



Date: Saturday 31st January 2026

Venue: McCafferty's Wafi Ampitheatre

Adjudicator: Des Bailey ADCRG, Ireland

Musician: Kevin Murphy, Glasgow

Organiser: Kathryn O'Connor-Barton ADCRG

Contact: katdanceid@gmail.com

Registered by:

Feis Registrar: Rosalie Wagenaar

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Rosalie Wagenaar, the Feis Registrar.

Ah Chara,

We as a school are delighted to be hosting our 5th Dubai Open Feis 2025, Saturday 31st January at McCafferty's Jebel Ali Recreation Club Dubai.

We will be offering grade competitions beginner, primary and intermediate across all age groups, as well as a special U/5 trophy competition.

Special trophy competitions for the grades and Premierships for our Open Dancers. Open dancers will dance 3 championship rounds.

Traditional Set Dance competitions and Treble Reel step down the line competitions will also be offered. These are trophy competitions.

We have been granted Open Platform Status which means all organisations are free to enter via the GoFeis CLRG Feisanna site.

We hope the sunny climates of Dubai will attract many of you to travel and that we make this Feis an annual event with the potential of Championships in the future.

Updates will be on O'Connor-Barton Irish Dance Facebook Page under Dubai Open Feis Events, please check regularly.

We look forward to welcoming many of you and if I can be of any assistance, please email me: katdanceid@gmail.com

Stay Safe and Warm Regards,

Kathryn O'Connor-Barton ADCRG
Feis Organiser

Feis Details

Solo Competitions:	40 AED
Trophy Competitions:	50 AED
Premierships:	135 AED
RCCEA Fee:	4 AED per dancer
Door Entry per Adult:	100 AED redeemable against beverages at the venue

Entry Fees to be paid by 5th January 2026

Entries via GoFeis system. Teachers must be registered with CLRG and on the GoFeis system, with school , to be able to enter. No manual entries via paper or email will be accepted. Any request for late entry after the 15th January will incur a late fee charge of 50% of total entry.

<https://gofeis.net/>

Competitions

Grades – On entry sheet please use B – Beginner, P – Primary, I - Intermediate

Age Groups	Reel	Single Jig	Light Jig	Slip Jig	Heavy Jig	H/pipe	Trad Set	Treble Reel
U/5	Special							
U/6	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I		
U/8	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I		
U/10	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	Y	
U/12	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I		O
U/14	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I		
U/16	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	Y	
U/18	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I		
U/21	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I		
Adult	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	B, P, I	Y	O

In the event that there are not enough competitors to allow a move up in a grade in this dance, we will amalgamate competitions. Teachers please make parents aware.

Premierships

U/6 will dance reel and light jig

U/8 will dance reel, Light Jig choice of single jig or traditional set for 3rd round

U/10 and above will dance 3 rounds choice of reel or slip jig, choice of heavy jig or hornpipe and an open set of their choice.

Premierships

Age Group	1 st round	2 nd Round	3 rd Round
U/6	Reel	Light Jig	
U/8	Reel	Light Jig	Single Jig
U/10	Reel or Slip Jig	Heavy Jig or H/Pipe	Choice of Set
U/12	Reel or Slip Jig	Heavy Jig or H/Pipe	Choice of Set
U/16	Reel or Slip Jig	Heavy Jig or H/Pipe	Choice of Set
U/18	Reel or Slip Jig	Heavy Jig or H/Pipe	Choice of Set
Senior	Reel or Slip Jig	Heavy Jig or H/Pipe	Choice of Set

Team Dancing

Age Group				
U/10	2-Hand	3-Hand	4-Hand	8-Hand
U/12	2-Hand	3-Hand	4-Hand	8-Hand
U/15	2-Hand	3-Hand	4-Hand	8-Hand
Senior	2-Hand	3-Hand	4-Hand	8-Hand

Final Timetable

2 Hand and 3 Hand competitions will dance 40 bars

4-Hand and 8-Hand competitions should be taken from An Rince Ceili in accordance with Oireachtas 2022 syllabus

8.30am	Ceili Competitions
9.00am	Adult, U/18 & U/16 Beginner/ Primary & Intermediate Alternating
10.00 am	U/14 U/12 & U/10 Beginner/ Primary & Intermediate Alternating
11.45 am	Results (Lunch for Judge and Musician)
12.00	U/8 U/6 & U/5 Beginner/ Primary & Intermediate Alternating
15.00	All Trad Set Competitions
15.30	All Treble Reel Competitions
16.00	Results (Break for Judge and Musician)
16.30	All Premiership Competitions
18.00	Results
19.00	Finish

All Competitors must be ready to dance 30 minutes prior to start time.

Above timings are aprox only until entries are received where there may be slight alterations



Regional Council of Continental Europe & Asia

FEIS RULES



- The Feis will run in accordance with the Rules of **An Coimisiún Le Rincí Gaelacha**.
- Entries will only be accepted from persons currently registered with An Coimisiún.

GRADE COMPETITION RULES

1. **Beginners Grade** competitions are confined to dancers who have never won 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize (please refer to the grid) in any competition for that particular dance.
2. In **Beginners Grade** competitions only basic steps may be performed.
3. **Primary Grade** competitions are confined to dancers who have never won 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize (please refer to the grid) for that particular dance other than in Beginners Grade.
4. **Intermediate Grade** competitions are open to all dancers who have not previously won 1st or 2nd prize (please refer to the grid) for that particular dance in Intermediate under the same or higher age limits. If a dancer in Continental Europe and Asia wins in Intermediate, they advance to the next level for the rest of the calendar year. Teachers can move dancers back at their own discretion at the start of the next calendar year.

Grade	Number of Entries	Number of Dancers to progress
Beginner	5 or less	0
Beginner	6 to 10	1 st & 2 nd Place
Beginner	+ 11	1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd Place
Primary	5 or less	0
Primary	6 to 10	1 st Place
Primary	11 to 20	1 st & 2 nd Place
Primary	+ 20	1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd Place
Intermediate	5 or less	0
Intermediate	6 to 10	1 st Place
Intermediate	+ 11	1 st & 2 nd Place

5. For all **Beginner, Primary** and **Intermediate** competitions (excluding trophy competitions) the 32 bar method will be applied.

Two and three hands are danced to 40 bars of music.

Ceili and figure dances are subject to the rules applied at Oireachtasi.

All **Open Championship** dancers will be required to dance to 48 bars of music in the reel and jig and 40 bars in the slip-jig and hornpipe.

MUSIC SPEEDS

Dance	Beginner	Primary	Intermediate/Open
Reel	121/123	116/118	113
Light Jig	116	116	116
Single Jig	124	124	124
Slip Jig	121	118	113
Heavy Jig	89	79	73
Hornpipe	142	130	113

TROPHY, PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIP & CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

- Beginner, Primary** and **Intermediate Trophy Competitions**, if included in the syllabus, will be a choice of A) light B) heavy C) light and heavy dance. Dancers will dance 16 bars down the line in their chosen dance(s).
- Traditional Set Dance** competitions, dancers will have a choice out of 7 traditional dance: St. Patrick's Day, Blackbird, Job of Journeywork, Garden of Daisies, King of Fairies, Jockey to the Fair & Three sea Captains. If a dancer win a first place in any traditional set dance competition, that dancer move on the next level in all 7 traditional set dances.
- Traditional set dances may only be performed in the following competitions: Traditional Set dance competitions, Adult Championships and in the Under 8, Under 9 and Under 10 Open Championships.
- Open Championships** will be judged as two solos and an overall Championship. If there are more than 15 dancers in the competition the third round will be danced as recall.

10. Open Championships:

- To call a competition 'Open Championship' it must be judged by **at least 3 Adjudicators**.
- Only **Open dancers** are eligible to dance in this competition. If there is no Preliminary Championship offered at the same Feis this will ALSO be open to Intermediate and Preliminary dancers.

11. Preliminary Championships:

- To call a competition "Preliminary Championship" it must be judged by **at least 3 Adjudicators**.
- This competition is for dancers of Intermediate or Preliminary standard and will be teacher's discretion for entry.
- A Preliminary Championship may be combined with an Open Championship. Where these are combined the Preliminary Championship result will be taken from the **first two rounds only**. Dancers may also be placed in the overall Open Championship. Teachers must tick the Preliminary Championship box when entering a dancer.
- Where a Preliminary Championship is held separately from an Open Championship dancers must complete a minimum of two rounds: a heavy dance (Heavy Jig or Hornpipe), a light dance (Reel or Slip Jig) and a non-traditional set dance in the case of a recall.
- A dancer may not enter a Preliminary Championship for remainder of the calendar year and the following year if they win two Preliminary Championship from the 1st January in one calendar year.
- Placement in the regional Oireachtas or any Open Championship in this region will not restrict dancers from competing in a Preliminary Championship outside of the RCCEA region.

12. Premier Championships:

- To call a competition "Premier Championship" it must be judged by 1 or 2 adjudicators.

13. **Adult Championships** are open to dancers of Intermediate and above level who have never won a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in an Open Championship and are not participating in a full Open Championship at the same feis. Dancers are required to dance to 32 bars of music and will dance a choice of soft shoe (Reel or Slip Jig for ladies and Reel for gentlemen), heavy shoe (Heavy Jig or Hornpipe) and a Traditional Set. *Please note these Championships have been created for dancers who started Irish Dancing as ADULTS.*

14. Where there are 5 or less dancers in any Championship placement will not affect grading.

OFFICIAL CLRG RULES

15. The lodgment of an entry will be taken to mean that teachers and pupils understand these rules and undertake to abide by them.
16. Objections must be lodged in writing within one hour of the announcement of the result of a competition accompanied by a fee of 40 Euro, which will be refunded if the objection is upheld.
17. The Adjudicators' decisions are final.
18. Only Feis officials may approach the adjudicators during competition sessions.
19. Age will be taken as on 1st January 2022 (whatever age you turn this year, in 2022, you dance under that age all year long, e.g. if a dancer's date of birth is 29 May 2012, he/she dances under 10 in the year 2022. Evidence of age may be requested, therefore dancers should have a valid ID with them in the event of a query as to their age.
20. Competitors must be in costume and ready to dance 30 minutes before their competitions are scheduled.
21. The dress code in accordance with An Coimisiún rules will be strictly observed. For the sake of modesty and in the interest of safety to young people, dancers will not be permitted to walk around the Feis scantily dressed.
22. All **Beginners** and **Primary** dancers of all age groups may only wear a class costume, simple dancewear or appropriate attire (skirt and top/blouse, simple dress for girls and ladies, trousers and t-shirt/shirt for boys and gents. Make-up is not permitted for any dancer in the first two grades up to and including the Under 12 age group worldwide.
23. The Costume Rules of An Coimisiún, as amended, also apply in Continental Europe and Asia; it can be found in the "Rules" section on www.clr.ie for reference. Female adult dancers participating in competitions entitled 'adult competition' and/or 'adult grade competition' (both solo and team) are required to wear tights of a denier not less than 70.
24. Team dances (four hands and upward) must be performed as per the Coimisiún handbook "Ar Rinci Ceili".
25. By entering in competitions, dancers (or their legal representatives, in case of minors) consent to their names being stated in the feis results and in the public Internet archives or any other feis entry/results system as may replace it.
26. Provided that dancers are not disturbed by flashlights or the like, photography and video recording by persons other than official feis photographers is allowed during Beginners and Primary competitions and during all award ceremonies.
During Intermediate, Preliminary and Open competitions, ONLY the official feis

photographer is permitted to take photos.

Those who do not wish to be photographed should make themselves known to the Feis Organisers.

27. An Coimisiún has ruled that from 1st January each year, no block, en pointe, stationary or moving, be allowed to be performed for all ages up to and including the under 12 age group worldwide. The Under 12 Age Group will be allowed to toe walk from September 1st.
28. Within the limits specified in the Rules of An Coimisiún, the Organisers may at their discretion cancel or combine competitions with insufficient entries.
29. Order and quiet must be kept in the hall, particularly while competitors are dancing.
30. The Feis organisers cannot accept any liability for injury or loss or damage to property while on the premises.
31. No refunds will be made.

EXTRA DUBAI OPEN FEIS RULES

32. Dancers competing in the Treble Reel Competitions will dance 16 bars down the line Free Style. Therefore use of hands and non-traditional dance wear are permitted.

Useful Information

Dubai International Airport is 30 minutes from Jebel Ali Recreation Club

Taxi is the easiest method of transport to get around and the taxi stand is immediately accessible as you exit arrivals.

The Feis will run in the Main part of the venue

Closest hotels to the venue:

The Avani Hotel IBN Battuta <https://www.avanihotels.com/en/ibn-battuta-dubai>

Premier Inn Ibn Battuta <https://mena.premierinn.com/en/hotel/dubai-ibn-battuta-mall>

Nearby Attractions:

Dubai Marina, Jumeirah Beach Resort, Dubai Parks and Resorts