

**North West
Regional Council**



NORTH WEST REGIONAL OIREACHTAS 2025

QUALIFYING EVENT FOR OIREACHTAS RINCE NA CRUINNE 2026

FRIDAY 28th November to SUNDAY 30th November 2025

**QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL
WEST STREET, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE, OL1 1NL**

DOORS WILL OPEN 10.00am on Friday and 7.30am on Saturday & Sunday

ENTRANCE FEES – CASH ONLY

1 Day £10 2 Days £20 3Days £25 Programme £5

NUMBER ALLOCATION

There will be no Competitor Numbers printed in the programme.
Competitors will be called side stage 15 minutes before their published start time, and
their Competitor Numbers will be given to them when lining up side stage.

Competitors must stay side stage until they have danced Round 1.

**Please note that ALL THE AGE GROUPS IN EACH SESSION need to be ready 15 minutes
before the published start time for that session**

Each competition will have a number range pre-allocated to it and sealed in an envelope by a Non-Teaching Council Member. Once all dancers are side stage, the MC will announce the number range, and which line number will be the first number in that range, so that the audience can write the numbers in their programme if they so wish. The first number in the range will be the Start Number for Round 1. The Start Numbers for all Rounds will be printed in the programme.

PLEASE NOTE

Stand Up Bingo (CASH ONLY £1 PER TICKET) will be played each day at the most suitable time of the day.

******CHRISTMAS ATTIRE DAY is SUNDAY!! ******

ALL CUPS AND SHIELDS MUST BE RETURNED CLEANED PROPERLY AND IN PLENTY TIME FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE RESPECTIVE AGE GROUP.

RULES OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

1. The Adjudicators decisions are final.
2. Any objection other than those relating to adjudicators decisions, must be lodged in writing, signed by a registered teacher and addressed to North West Regional Council, prior to the announcement of the result of that particular competition. A fee of £20, which is returned if the objection is upheld, is to accompany the objection.
3. In the event of a dispute not covered by any of these Championships' Rules, reference will be made to the Rules of An Coimisiun, appertaining to the issue or matter under dispute.
4. The Adjudicators should not be approached by anyone other than members of the Council.
5. The number of qualifiers from the respective competitions shall be as follows: -
In the case of competition 31 the number of qualifiers shall be seven (7) where the number of competitors is twenty or less plus one additional qualifier for each five, or part of five in excess of the first twenty eligible competitors.
In the case of all other solo age groups the number of qualifiers shall be five (5) where the number of competitors is twenty or less plus one additional qualifier for each ten, or part of ten in excess of the first twenty eligible competitors.
6. Any Dancer who achieved a medal winning position at Oireachtas Rince Na Cruinne 2025 will not count as a qualifier in the final result if they achieve a qualifying place in the final result - therefore an extra place will be given in that particular age group.
7. All championships will be adjudicated by the official panel of 3 adjudicators.
8. All Championship Trophies are perpetual and must be signed for and returned in good condition in sufficient time for the relevant age group. The cost of any damage must be met by the holder of the trophy.
9. Dancers are requested to be in the auditorium ready to dance **at least 45 minutes before the start of their competition**. If the opportunity arises competitions will start early. However, no competition will begin more than 45 minutes before the original scheduled time.
10. Competitor numbers will be distributed once all dancers in the competition are side stage. They are then required to remain side stage until they have danced their first round. Dancers will not be allowed to dance out of numerical order. They must report to the Stage Stewards promptly when requested. Failure to report in time to dance in order or remain side stage as requested may lead to disqualification.
11. Dancers taking part in Results ceremonies will not be permitted to go on stage to receive any award unless in full costume and wearing appropriate footwear.
12. **All of the dancers deserve the same respect and ovation on completion of their performance, excessive and unique verbal celebrations will not be tolerated on completion of a performance. This rule does not apply to presentations.**
13. The Queen Elizabeth Hall, in conjunction with the North West Regional Council, has made every effort to ensure that the dancing surfaces provided are suitable. By entering the Championships, competitors accept this statement, and neither the Queen Elizabeth Hall nor the North West Regional Council can be held liable for any incident or event, which could not be reasonably foreseen.
14. Dancers must practice in the areas designated for such, in the venue.

15. Dancers must begin their performance from the designated start points in Rounds 1 and 2.
16. Should a dancer lose a heel or a complete shoe or have an open lace he/she may stand back allowing the other dancer(s), where applicable, to continue dancing uninhibited. In such a case the dancer concerned will be permitted to re-dance as soon as it is deemed practicable by the stage steward.
17. Should a dancer fall on stage, whether in solos or in teams, the adjudicator MUST ring the bell 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 adjudicator.
18. Should a dancer slip, bump into another dancer or have a costume malfunction whether in solos or in teams, the bell may be rung at the discretion of the adjudicators 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 adjudicator.
19. If a competitor sustains injury or illness during the course of a competition, and the organisers have reason to believe that such an illness or injury could be exacerbated by continued participation, he / she will be advised to retire from the competition. If this advice is ignored, then prior to continuation, the dancer or in the case of a child or young person (6 to 17 years) an appropriate adult will be required to sign a Disclaimer Form, which will be retained in the event of a possible future enquiry. 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 championship.
20. If the Adjudicators ring the bell to stop a performance during the last 8 bars in Round 1 or Round 2, the dancers will only be required to dance the last 16 bars for their re-dance, at a time convenient to both dancers and stage stewards.
21. If the Adjudicators ring the bell to stop a performance during any part of an Open Solo Set Dance, the dancer will be required to perform the entire dance for their re-dance, at a time convenient to both the dancer and the stage steward.
22. If at any time during a performance on stage an adjudicator feels that due to the health and safety of a performer on stage that the performance should be stopped the adjudicator MUST ring the bell.
23. Dancers beginning to dance before or after the stipulated 8 bar introduction will automatically receive a ZERO for that round from all adjudicators.
24. A competitor who fails to dance or complete the full number of required bars in any of the 3 Rounds of the will receive ZERO marks from all adjudicators for that round, and cannot place in a Medal Winning or World Qualifying Position.
25. Respect for fellow competitors on stage is a requirement at all times. Lack of respect or courtesy for fellow competitors by aggressive dancing on stage will be subject to penalty at the discretion of each individual adjudicator.
26. In the interest of safety, dancers are asked to be suitably dressed at all times and to refrain from undressing in the auditorium. Suitable changing facilities will be available.
27. Lodgement of an entry implies that you accept the rules relating to the Feis in their entirety as laid down by the NWRC and An Coimisiun.
28. In the event of abusive language or unacceptable behaviour on the part of any member of the Irish Dancing community, in the venue, for the duration of the Championships, the management reserve the right to deal with those who are responsible, in accordance with their policies appertaining to such situations. The North West Regional Council will support such action with regards to unacceptable behaviour.

29. Any competitor found to be using artificial carriage aids and who 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.
30. No block, en pointe, stationary or moving, will be allowed to be performed by any dancers up to and including Under 11 age group.
31. Any form of unauthorised photography which has the capability of capturing 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 at all times.
32. Attention is drawn to the legal position with regards to smoking in public places or buildings, in England. Queen Elizabeth Hall is designated as such a public place, and therefore smoking is forbidden in all parts of the building. It is further recommended that hair spray and similar cosmetic or hygienic spray substances, should not be used in the public arena(s), within the venue.
33. In all heavy dances the lead round must be danced on both right and left feet.
34. Make-up (including false eyelashes and tanner on the face) is NOT permitted for dancers, in either solo or team up to and including the Under 10 Age Group. This rule refers to the Age Group of the competition, not the actual age of the dancers. Leg Tan is NOT part of this rule.

REQUIRED BARS & ROUND ORDER FOR SOLO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Under 6

Reel & Single Jig – 40 BARS

***R1 Reel** R2 Single Jig*

Under 7

Reel, Single Jig & Light or Heavy Jig – 40 BARS

***R1 Reel** R2 Single Jig R3 Light or Heavy Jig*

Under 8 & Under 9

Reel & Heavy Jig – 40 BARS

***R1 Reel** R2 Heavy Jig R3 Traditional Set Dance*

Under 10 upwards

Reel & Heavy Jig – 48 BARS Slip Jig & Hornpipe – 40 BARS

***R1 Heavy Round** R2 Light Round R3 Set Dance*

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO RECALLS IN ANY SOLO CHAMPIONSHIP

U6: All dancers will dance 2 Rounds U7 upwards: All dancers will dance all 3 Rounds

NORTH WEST REGIONAL OIREACHTAS 2025

FRIDAY 28th NOVEMBER

SESSION 1 7-8 & 8-9 Alternating	11.15	7-8 Girls/8-9 Boys/8-9 Girls CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
	11.30	7-8 Girls/8-9 Boys/8-9 Girls COMPETITIONS START
		***** RESULTS *****
SESSION 2 9-10 10-11 Alternating	2.00	9-10 Boys/9-10 Girls CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
	2.15	9-10 Boys/9-10 Girls COMPETITIONS START
		10-11 Girls CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
		10-11 Girls COMPETITION STARTS
		***** RESULTS *****
SESSION 3	6.45	CEILI CHAMPIONSHIPS
		7-10 Girls 8 Hand
	7.00	<i>FRIDAY DANCE OF THE CHAMPIONS (Top 3 dancers in each age group)</i>

SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER

SESSION 1 12-13 13-14 Alternating	8.45	12-13 Girls CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
	9.00	12-13 Girls COMPETITION STARTS
		13-14 Girls CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
		13-14 Girls COMPETITION STARTS
		***** RESULTS *****
SESSION 2 U6 & 6-7 Alternating	12.45	Under 6 Mixed/6-7 Mixed CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
	1.00	Under 6 Mixed/6-7 Mixed COMPETITIONS START
		***** RESULTS *****
SESSION 3 16-17, 19-20 20-22 & Sen Alternating	2.30	16-17 Boys/16-17 Girls/19-20 Ladies/20-22 Ladies/Senior Men & Ladies CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
	2.45	16-17 Boys/16-17 Girls/19-20 Ladies/20-22 Ladies/Senior Men & Ladies COMPETITIONS START
		***** RESULTS *****
SESSION 4	6.45	CEILI CHAMPIONSHIPS
		Adult Ceili/15 & Over Mixed 8 Hand/15 & Over Girls 4 Hand
	7.15	<i>SATURDAY DANCE OF THE CHAMPIONS (Top 3 dancers in each age group)</i>

SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER

SESSION 1 11-12 14-15 Alternating	8.45	11-12 Girls CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
	9.00	11-12 Girls COMPETITION STARTS
		14-15 Boys/14-15 Girls CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
		14-15 Boys/14-15 Girls COMPETITIONS START
		***** RESULTS *****
SESSION 2 15-16 17-18 18-19 Alternating	12.45	15-16 Girls - CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
	1.00	15-16 Girls COMPETITON STARTS
		17-18 Men/17-18 Ladies/18-19 Men/18-19 Ladies CALL UP - NUMBER DISTRIBUTION
		17-18 Men/17-18 Ladies/18-19 Men/18-19 Ladies COMPETITONS START
		***** RESULTS *****
SESSION 3	4.30	CEILI COMPETITIONS
		10-12 Girls 8 Hand/12-15 Girls 8 Hand/15-18 Girls 8 Hand/ Under 12 Girls 4 Hand/Under 15 Girls 4 Hand/12-15 Mixed 4 Hand
	5.15	<i>SUNDAY DANCE OF THE CHAMPIONS (Top 3 dancers in each age group)</i>

Dancers are asked to be ready up to 45 minutes before their start time.

Competitions will be brought forward if the opportunity arises