



The 56th Australian Irish Dancing Championships

Syllabus

ADJUDICATORS

Paula Woodgate ADCRG, Canada

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Owen McAuley ADCRG BG, Scotland

Ronan Morgan ADCRG, Taiwan

Lauren Crowe-Mueller ADCRG, USA

Bernadette Dillon-Gavin ADCRG, USA

Anthony Murnane ADCRG, USA

JR Walker ADCRG, USA

Plus two additional Adjudicators drawn from the floor.

MUSICIANS

Stephen Carolan ADCRG, Australia

Brendan Dougan-Kittel, Australia

Jack Meimaris, Australia

Sean O'Brien, Canada

Brisbane Royal International Convention Centre

600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills QLD 4006

Monday 29th September to Friday 3rd October 2025

Entries at <https://app.feisfwd.com>

Entries help guide will be at <http://www.feisfwd.com/aidainc>

Lodgement of any entry shall be taken to signify that the teacher, parent or guardian and pupil concerned accept all the Rules of this Championship in full and agree to strictly abide by them at all times.

Entry Fees

**Solo Championships: \$160 per dancer
(incl. Entry Fee, \$5 Admin fee, GST, and electronic copy of results)**

**** A family discount of 20% will apply to families with three (3) or more dancers on solo entry only. Separate application must be made by the teacher to AIDA Inc. for refund. Please email treasurer@aidainc.com for more information.**

Ceili and Figure Dancing Championships: \$25 per team member (incl. GST)

Entries must be submitted via the website at <https://app.feisfwd.com>.

- AIDA Inc. has a NO REFUND policy on all entries paid
- Entries cannot be received from members who are not financially in good standing, including any monies owed, with AIDA Inc.

Key Dates

Friday 11 July	Entries open https://app.feisfwd.com
Friday 1 August	Name and date of birth of each team member must be furnished to the Organising Committee.
Friday 1 August	All entrants must be registered with AIDA Inc.
Friday 1 August	Entries close
Monday 1 September	Name and date of birth of team changes must be furnished to the Organising Committee.
Monday 8 September	Story and music for Figure Dance and/or Own Choreography sections due (late fees apply) ** Stories and Music to be sent to music@aidainc.com
Monday 8 September	Deadline for contacting musicians with specific live music requests

General Rules of the Championships

These Championships are conducted under the rules and regulations of An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha (CLRG), Dublin, and the Australian Irish Dancing Association Inc. (AIDA Inc.).

Rules

1. In order for entries to be accepted:
 - a. competitors must be pupils of teachers who at the date of entry are registered with CLRG for the year 2025, and who are financial members of AIDA Inc. for 2025;
 - b. competitors must be fully registered with AIDA Inc. by the official closing date of entries: **Friday 1st August**. Dancers not registered at the closing date will incur an additional penalty of \$150-00;
 - c. competitors must not on the date(s) of their competitions(s) be ineligible to compete due to any rule;
 - d. competitors must have been formally entered and entry fees paid in full by the official closing date; and
 - e. teachers must not have any overdue monies owing to AIDA Inc.

Lodgement of Entries

2. The website for lodgement of entries is <https://app.feisfwd.com>. The website provides clear instructions on how to complete the lodgement process. All entries must be lodged through this website and full payment made by

the official closing date. Payment must be made by credit cards Visa or MasterCard. No entries can be lodged after this date. See <http://www.feisfwd.com/aidainc> for details.

3. Following lodgement through the FeisFWD application, an email confirming all entries submitted will immediately be sent to the account holder..
4. Solo entries are submitted by the dancer's parent/guardian, or by the dancer themselves if over 18 years of age. Teachers are able to view the details of their student's entries from within the FeisFWD application to verify the submission is correct in all regards. See <http://www.feisfwd.com/aidainc> for details.
5. Team entries are submitted by teachers. Instructions for this process can be found at <http://www.feisfwd.com/aidainc>
6. **Entries are unable to be submitted after the official closing date (Friday 1st August). Late entries will not be accepted.**
7. It is the responsibility of the teacher to check that any overseas dancers fall within the Rules of Entry for the Australian Irish Dancing Championships. In the case of a non-permanent Australian resident, the teacher must provide proof of residency issued by the Australian Department of Immigration and provide a copy of the same to AIDA Inc. by the official closing date.
8. No refunds will be made for any entry money received.

Age Limits

9. The age of a competitor shall be taken as on 1st January 2025. Where a competitor's birth date falls on 1st January they shall, for the purpose of the Australian Irish Dancing Championships be regarded as under the age attained on that day. Birth Certificates must have been sighted by each Regional Branch prior to the Australian Championships.

Prizes

10. Prizes will be awarded in each section in accordance with the rules of AIDA Inc. and as determined at the annual convention. In all solo competitions prizes will be awarded to the top 50% of dancers as entered (i.e. if 20 dancers enter, 10 will receive prizes even if only 18 dancers compete on the day). Subject to the stipulations in the Solo Championships Rules and Directives below, in solo competitions where recalls apply, non-recalled dancers will not receive a prize. In solo competitions where recalls do not apply, all remaining competitors will receive an Oireachtas award. In all ceili competitions, prizes will be awarded to the top 50% of teams as entered only.
11. At the 2025 Australian Irish Dancing Championships in all of the ladies sections from 17 Years and above, all dancers will dance their set dance. The prize ratio will be the top 50% of those who entered, and remaining dancers will receive an Oireachtas award. (AIDA Convention 2025)
12. All perpetual trophies must be returned in good condition by the person who signed for the trophy or by their representative to the nominated AIDA Inc. representative at least the day prior to the presentation for that section. A penalty fee of \$150 applies if trophies are not returned by this time.
13. A fine of \$150 (or the cost of repair if costs exceed \$150) will be issued to signatories of returned perpetual trophies if the award requires cleaning or repair upon return to AIDA the following year.
14. Responsibility for the loss and/or damage to trophies is as stated in the agreement signed at the time of presentation. Failing to comply with the agreement may result in refusal to compete at the Australian Irish Dancing Championships.
15. If the award is damaged beyond reasonable repair, lost, or not returned within four (4) weeks of the end of the championship the following year winners will pay a replacement fee of AU\$1500.

Order of Dancing, Conduct and Mishaps

16. Competitors must:
 - a. obey all instructions of the Organising Committee, otherwise permission to dance will be withdrawn;
 - b. dance in order as published in the official program;

- c. acknowledge that AIDA Inc. has the right to commence a Championship not more than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled commencement time;
 - d. with the exception of the first section of the day, be in costume and ready to dance not less than 30 minutes prior to the time scheduled for their competition;
 - e. present to the marshalling area when called by Stage Personnel. **NOTE: Sections will only be called for once. It is the dancer's responsibility to be present at the marshalling area to dance in the correct numerical order.**
17. 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 personnel.
 18. No liability is accepted by AIDA Inc. for any injury caused to any person, including but not limited to, competitors, however caused and whether or not caused by the negligence or default of AIDA Inc., its servants or agents. The lodgement of an entry will be deemed to be an acceptance of this provision.
 19. 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.
 20. Should a dancer slip, bump into another dancer or have a costume malfunction whether in solos or in teams, the bell will 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.
 21. Should in the opinion of the Stage Personnel (in consultation if deemed necessary with medical personnel) a dancer be unfit to re-dance, and if such dancer insists on performing the dancer concerned will only be permitted to re-dance on completion of a formal declaration which removes the organising committee of any liability. Any repeat accident/incident which results in that dancer being unable to complete the required number of bars in any round, will result in the dancer withdrawing without question from the championship.
 22. a) If the adjudicators ring the bell to stop a performance during the last eight (8) bars in Round 1 or 2, the dancers will only be required to dance the last 16 bars of that dance.
 b) If the adjudicators ring the bell to stop a performance during any part of their open solo set dance, the dancer will perform the entire dance for their re-dance.
 c) If the adjudicators ring the bell to stop a performance any sooner than the last eight (8) bars during a RE-DANCE in Round 1 or Round 2, the judges will decide (by majority vote conducted via the organising committee) if a full dance is required or if an exception can be made to require only the last 16 bars of that dance. (CLRG, March 2025)
 23. A competitor must not walk off the stage during a performance unless instructed to do so by an adjudicator. A dancer who dismisses himself or herself from the stage, without the permission of an adjudicator, will not be marked for that particular dance.
 24. If at any stage 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.
 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. The starting number for each solo round will be determined prior to the commencement of the Championships and will be printed in the program.
 27. The heavy and light rounds from 13 years upwards will be danced 2 at a time. (AIDA Convention 2025) All other ages will dance 3 at a time, with the exception of the Heavy Round of the 7 & 8 years sections, which will be danced 2 at a time. Note: If there are three dancers remaining at the end of these sections they will dance 3 at a time.
 28. Number checks will take place at regular intervals during the course of each competition. Dancers are required to present to the stage when called by the MC.

29. The Organising Committee will provide official musicians for the championships. In the case of figure dancing and own choreography championships, teams who have not submitted pre-recorded music must use the scheduled musicians rostered for that championship. It will be the responsibility of the teachers requiring specific music to make any necessary arrangements for a recording of the same directly with the musicians. Direct contact must be made to the relevant musician **no later than Monday 8th September 2025**. Please note sections will not be delayed to allow for practice time with the musician(s). All recorded music will be played through the official sound system. Rules pertaining to music submission are outlined in this syllabus.
30. Decisions of the Organising Committee as to the interpretation of these rules and in relation to all other matters pertaining to the Australian Championships shall be final.

Solo Championships Rules and Directives

1. The required dances for each competition are set out at Appendix A (Solo) and Appendix C (Teams).
2. A set dance list is no longer required and dancers who recall are responsible for advising the MC the name and speed of their set dance, from the 9 years age group and up. All set dances must be from the official list contained in this syllabus and be performed within the specified speeds (Appendix B).
3. **Adult Mixed Open Championships Eligibility** – An adult dancer is classed as an Irish Dancer aged 18 years or over who no longer wants to compete in the mainstream Ladies/Men sections, and hasn't competed in any competition other than an adult section in the previous 5 years.
NOTE: An Adult Irish Dancer who has competed in non-adult sections in the previous 5 years due to the lack of availability of adult sections may apply via their teachers, to their State Branch, for the 5-year stipulation to be waived. These dancers however must not have placed in the top 50% of a non-adult championship section (including online competitions) where the section contained more than 5 competitors. Applications need to be submitted at time of entry. (Special Resolution Vote - June 2024)
4. In all championships (excepting Championship 1) competitors will dance the heavy dance first. In the case of the 6 Years and Under section the order of dancing will be Light Jig, Single Jig, Reel (*AIDA Convention 2023*).
5. Dancers will dance 48 bars in the Reel and Heavy Jig, 40 bars in the Slip Jig and Hornpipe, with the exception of the Sub Minor Championships where dancers will dance 32 bars of the Heavy Jig, 48 bars of the Reel and a Traditional Set Dance comprising first step and right foot of the Set. In the 6 and Under Mixed Championships dancers will dance 48 bars of a light jig (116), a single jig (124), and a reel (113 or 116) (*AIDA Convention 2024*).
6. In the Adult Mixed Championship dancers will dance 32 bars of the Heavy Jig or Hornpipe (whichever is the dance for Senior Men/Senior Ladies), either 48 bars of the Reel or 40 Bars of the Slip Jig (whichever is the dance for Senior Men/Senior Ladies), and a Traditional Set Dance comprising the first step and right foot of the Set. (*Special Resolution Vote - June 2024*). *NOTE: In the years where the Senior Ladies syllabus is a Slip Jig, non-binary dancers can choose either reel or slip jig as their light dance. (AIDA Convention 2025)*
7. (a) Dancers beginning to dance before the stipulated introduction is completed or finishing after the conclusion of the music will automatically receive a ZERO for that round from all adjudicators.
 (b) If a competitor fails to dance the 1st round of a championship, they will receive ZERO marks and ZERO points from all adjudicators for that round. As a courtesy, they will be allowed to dance the second round and whilst they will receive marks from each adjudicator, they will automatically receive ZERO points and will not be allowed to dance in the open set dance round.
 (c) If a competitor fails to dance the 2nd round of a championship, they will receive ZERO marks and ZERO points from all adjudicators for that round and will not be allowed to dance in the open set dance round.
 (d) A competitor who fails to dance or complete the open set dance round will receive ZERO marks and ZERO points from all adjudicators for that round and cannot appear in a medal winning position
 (e) Where a dancer fails to complete their performance in any given round, that dancer will automatically receive ZERO marks and ZERO points from all adjudicators for that round.
 (f) Definition of complete means that all bars as outlined in the syllabus are danced without any stops.

Choreographed pauses in steps are permitted.

(See [AIDA Inc. Protocols for application of a Zero Rule Disqualification - AIDC](#)).

8. With the exception of the 6 and Under Championships, and Sub Minor 7 Years and Sub Minor 8 Years Championships, when the first two dances in any other championships have been completed the official points system will be used to place the competitors in order of merit over the two dances. On this basis, and subject to the minimum competitor requirements, a limited number of competitors will be recalled for the set dance round. A dancer who fails to complete one of the dances of the first two rounds will not appear in the recall round. *NOTE: At the 2025 Australian Irish Dancing Championships in all of the ladies sections from 17 Years and above, all dancers will dance their set dance. The prize ratio will be the top 50% of those who entered, and remaining dancers will receive an Oireachtas award. (AIDA Convention 2025)*
9. In all competitions, apart from the exceptions listed in (8) above, only recalled competitors will perform their set dance. In the case where there are 20 or less competitors in any section all dancers will be recalled to perform their set dance. The number of points gained by competitors, on their overall placing in the first two dances will not, for obvious reasons, be disclosed at the recall stage - only the list of those recalled will be announced in numerical order. The onus of ensuring that the stage personnel are informed of the correct metronome speed, and the correct title of the set dance, will rest with the dancer who should advise these details at the time of registration for the recall round.
9a) Due to withdrawals on the day, if 20 or fewer competitors perform in a section they are automatically recalled at the AIO or Nationals. The original prize giving stays the same and the remaining dancers will receive a championship award. (AIDA Convention 2023)
10. In the case of set dances, introductions will be played only once. No variation of the speed of the music will be permitted once dancing is due to commence. Should a dancer submit an incorrect metronomic speed to the stage personnel and commence dancing at that speed, then the dancer must continue to dance at this speed as no further opportunity of tempo change will be afforded.
11. Speeds for Traditional Set Dances is as per list - Appendix B. Where the final round of a Championship is a Traditional Set dance that round will be danced in numerical order in groups of same Traditional Set Dance commencing with the Traditional Set Dance relevant to the starting number followed by the Traditional Set Dance relevant to the next closest number to the starting number and continuing on in like manner until all Traditional Sets have been danced. *(AIDA Convention 2024)*

For example: 101, 102, 104, 106, 109 and 110 are dancing St. Patrick's Day. 103, 105 and 107 are dancing Blackbird. 108 is dancing Job of Journeywork. The stage order would be: 101, 102, 104 St. Patrick's Day; 103, 105, 107 Blackbird. 106, 109, 110 St. Patrick's Day, 108 Blackbird; and so on.

12. In all competitions, competitors must commence their dance in the first two rounds from the designated starting points. In the set dance round a competitor may choose their starting point. *[NOTE] In addition to the 3 start markers on stage for the heavy round an additional 2 markers, in a different colour tape, will be placed between the 3 heavy round markers indicating the start points for the light shoe rounds. (CLRG March 2025)*
13. All dancers who have not been included in the recall set dance round will be invited to take part in a Step Down the Line of the solo light dance listed on the syllabus for that championship.
14. Any competitor in breach of the CLRG & AIDA Inc. rules will be subject to disqualification.

Artificial carriage aids

15. In order to maintain the health and safety of all dancers, artificial carriage aids are not permitted. All dancers lining up side stage prior to any round at any competition will be required to perform the simple exercise of raising their arms to shoulder level unhindered. If unable to do this by the time of their rotation due to costume stitching or arm attachments, these competitors will not be permitted to perform.

Make-up

16. Make-up (including false eyelashes) is not permitted for dancers, in either solo or team competitions, up to and including the Under 10 age group. For the avoidance of doubt, for the purposes of this rule the term "make-up" includes tinted moisturiser and any artificial tanning products. Tanning of the legs is permitted.

Costumes and shoes

17. All forms of dance school identification, be it by sign, shape, colour-piece, logo or symbol are banned from all solo costumes worn by any competitor in any competition, as per CLRG Costume Rules 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, and 5.1.4 (which can be found at <https://www.clrg.ie/outreach-development/>).
18. For heavy rounds in competitions, dancers may not wear soft shoes that have been altered with the addition of heels and tips in an attempt to turn them into hard shoes. Dancers found to be wearing such altered shoes for heavy rounds may be denied access to that round of the competition.
19. Costumes must consist of full front, side and back sections. Cut-away styles, without a full skirt backing, are not acceptable.

Ceili Dancing Championships Rules and Directives

1. The required dances for each competition are set out at Appendix A (Solo) and Appendix C (Teams).
2. These rules and directives must be read in conjunction with the general rules and other relevant sections of this syllabus and those contained in the 2025 World Championships Syllabus.
3. The number of teams to be entered in each Championship must be submitted by the official closing date of entries.
4. The full name and date of birth of each team member must be furnished by the official closing date of entries (**Friday 1st August**). Any subsequent changes must be notified to the Organising Committee at vicepresident2@aidainc.com by **Monday 1 September 2025**.
5. All celli teams entered as Teams A B C etc. must dance in the position in which they are balloted and the composition of the whole team cannot be changed after the entry has been submitted.
6. A dancer must not be a member of more than one team in the same competition except in the case of an unforeseen emergency and then only with the consent of the Organising Committee.
7. An emergency is defined as an event which happens either within seven (7) days immediately preceding the first day of competition of the Australian Championships or during the course of the Australian Championships. A formal application must be made in writing to at vicepresident2@aidainc.com. Medical emergencies must be accompanied by a medical certificate. In the event of an unforeseen emergency, the acceptance of the written application will be determined by the Organising Committee.
8. The borrowing of dancers for any feiseanna in Australia will not be allowed, except in the case of an emergency that occurs during the event.
 - a. Note: borrowed dancers may only be utilised if a teacher cannot fill from their own school.
 - b. Note: bear in mind the Association Rule if a dancer is borrowed from another school unless it is during the event in which case the Rule does not apply.
9. In the event of an emergency or extenuating circumstance prior to the commencement of the Australian Championships regarding the replacement of a dancer not within the rules members need to apply in writing to the AIDA Inc. National Council with all appropriate documentation.
 - a. Note: the Choreography age restrictions can be waived to allow a younger dancer to be utilised from within the same school on the proviso that the dancer has not competed in choreography.
10. If a team presents to marshalling and is not the team as listed on the entries; where no official notification of change has been received by the Organising Committee, the team will dance but will not appear in the official result.
11. Apart from the variations described below, dances must be performed in accordance with the latest edition of *Ar Rinci Ceillí*, unless otherwise indicated in the directive on ceili dances published by An Coimisiún. Movements and figures must be performed in the order specified and the dancers must move in the manner stipulated. Where

neither *Ar Rinci Ceilí* nor the directive specifies how a particular movement should be performed, the teacher may use their discretion with regard to interpretations. Unnecessary embellishments must be avoided.

12. In the case of mixed teams, the mixed component must dance the figure.
13. For the purpose of the Australian Championships Part A and Part B of the stipulated dances (other than the **Sweets of May**, **Gates of Derry**, **Lannigan's Ball** and **The Three Tunes**) will be as follows – (The figure in the 8 hand ceilí is own choice and is stipulated in Appendix C except for under 10s who will always perform Part A).

Dance	Part A	Part B
Morris Reel	Lead Around, Body and 1st Figure (Tops only)	Lead Around, Body and 2nd Figure (Tops only)
Cross Reel	As above	As above
Eight-hand Reel	As above	As above
Eight-hand Jig	As above	As above
Trip to the Cottage	Lead Around, Body and 1st Figure (1st Tops only)	Lead Around, Body and 2nd Figure (Tops only)
High Cauld Cap	Lead Around, Body and 1st Figure (1st Tops only)	Lead Around, Body and 2nd Figure (1st Tops only)
St. Patrick's Day	Lead Around, Body and 1st Figure (Tops only)	Lead Around, Body and 2nd Figure (Tops only)

□ For the purposes of the Championship:

- **The Gates of Derry** and **Lannigan's Ball** will be regarded as eight hand dances.
- In the case of **The Sweets of May**, teams will perform the dance from the beginning up to and including the See Saw.
- In the case of **The Gates of Derry** teams will dance from the beginning up to and including the 'swing around' of the 1st repeat of the dance.
- In the case of **Lannigan's Ball** teams will perform the full dance.
- In the case of **The Three Tunes** teams will perform the dance from the beginning up to and including the Hook and Chain.

14. A team in a competition for ceilí or figure dancing may include dancers who are under the age limit stipulated for the competition subject to conditions 15 – 19.
15. A teacher may include a number of dancers not exceeding 50% of a ceilí team or 50% of a figure team without seeking prior permission, but must inform the competition organisers in writing prior to the competition and furnish the names of the underage dancers.
16. Where the number of under aged dancers allowed to dance in the higher age group exceeds 50% in ceilí or 50% in figure, only 50% in ceilí or 50% in figure may also compete in teams in the lower age group.
17. The members of a team must be pupils of the same school.
18. Up to 50% of a girls' team competing in a girls' ceilí championship (competitions 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 & 48) may also dance across in a competition for mixed teams, subject to Rules 14 & 15.

Clarification of 50% up and 50% across concession:

This concession was introduced to give all dancers, particularly from small schools, the opportunity to enter a ceili team/competition.

Only 50% of a team may dance from their original team up into a higher age group team. i.e only 50% of a 4 Hand or 8 Hand team may dance up into a higher age group.

Only 50% of a team may dance across from their original team to another team in the same age group e.g 2 Girls across into a mixed 4 hand or 4 Girls across into a mixed 8 hand. A team may not be made up of (a) 2 dancers dancing up and 2 dancing across in a 4 hand OR (b) 4 dancers dancing across and 4 dancing up in an 8 hand. The reason being that all of the dancers in both scenarios have already competed in a team. Non-compliance with the concession means that the teacher is 'creating' a team.

Clarification of 'up' & 'across' on team entries

Where a dancer is in a team e.g Under 10 4 hand and is also in a 4 Hand Under 12, the 'up' notation needs to be shown against the dancer's name in the team into which they are dancing up. In this case the 4 Hand Under 12.

Where a dancer is only entered into a team above their normal age group they are not considered to be dancing up e.g a 10 year old dancer only dancing in one 4 hand under 15.

Where a dancer is in a team e.g Under 10 4 hand and is also dancing across into a mixed 4 Hand Under 10, the 'ac' notation needs to be shown against the dancers' name in the mixed team into which they are dancing across. The same would apply to dancers moving across from a girls 8 hand to a mixed 8 hand.

19. Maximum number of ceilí championships in which a dancer can take part is five (5) whether in one or more age groups.
20. Opening Formation: In the 'set-up' of 8-hand dances, leading (or first) tops must be the couple with their backs to the audience, facing the back of the stage. In the 'set-up' of 4-hand dances, leading (or first) tops are the couple with right shoulders to the audience. In the 'set-up' of the Adult Ceili Antrim Reel (Section 57) the leading couple are at the top of the room or to the left of the adjudicator.
21. Threes: 'Ordinary Threes' or 'Skip/Hop Threes' may be used in all dances in Reel Time, plus The Sweets of May. The different threes may not be mixed in the same dance. A team must be consistent e.g., if they start using 'Skip/Hop Threes' they may not change to 'Ordinary Threes' later in the dance.
22. Sevens: Where a seven followed by threes is required, there must be a clear separation between the two movements i.e., the seven and threes must not 'run into each other'. Additionally, the threes may not be substituted by alternate movements such as 'point and point' etc.
23. Dance Around / Swing Around Movements: These movements must be performed in an even and continuously turning manner. A backwards/forwards, or zigzag type of movement must be avoided, especially in Trip to the Cottage.
24. Any team found to be in contravention of any of the above cannot be placed in a medal winning position.
25. Movements in céilí dances are intended to flow naturally. Although the numbers of bars may be specified in Ár Rince Céilí, the natural flow and rhythm of the dance takes precedence over strict compliance with the written breakdown of bars.
26. In all céilí competitions, over-elaborate entrances and exits from stage must be avoided. Dancers should walk directly to their starting positions from stage left, avoiding the start and stop, coordinated turns and complicated manoeuvres. At the conclusion of the performance, couples should turn in place to face the front of stage. When the bell is rung, only one bow is permitted. All couples should promptly exit stage right.
27. Talking on stage before, during or after the performance must also be avoided.
28. In a mixed ceili, any number of male dancers will be allowed as long as it doesn't exceed 50% of the team.
29. Any other directions issued from An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha will apply with regards to ceili dancing.
30. There will be an official video recorded of all céilí sections.
31. A team that fails to perform a dance in the order of movements as stipulated in 'Ár Rincí Céilí 2014', or performs the incorrect figure as listed on the event syllabus, will receive ZERO marks and ZERO points from all adjudicators. This is the only circumstance a ZERO mark is to be awarded. Any infringements to the rules will be directed to the Organising Committee. If the infringement is proven after viewing the video, then the Adjudicators and teacher/s involved will be advised that the team has been removed from the result. (See AIDA Inc. Protocols for application of a Zero Rule_Disqualification - AIDC).
32. Adult Ceili Section Eligibility – An adult ceili dancer is classed as an Irish Dancer aged 18 years or over who no longer wants to compete in the mainstream Ladies/Men sections and hasn't competed in any competition other than an adult section in the previous 5 years. (AIDA Convention 2025) *NOTE: An Adult Irish Dancer who has competed in non-adult sections in the previous 5 years due to the lack of availability of adult sections, may apply via their teachers, to their State Branch, for the 5-year stipulation to be waived. These dancers however must not have placed in the top 50% of a non-adult championship section (including online competitions) where the section contained more than 5 competitors. Applications need to be submitted at time of entry. (Special Resolution Vote - June 2024)*
33. Adult dancers may compete in Open Ceili (i.e. the non-adult) sections, but with the understanding that this may affect their eligibility for Adult competitions overseas.

Own Choreography Championships Rules and Directives

Own Choreography Reel in Couples (12 – 14 years)

1. Adjudicators will be briefed on the relevant rules of the Championship prior to commencement of these sections.
2. Dance must comprise a maximum 72 bars (not including introduction) of reel music.
3. No story allowed, either read or sung.
4. Inappropriate, offensive, provocative, violent or explicit sexual content must not be included.
5. The dance must be performed in team costume.
6. Teachers are permitted to use pre-recorded accompaniment for Choreography Sections. Where a team opts to use pre-recorded accompaniment, the teacher must comply with all rules pertaining to the same.
7. One team per school allowed in either mixed, girls or both.
8. Each team member should dance continuously for the duration of the dance.
9. Pauses found in ceili dancing permitted.
10. Steps are permitted if desired.
11. The throwing of a dancer or any form of acrobatics including, but not limited to somersaults, backward and forward rolls, handstands etc. are strictly prohibited.
12. Dancers cannot dance in both a girls and a mixed team.
13. Dance must be performed in light shoes.
14. The minimum age is 12 years and the maximum age is 14 years.
15. The names of all team members must be submitted by the official closing date of entries. Any subsequent changes must be notified to the Organising Committee at vicepresident2@aidainc.com by **Monday 1 September 2025.**
16. A Girls team is defined as where all dancers are girls.
17. A Mixed team is defined as where there is at least one male and one female dancer.

Own Choreography Three Hand (Under 12 years)

1. Adjudicators will be briefed on the relevant rules of the Championship prior to commencement of these sections.
2. Dance must comprise of a maximum of 96 bars (not including the introduction) of reel music.
3. No story allowed, either read or sung.
4. Inappropriate, offensive, provocative, violent or explicit sexual content must not be included.
5. Must be performed in team costume.
6. Teachers are permitted to use pre-recorded accompaniment for Choreography Sections. Where a team opts to use pre-recorded accompaniment, the teacher must comply with all rules pertaining to the same.
7. One team per school allowed in either mixed, girls or both.
8. Each team member should dance continuously for the duration of the dance.
9. Pauses found in ceili dancing permitted.
10. Steps permitted if desired.
11. The throwing of a dancer or any form of acrobatics including, but not limited to somersaults, backward and forward rolls, handstands etc. are strictly prohibited.
12. Dancers cannot dance in both girls and a mixed team.
13. The maximum age is 11 years.
14. Dance must be performed in soft shoes.
15. The names of all team members must be submitted by the official closing date of entries (**Friday 1st August**). Any subsequent changes must be notified to the Organising Committee at vicepresident2@aidainc.com by **Monday 1 September 2025.**
16. A Girls team is defined as where all dancers are girls.
17. A Mixed team is defined as where there is at least one male and one female dancer.

Own Choreography Senior Four Hand (15 years and over)

1. Adjudicators will be briefed on the relevant rules of the Championship prior to commencement of these sections.
2. Dance must comprise a maximum of 96 bars (not including the introduction) of jig music (6/8 timing).
3. No story allowed either read or sung.
4. Inappropriate, offensive, provocative, violent or explicit sexual content must not be included.
5. Must be performed in team costume.
6. Teachers are permitted to use pre-recorded accompaniment for Choreography Sections. Where a team opts to use pre-recorded accompaniment, the teacher must comply with all rules pertaining to the same (see below).
7. One team per school allowed, in either mixed or girls sections or both.
8. Each team member should dance continuously for the duration of the dance.
9. Pauses found in ceili dancing permitted.
10. Steps are permitted.
11. The throwing of a dancer or any form of acrobatics including, but not limited to somersaults, backward and forward rolls, handstands etc. are strictly prohibited.
12. The minimum age is 15 years.
13. Dancer cannot dance in both a girls and a mixed team.
14. Dance must be performed in light shoes.
15. The names of all team members must be submitted by the official closing date of entries. Any subsequent changes must be notified to the Organising Committee at vicepresident2@aidainc.com by **Monday 1 September 2025**.
16. A Girls team is defined as where all dancers are girls.
17. A Mixed team is defined as where there is at least one male and one female dancer.

Figure Dancing Championships Rules and Directives

1. Relevant rules of the Championship will be given to the adjudicators prior to commencement of the section.
2. These rules and directions must be read in conjunction with the general rules and other relevant sections of this syllabus and those contained in the 2025 World Syllabus.
3. Every dance must be capable of being performed on a stage not greater than **28' x 28' (8.5m x 8.5m)**
4. Each team must consist of no fewer than eight (8) dancers and not more than sixteen (16) dancers.
5. Dance must be performed in team costume.
6. Each dance must portray by movements an Irish theme or item.
7. Basic steps found in *Ar Rinci Ceilí* are strongly recommended. Solo dancing steps are not permitted as part of a Figure Dance.
8. Each team member must be on stage from the commencement of the dance and shall dance continuously for the duration of the dance except where, to emphasise a figure, short pauses for up to 4 bars may be permitted.
9. Where an entire team pauses to emphasise a figure etc. the pause must not exceed four bars of music. Pauses for longer than 4 bars by some team members are allowed (as in ceili dancing) if other team members continue to dance.
10. Teachers are required to submit an account of their dance via email together with their music no later than **Monday 8th September 2025** to music@aidainc.com. This account must not exceed 200 words. Please note that a 'word' is two or more letters.
11. Teachers are required to submit with their pre-recorded music, or indication to use rostered musicians, no later than **Monday 8th September 2025** to music@aidainc.com.
12. **Stories and music submitted after Monday 8th September 2025 will incur a late fee of \$250 per team.**

13. Where a team opts to use pre-recorded accompaniment, the teacher must comply with all rules pertaining to same, outlined in this syllabus.
14. A dance must not exceed 4 minutes duration from the beginning to end of the dance. All music will be strictly timed.
15. Each dance will be timed electronically on receipt of music and the timing will commence from the start of the music playing and finish when the music stops. Music that exceeds four minutes will be returned to the teacher for amendment as per Rule 12 and must be resubmitted within the week. Additional music will be permitted for walk offs.
16. Only Irish music or music of related ethnic origin in **2/4, 4/4, or 6/8 time**, or a combination of those times will be permitted. Any change of music must be for at least 16 bars. Music played in a Figure Dance Championship will have been checked by the Organising Committee and accepted as appropriate.
17. The arrangements for musical accompaniment are set out below.
18. There is no restriction on hand movements and hand claps are permitted.
19. Elements to be considered in a team's performance include:
 - a. Portrayal of story through Dance;
 - b. Figure Content;
 - c. Footwork and execution;
 - d. Teamwork and Presentation.
20. Directives from An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha as contained in the World Championship Syllabus 2025 will apply.
21. Stance and body movement must be performed with modesty in mind.
22. The throwing of a dancer or any form of acrobatics including, but not limited to somersaults, backward and forward rolls, handstands etc. are strictly prohibited.
23. The story will be read prior to each team's performance and no music will be permitted while the story is being read.
24. The names of all team members must be submitted by the official closing date of entries. Any subsequent changes must be notified to the Organising Committee at vicepresident2@aidainc.com by **Monday 1 September 2025.**
25. The members of a team must be members of the same dancing school.

Choreography and Figure Dancing Championships: Music Guidelines

1. Where a team opts to use pre-recorded accompaniment, these copies must be submitted electronically, via email in .mp3 or .aac format. Further information and instructions will be forwarded to all members regarding this process. Please note that if the pre-recorded music is not received by **Monday 8th September 2025**, the teams **must** use the musicians scheduled to play for that championship. In such instances, complex changes to the music (e.g. pauses, particular tunes, tempo etc.) will not be possible.
2. It is imperative that the person submitting music for use as accompaniment for a Choreography or Figure Dance either, owns all rights to the music, or has been licensed to use the music for the purpose of a stage performance. Teachers must submit the source of their music with their recording. Where a commercially produced work is included in such music, written evidence of appropriate licensing and /or permission from the musician must also be provided.
3. Only Irish music or music of related ethnic origin in the relevant timing for each Own Choreography or Figure section (2/4, 4/4 for Reels, 6/8 for Jigs, or a combination of 2/4, 4/4, or 6/8 times for Figure Dances) will be permitted.
4. Music must be instrumental in nature and must not contain voiced tracks where lyrics/words are discernable. Music submissions with ambient voice-like tracks with no words may be permitted. All music submitted will be checked by a designated member of the Organising Committee.

5. Timely submission of music tracks is essential to ensure all music is checked to ensure it meets all criteria outlined in this syllabus. Teachers submitting music that does not meet this criteria will be notified.
6. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions specified in this syllabus may result in non-acceptance on entries or disqualification.

AIDA Inc. Photography Policy

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, commercial film), with or without enhancement, is expressly forbidden.

The Australian Irish Dancing Association (AIDA Inc.) reserves the right to appoint an official photographer for both the Australian International Oireachtas and the National Championships. The live feed provider will be 'Feis TV' who will video competitors, competitions and prize giving ceremonies. Such photographs and videos may be subsequently used for the marketing and promotional purposes of AIDA Inc. including the publication of such photographs on the official website <http://www.irishdancing.org.au/> and the AIDA Inc. social media channels. AIDA Inc. may also appoint other agents during the course of the Championships for special promotional projects and reserves the right to permit suitably accredited photo-journalists from local newspapers and television stations to take photographs of the event on a case by case basis.

Please note: Other than the photographs taken by persons as set out in the above any other photographs may only be taken at the prize giving ceremonies each day and may only be taken for personal use. All photographs captured may not be sold, subject to any form of payment, or used for commercial purposes. Photographs may not be published or posted on any website or used in any publication without the express written permission of AIDA Inc.

Professional Photography Equipment will not be permitted inside the competition rooms with the exception of individuals that have a valid AIDA Inc. photo pass issued and authorised by AIDA Inc. Attendees are not allowed to bring zoom lenses greater than 70mm inside the dance events, and no individuals will be granted access to take photographs on or near the stage during the competitions.

AIDA Inc. reserves the right to remove any person found to be ignoring or failing to comply with these rules from the event.

Consent

Consent to photography: By entering and competing in this event, the competitor/guardian consents that the competitors image, taken during the course of the competition, and only by AIDA Inc. approved personnel, may be taken and published by AIDA Inc.

Consent to Live streaming of Presentations: By participation in this event's presentations, the competitor/guardian consents that the competitor's image, taken during the course of the competition presentation, may be taken and published by AIDA Inc.

Media applications

Accredited journalists may apply for event access and photo passes by contacting **Chris Carswell ADCRG BG, AIDA Inc. National Secretary** on secretary@aidainc.com. All applicants will be required to complete the necessary paperwork and be compliant with our child protection policy and all rules of AIDA Inc. and of CLRG, as well as possessing a relevant Working With Children Check.

Appendix A – 2025 Solo Dancing Championships

**** Please note: It was clarified that a dancer cannot do both the 6 and under and the 7 and under sections. For example, if a 5 year old dancer wishes to dance the hard-shoe they must compete in the 7 years and under Championship and follow the syllabus for that section (AIDA Convention 2022).**

C'ship No.	Age Group	Dances (performed in the order listed below)	Year of Birth
1	6 and Under Mixed **	Light Jig (116 bpm), Single Jig (124 bpm), Reel (113 or 116 bpm)	2018 or later
2	Sub Minor Girls 7 Years & Under	Heavy Jig, Reel, Traditional Set Dance	2017 or later
3	Sub Minor Boys 7 Years & Under	Heavy Jig, Reel, Traditional Set Dance	2017 or later
4	Sub Minor Girls 8 Years	Heavy Jig, Reel, Traditional Set Dance	2016
5	Sub Minor Boys 8 Years	Heavy Jig, Reel, Traditional Set Dance	2016
6	Minor Girls 9 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2015
7	Minor Boys 9 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2015
8	Minor Girls 10 Years	Heavy Jig, Slip Jig, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2014
9	Minor Boys 10 Years	Heavy Jig, Reel, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2014
10	Junior Girls 11 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2013
11	Junior Boys 11 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2013
12	Junior Girls 12 Years	Heavy Jig, Slip Jig, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2012
13	Junior Boys 12 Years	Heavy Jig, Reel, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2012
14	Intermediate Girls 13 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2011
15	Intermediate Boys 13 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2011
16	Intermediate Girls 14 Years	Heavy Jig, Slip Jig, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2010
17	Intermediate Boys 14 Years	Heavy Jig, Reel, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2010
18	Senior Girls 15 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2009
19	Senior Boys 15 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2009
20	Senior Girls 16 Years	Heavy Jig, Slip Jig, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2008
21	Senior Boys 16 Years	Heavy Jig, Reel, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2008
22	Junior Ladies 17 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2007
23	Junior Men 17 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2007
24	Junior Ladies 18 Years	Heavy Jig, Slip Jig, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2006
25	Junior Men 18 Years	Heavy Jig, Reel, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2006
26	Ladies 19 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2005
27	Men 19 Years	Hornpipe (40 bars), Reel & Set Dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2005
28	Senior Ladies 20 -21 Years	Heavy Jig, Slip Jig, Set dance in 2/4 or 4/4 time	2003 & 2004
29	Senior Men 20 Years and Over	Hornpipe, Reel, Set dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2004 or earlier
30	Senior Ladies 22 Years and Over	Hornpipe, Reel, Set dance in 6/8 or 6/8+9/8 time	2002 or earlier
31	Adult Mixed	Hornpipe (32 Bars), Reel (48 bars), Traditional Set Dance	2004 or earlier

Appendix B – Solo Dancing Championships – Set Dance List

Only set dances included in the following list may be performed at the 2025 Australian Irish Dancing Championships. Minimum metronomic speeds as outlined below must be adhered to.

2/4 Time	Dance	Minimum Speed
	The Lodge Road	76
	Rodney's Glory	76
	The Blackbird	76
	Planxty Davis	76
	King of the Fairies	76
	The Downfall of Paris	76
4/4 Time	Dance	Minimum Speed
	Ace and Deuce of Piping	76
	Youghal Harbour	76
	Bonaparte's Retreat	76
	The Hunt	76
	Garden of Daisies	76
	Job of Journeywork	76
	Madame Bonaparte	76
	The Piper thro' the Meadow Astraying	76
	Kilkenny Races	76
	The Rambling Rake	76
	The White Blanket	76
	Blue Eyed Rascal	76
	The Roving Pedlar	76
	The Four Masters	76
6/8 Time	Dance	Minimum Speed
	The Three Sea Captains	66
	The Hurling Boys	66
	Rub the Bag	66
	Hurry the Jug	66
	The Drunken Gauger / The Funny Tailor	66
	The Blackthorn Stick	66
	St Patrick's Day	66
	Jockey to the Fair	66
	Planxty Drury	66
	Humours of Bandon	66
	The Orange Rogue	66
	Miss Brown's Fancy	66
	Planxty Hugh O'Donnell	66
	The Storyteller	66
	The Fiddler Around the Fairy Tree	66
	The Spring of Shillelagh	66
	The Wandering Musician	66
	The Vanishing Lake	66
	The Charlady	66
6/8 + 9/8 Time	Dance	Minimum Speed
	Is the Big Man Within?	66

Traditional Set Dances only may be performed in Competitions 2, 3, 4 and 5. Speeds in bold **must** be adhered to:

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

Appendix C – 2025 Ceilí & Figure Dancing Championships

C'ship No.	Section	Figures
32	Under 8 Walls of Limerick (SPEED 118)	Dance to be performed twice (64 bars)
33	Under 10 Walls of Limerick (SPEED 118)	Dance to be performed twice (64 bars)
34	Under 10 Girls 4 Hand Reel (116bpm)	2nd Figure
35	Under 10 Mixed 4 Hand Reel* (116bpm)	2nd Figure
36	Under 12 Girls 4 Hand Reel (116bpm)	1st Figure
37	Under 12 Mixed 4 Hand Reel* (116bpm)	1st Figure
38	Under 15 Girls 4 Hand Reel (116bpm)	1st Figure
39	Under 15 Mixed 4 Hand Reel* (116bpm)	1st Figure
40	Under 18 Girls Humours of Bandon (116bpm)	1st Figure
41	Under 18 Mixed Humours of Bandon* (116bpm)	1st Figure
42	Open Age Girls 4 Hand Reel (116bpm)	1st Figure
43	Open Age Mixed 4 Hand Reel* (116bpm)	1st Figure
44	Under 12 Six Hand Ceilí (girls and mixed combined)	Fairy Reel (116 bpm), performed once (96 bars)
45	Under 15 Six Hand Ceilí (girls and mixed combined)	Duke Reel (114 bpm), performed once (96 bars)
46	Open Age Six Hand Ceilí (girls and mixed combined)	Glencar Reel (114 bpm), performed twice (112 bars)
47	Under 10 Girls 8 Hand Ceilí* (choice of speed)	Own choice figure
48	Under 10 Mixed 8 Hand Ceilí* (choice of speed)	Own choice figure
49	Under 12 Girls 8 Hand Ceilí* (choice of speed)	Own choice figure
50	Under 12 Mixed 8 Hand Ceilí* (choice of speed)	Own choice figure
51	Under 15 Girls 8 Hand Ceilí* (choice of speed)	Own choice figure
52	Under 15 Mixed 8 Hand Ceilí* (choice of speed)	Own choice figure
53	Under 18 Girls 8 Hand Ceilí* (choice of speed)	Own choice figure
54	Under 18 Mixed 8 Hand Ceilí* (choice of speed)	Own choice figure
55	Open Age Girls 8 Hand Ceilí* (choice of speed)	Own choice figure
56	Open Age Mixed 8 Hand Ceilí* (choice of speed)	Own choice figure
57	Adult Ceili - Antrim Reel (Maximum 8 dancers) (116bpm)	Dance to be performed twice (128 bars)
58	Own Choreography Girls Three Hand (Under 12 years)	N/A
59	Own Choreography Mixed Three Hand (Under 12 years)	N/A
60	Own Choreography Girls Reel in Couples (12-14 years)	N/A
61	Own Choreography Mixed Reel in Couples (12-14 years)	N/A
62	Own Choreography Girls Senior Four Hand (15 years and over)	N/A
63	Own Choreography Mixed Senior Four Hand (15 years and over)	N/A
64	Junior Figure Dance (Under 12 years)	N/A
65	Intermediate Figure Dance (Under 15 years)	N/A
66	Senior Figure Dance (Open Age)	N/A

*Indicates a World Qualifier Event

Appendix D – 2025 Days Only Timetable

Monday 29 September

6 & Under, 7 & Under, 8 Years, 9 Years, 10 Years

Tuesday 30 September

11 Years, 12 Years, 13 Years, 14 Years

Wednesday 01 October

15 Years, 16 Years, 20 and Over Men, 22 and Over Ladies

Under 8, Under 10 & Under 12 Ceili and Choreography

Thursday 02 October

17 Years, 18 Years, 19 Years, 20-21 Years Ladies, Adult Section

Under 15 Ceili and Choreography

Friday 03 October

Under 18, Open Age, and Adult Ceili and Choreography

