4BA
(3 star)

Mercure Bolton
Georgian House Hotel
(3 star)



Standard Rules for North West Feiseanna

As of September 2025

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Ages to be taken from 1st January 2026.
2. Entries will only be accepted from schools currently registered with An Coimisiun.
3. Lodgement of entries at a Feis implies that you accept the rules relating to the Feis in their entirety as laid down by the NWRC and An Coimisiun, and that you accept that the Results of the Feis will be published on the NWRC website.

ADJUDICATORS & MUSICIANS

4. The Adjudicators decisions are final. The Adjudicators should not be approached by any persons other than the Feis Committee.
5. Pupils of an Adjudicator employed at a particular feis may not take part in the Feis even if the adjudicator is judging alternative age groups.
6. Any Adjudicator from outside the NW Region cannot judge an Open Feis in the North West Region within 6 months of their last adjudication in the region. Any Adjudicator from the North West Region cannot judge an Open Feis in the North West Region within 3 months of their last adjudication in the region.
7. An Adjudicator from outside the North West Region may not adjudicate a Class Feis in the North West Region in the 6 months leading up to adjudicating an Open Feis in the Region.
8. All musicians should be competent and abide by the prescribed An Coimisiun metronomic speeds below.

Novice

Reel 122-124 Light jig 116 Single jig 124 Slip Jig 124 Heavy Jig 96 Hornpipe 144

Primary

Reel 116-118 Light jig 116 Single jig 124 Slip Jig 120 Heavy Jig 76 Hornpipe 118

Intermediate/Open

Reel 113 Slip Jig 113 Heavy Jig 73 Hornpipe 113

Traditional Set Dances

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

NOVICE AND PRIMARY GRADE

9. There will be a minimum of 4 Novice Light Dances up to and including Under 11. Only the most basic Steps may be performed in this grade. Children entering the Novice cannot enter the Primary for the same dances. All Novice, Primary, Intermediate, Preliminary and Open Competitions are open to all Regions.
10. All Novice, Primary, Intermediate, Preliminary and Open Competitions are open to all Regions.
11. Any competitions in Novice and Primary, in which there are 5 or fewer dancers shall not count for grading purposes. However, a dancer may only win 3 such competitions and they then must move up to the next grade. If there are 6-10 dancers in any Novice or Primary competition, then just the 1st placed dancer must move up to the next grade. If there are 11-20 dancers, 1st and 2nd placed dancers must move up to the next grade. If there are 21 or more dancers then 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed dancers must move up to the next grade.
12. There will be no restriction on the step content performed in the Primary grade.
13. A Novice Dancer is a dancer who has not gained a place that requires them to move up in a Novice or higher Grade competition.
14. A Primary Dancer is a dancer who has not gained a place that requires them to move up in a Primary or higher Grade competition.
15. Novice/Primary Trophy Competitions are confined to dancers who have never won a Novice/Primary Trophy. Any Light Dance can be performed for the Trophy but it must have been danced in the Novice/Primary section on the day of the Feis.
16. Dancers gaining a place that requires them to move up in a Novice/Primary Trophy Competition must move up to the next grade for both the Dance they performed to win the Trophy and the Trophy competition itself.
17. Only skirts and tops or a simple current class costume may be worn in the Novice and Primary Grades.
18. In the event of there being no provision for a particular age group, a dancer may dance up an age group, however on attaining first place in any dance, that dancer must remain in the higher grade for that dance for the remainder of the year.
19. At any one Feis, a Novice or Primary dancer may only dance each Solo Dance, the Light Trophy and the Heavy Trophy in ONE GRADE only.

20. Should there be 5 or fewer dancers in any Novice or Primary competition then the Feis Organiser reserves the right to combine age groups to make a double age group. Any dancer/s required to subsequently move up in a double age competition must remain in the higher grade for that dance for the remainder of the year.

21. If a feis syllabus does not provide a heavy dance section in the Novice grade, a dancer may perform their heavy jig or hornpipe in the Primary grade, and be offered a choice of either Novice or Primary speed. That is, either 76 or 96 for the heavy jig and either 118 or 144 for the hornpipe. If a feis is pre entry then the feis organiser will include a space on their entry form to indicate whether the Novice or Primary speed is required in the Primary section. Depending on the number of entries received, a feis organiser may then separate the dancers into Novice / Primary competitions if they wish to do so. If a feis is "Pay on the day", teachers are reminded to ensure that children know the speed they require.

INTERMEDIATE GRADE

22. An Intermediate Dancer is one who has never won a first place in that particular dance in their present age group.

23. Intermediate Trophy competitions are confined to dancers who have never won an Intermediate Trophy in their present age group. Any Light Dance can be performed for the Trophy but it must have been danced in the Intermediate section on the day of the Feis.

24. A winner of an Intermediate Trophy Competition must move up to the next grade for both the Dance they performed to win the Trophy and the Trophy competition itself.

25. At any one Feis, an Intermediate dancer may only dance each Solo Dance, the Light Trophy and the Heavy Trophy, in ONE GRADE only, with the exception of intermediate dancers wishing to enter the Preliminary or Open Trophy/Championship.

26. In the event of there being no provision for a particular age group, then a dancer may dance up an age group, however on attaining first place in any dance, that dancer must remain in the higher grade for that dance for the remainder of the year.

27. If there are 6 or more dancers in any Intermediate Competition, then the 1st placed dancer must move up to the next grade, Any competition in which there are 5 or fewer dancers shall not count for grading purposes. However, a Dancer may only win 3 such competitions and they then must move up to the next grade.

28. Should there be 5 or fewer dancers in any Intermediate competition then the Feis Organiser reserves the right to combine age groups to make a double age group. Any dancer/s required to subsequently move up in a double age competition must remain in the higher grade for that dance for the remainder of the year

PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS

29. A minimum number of three Adjudicators must officiate.

30. The first age group for a Preliminary Championship is Under 10.

31. Where a Preliminary Championship is held separate from an Open Championship, three rounds should be offered, namely; Reel or Slip Jig, Heavy Jig or Hornpipe and any Set Dance.

32. Where a Preliminary Championship is combined with an Open Championship, then the result should be taken from eligible dancers' ranking after the first two rounds.

33. Where there are separate Preliminary and Open Championships, dancers can compete in both at the discretion of the Feis organiser.

34. Where a competitor wins two Preliminary Championships they must dance in Open Championship for a period of 12 months thereafter.

35. For grading purposes, two wins will be taken as being in any two year rolling period. Where a dancer does not win a second Preliminary within two years of winning their first Preliminary Championship, then the first win will be deemed as having expired and the dancer starts afresh.

36. Where there are 5 or fewer dancers in a Preliminary Championship that win will not normally be considered for grading purposes. However, where a dancer wins three Preliminary Championships regardless of the number of competitors in each competition, that dancer must dance in Open Championship for a period of 12 months thereafter.

37. Dances performed in a Preliminary Championships do not count for grading in solo competitions.

38. A Solo World Qualifier (in the previous 12 months) will NOT be eligible to compete in Preliminary Championships. This excludes dancers that auto qualified at their Regional or National Oireachtas due to lack of numbers.

39. Dancers placing 1st-3rd in an Open Championship with up to 20 competitors or 1st-5th in an Open Championship with more than 20 Competitors cannot compete in a Preliminary Championship for a period of 12 months

OPEN GRADE

40. In all age groups any dancer who has previously won an Open Championship before a panel of at least three adjudicators does NOT have to dance Open if they are eligible for a lower grade.

41. In all age groups, (with the exception of under 6 and under 7), where solos and Championships are run separately, competitors must have performed 1 light dance and 2 heavy dances to be eligible for the Premier Trophy/Championship. This does not apply where solos are combined in with the Championship.

42. The wording 'Championship' will only be used where there is a panel of at least 3 adjudicators.

ALL GRADES

43. No block, en pointe, stationary or moving, will be allowed to be performed by any dancers up to and including the Under 11 Age Group. The Under 12 age group is also governed by this rule up until 1st September each year after which they are permitted to perform the movement.

44. Dancers must dance in their own age group for solo competitions if that age group is provided for.

45. Any competitor found to be using artificial carriage aids and subsequently refuses to remove them will be subject to disqualification from that particular competition. Medically prescribed apparatus, proof of which may be required, will be exempt from this

FIGURE DANCING

46. Figure teams may contain up to 50% from a lower age group.

GENERAL FEIS RULES

47. Make up (including false eyelashes and tanner on the face) will not be permitted for dancers, in either solo or team competitions, up to and including the Under 10 age group, and any dancer in the first two grades (Novice and Primary) up to and including the Under 12 age group worldwide. This rule refers to the age group of the competition, not the actual age of the dancer. Leg tan is NOT part of this rule.

48. Any protest against breach of rules must be made in writing, within 1 hour of the conclusion of the relevant competition and accompanied by a fee of £10.00, which will be refunded should the objection be upheld.

49. Medals will be awarded in accordance with the minimum requirements as laid down by the NWRC:

1 medal where there is 3 competitors

2 medals where there are 5 competitors

3 medals where there are 7 competitors

4 medals where there are 10 competitors and

1 medal for each additional 10 or part of 10 competitors.

50. The Feis Organiser reserves the right to cancel any competition should there be insufficient entries.

51. In the interest of Health, hairspray and any other aerosols must not be used in any of the dancing areas.

52. In accordance with the ruling laid down by An Coimisiun and in the interest of safety, dancers are asked to be suitably dressed at all times and should not undress in the competition halls.

53. Mobile phones and electronic games must be switched off in all of the dancing areas.

54. Abusive language and offensive behaviour will not be tolerated. Any person acting in such a way will be asked to leave the Feis.

55. Feis Organisers will, as far as is practicable, provide a stage surface suitable for dancing. However, the Feis Organisers cannot accept liability for injuries sustained whilst on the dancing areas. The lodgement of an entry will be deemed to be an acceptance of this provision by a dancer.

56. If parents have any constructive comments to make about any aspect of Feiseanna, these would be welcomed by the council and should be put in writing. It should be noted that anonymous correspondence cannot be dealt with.

57. 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 camcorder, cine recorder, commercial film, with or without flash enhancement, is expressly forbidden in competition.