

Hester Academy of Irish Dance

6th Annual Feis



JJ Hester, ADCRG
Joan Ruane, Feis Co-Chair
Saturday, May 23rd, 2026
8:30 a.m. (gates open at 7:30)

At
Salem County Fairgrounds
735 Harding Way
Woodstown, NJ 08098

This is a private event and admission can be refused to anyone.

FEIS IS REGISTERED AND WILL BE GOVERNED BY THE RULES OF AN COIMISIUN (www.clrg.ie) and THE MID-ATLANTIC REGION (www.mid-atlanticregion.com)

Adjudicators

<i>Noreen Smith, Ct</i>	<i>Michael Smith, Ct</i>	<i>Doug Westfall, Md</i>
<i>Noreen McAlleer, Pa</i>	<i>Ellen Boyle Gibbons, Va</i>	<i>Christina Ryan, Pa</i>
<i>Michael Galvin, Ny</i>	<i>Joseph Seletski, Ny</i>	<i>Jill Etoll, Ny</i>

ENTRY CAP= 400 Entries

PLEASE NOTE: Competitors in First Feis, Beginner and Advanced Beginner competitions must wear either a school costume or blouse and shirt. There are NO solo/dress costumes allowed. Detailed schedule will be available prior to the Feis at www.hesteracademy.com.

All competitors should be prepared to dance 3 at a time up to and including under 14, **WITH THE EXCEPTION OF GRADES LEVEL REELS**, they will be 2 at a time.

Facebook: *Hester Academy Annual Feis*

Instagram: *Hester Academy Feis*

FIRST FEIS: Competition #100. Open to dancers under 8 who have never competed in a Feis before today. 1 step reel (speed 122).

BEGINNER: A competitor who has not taken Irish Dance lessons from a registered teacher prior to 9/1/25.

Two steps, Boys & Girls combined. Dancer must move into Adv Beginner next year. Reel & Slip Jig Speed 122; Light Jig Speed 115, Hop Jig Speed 124. Reel will dance 2 at a time, all ages.

AGE	REEL	LIGHT JIG	SLIP JIG	HOP JIG
Under 5	1	2	3	4
Under 6	5	6	7	8
Under 7	9	10	11	12
Under 8	13	14	15	16
Under 9	17	18	19	20

AGE	REEL	LIGHT JIG	SLIP JIG	HOP JIG
Under 10	21	22	23	24
Under 11	25	26	27	28
Under 12	29	30	31	32
Under 13	33	34	35	36
13 and Older	37	38	39	40

ADVANCED BEGINNER: A competitor who has taken Irish dance lessons from a registered teacher prior to 9/1/25. Two steps. Boys and Girls combined. An Advanced Beginner who wins 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place will advance to Novice category in that dance next year. Reel & Slip Jig Speed 122, Light Jig 115, Treble Jig 92, Hornpipe 138, Hop Jig Speed 124. Reel will dance 2 at a time, all ages.

AGE	SLIP JIG	REEL	LIGHT JIG	HOP JIG	TREBLE JIG	TRAD HORNPIPE
Under 6	101	102	103	104	105	106
Under 7	107	108	109	110	111	112
Under 8	113	114	115	116	117	118
Under 9	119	120	121	122	123	124
Under 10	125	126	127	128	129	130
Under 11	131	132	133	134	135	136
Under 12	137	138	139	140	141	142
Under 13	143	144	145	146	147	148
Under 14	149	150	151	152	153	154
14 & Over	155	156	157	158	159	160

NOVICE: A competitor who has previously won a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in Advanced Beginners. A novice who wins a first place will advance to the Prizewinner category in that particular dance the next year. Two steps. Boys and Girls combined. Reel will dance 2 at a time, all ages.

AGE	SLIP JIG (SPEED 113)	REEL (SPEED 113)	LIGHT JIG (SPEED 115)	TREBLE JIG (CHOICE SPEED: 73/ 92)	HORNPIPE (CHOICE SPEED: 113/138)
Under 8	210	211	212	213	214
Under 9	215	216	217	218	219
Under 10	220	221	222	223	224
Under 11	225	226	227	228	229
Under 12	230	231	232	233	234
Under 13	235	236	237	238	239
Under 14	240	241	242	243	244
14 & Over	245	246	247	248	249

PRIZEWINNER: A prizewinner is a dancer who has previously won 1st in Novice in a particular dance. Two steps. Boys and Girls combined. Reel will dance 2 at a time, all ages.

AGE	SLIP JIG (113)	REEL(113)	TREBLE JIG (SPEED 73/ 92)	HORNPIPE (SPEED 113/138)
Under 8	301	302	303	304
Under 9	305	306	307	308
Under 10	309	310	311	312
Under 11	313	314	315	316
Under 12	317	318	319	320
Under 13	321	322	323	324
Under 14	325	326	327	328
14 & Over	329	330	331	332

Adult Grade Competitions: Adult dancers must meet one of the following criteria 1) Dancers must not have taken Irish Dancing lessons as a juvenile and must be at least 18 years of age on January 1, 2026. 2) Dancers may have taken Irish dance lessons as a juvenile but have not competed in any competition, solo or team, feiseanna or Oireachtais, except competitions specifically designated for adults within the past 5 years and must be at least 18 years of age as of January 1, 2026. **Reel will dance 2 at a time, all ages. Adult Competitions May Not Be combined with other age groups in any category. Adult female dancers must wear black tights.**

Adult Grades	Reel Speed 122	Slip Jig Speed 122	Light Jig Speed 115	Hop Jig Speed 124	Heavy Jig Speed 92	Hornpipe Speed 138
Beginner	333	334	335	336		
Adv Beginner	337	338	339	340	341	342

Adult Grades	Reel Speed 113	Slip Jig Speed 113	Light Jig Speed 115	Heavy Jig Speed 73/92	Hornpipe Speed 113/138
Novice	343	344	345	346	347
Prizewinner	348	349	350	351	352

PRELIMINARY: Preliminary Championships in the Mid Atlantic Region: Preliminary Championships are open to competitors who have placed 1st in Prizewinner light (Reel or Slip Jig) and Treble (Jig or Hornpipe) dances. Boys and Girls combined. Preliminary dancers who win THREE first places in a calendar year must move to Open Championship the following calendar year. When a third 1st place win is achieved over several calendar years, the dancer must move to Open Championship the following weekend. Hard Shoe will be danced first.

PLEASE NOTE: Dancers must choose one of the following options to dance:

OPTION # 1: Reel & Hard Shoe Jig
OPTION #3: Slip Jig & Hard Shoe Jig

OPTION #2: Reel & Hornpipe
OPTION #4: Slip Jig & Hornpipe

Competition numbers:

Under 8 = # 400	Under 9 = # 401	Under 10 = # 402	Under 11 = # 403
Under 12 = # 404	Under 13 = # 405	Under 14 = # 406	Under 15 = # 407
Under 16 = # 408	Under 17 = # 409	Over 17 = #410	

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP: THREE ROUNDS Dancers must specify a choice of option and Set Dance of choice. Under 9 Girls & Boys Open must dance Traditional Set.

OPT # 1: Reel & Hard Shoe Jig
OPT #3: Slip Jig & Hard Shoe Jig

OPT #2: Reel & Hornpipe
OPT #4: Slip Jig & Hornpipe.

GIRLS:

Under 9	501	Under 10	502	Under 11	503	Under 12	504	Under 13	505
Under 14	506	Under 15	507	Under 16	508	Under 17	509	Under 18	510
		Under 19	511	Under 21	512	21 & Over	513		

BOYS:

Under 9	514	Under 10	515	Under 12	516	Under 14	517
		Under 16	518	Under 18	519	18 & Over	520

<u>Adult Preliminary # 900</u>	
(2 Rounds, including Traditional Set)	
Please specify option:	OPT# 1: Reel & HS Jig
	OPT #2: Reel & Hornpipe
	OPT #3: Slip Jig & HS Jig
	OPT#4: Slip Jig & Hornpipe
Adult Competitions May Not Be combined with other age groups in any category.	
Adult female dancers must wear black tights.	
<u>Adult Traditional Set #901</u>	
<u>Adult Contemporary Set #902</u>	
Indicate choice of set on entry	

Traditional Sets

(Open to Adv Beginner, Novice, Prizewinner all ages, and Preliminary Under 9 only).

Under 9	#700	Under 10	#701	Under 11	#702	Under 12	#703
		Under 13	#704	Under 14	#705	14 & Over	#706

Art Competitions:

Under 12 - Art 1

12 and Over - Art 2

Please label your artwork submission with your name, age, telephone number, and competitor number. Judging will take place around lunchtime.

Special Person Competition

One at a time, one step, choice of reel or jig. No entry fee.

Special Memorial Dance Off Competition Dedicated to Ian Luebbers
In honor of Ian Luebbers, a true champion, who encouraged countless dancers through his awe inspiring talent.

"When you learn to fall in love with the process, it doesn't matter what the outcome is. Because you've already won."

Under 12: #800 Under 15: #801 15 and Over: #802

Competition Format: One Treble Reel step down the line, one at a time.
\$10.00 per entry. All funds from the dance off will be donated to the Jed Foundation (selected by Luebbers family). More info about the Jed Foundation can be at www.jedfoundation.org

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**Special Memorial Dance Off Championship Competition Dedicated to Jimmy Friel,
TCRG, ADCRG**

We remember Jimmy and his lifelong contributions to Irish Dance. His winning smile, twinkling eyes, and acerbic wit will always be in our hearts!

Under 13: #850 13 and Over (including eligible Adults): #851

\$10.00 per entry. All funds from the dance off will be donated in Jimmy's memory to a special project.

Competition Format: Traditional Set, danced three at a time. Open to dancers who have registered in **Preliminary** and **Open Competitions** in the Feis.

Day of Feis entries accepted for these Memorial competitions ONLY.

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Entries must be submitted online at www.feisweb.com, payment via PayPal.

There will be no refund of entry fees. Address all inquiries to: hesteracademyfeis@gmail.com or murphyfeismom@hotmail.com with "Hester Academy Feis" in the subject line. More feis updates can be found at www.facebook.com/hesteracademyfeis

Late fee of \$25.00 will begin on May 14th. Late fee of \$50.00 will go into effect on May 17, 2026 at 6 p.m. Entries will close on May 18, 2026 at 6 p.m. There will be no additional entries or changes accepted after 6 p.m. on May 18.

Entry Fees (including marks):

Registration Fee: \$30.00 per family entry

Feisweb fee: \$6.00

Grade Solos: \$ 16.00 per dance, per competitor

Traditional/Contemporary Sets: \$16.00 per dance per competitor

Art: \$16.00

Preliminary: \$50.00

Adult Contemporary Set: \$16.00

Open: \$60.00

Ian Luebbers and Jimmy Friel Dance Offs: \$10.00

Special Person: No charge

MAXIMUM FEE: \$175.00 per family

[excluding Special Competitions (Sets and Dance Offs), Feisweb Fee, and Registration fee.]