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OZARK MOUNTAIN IRISH ARTS COUNCIL (501(c)(3) non-profit)

IT'S A BLACKOUT FEIS!

Sunday, November 14, 2021

FORT SMITH CONVENTION CENTER
55 S. 7th Street
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

Attend both Arkansas State Championship and Feis (Saturday) and the Diamond State Feis (Sunday's blackout feis) **and sit before a new panel of judges each day**

<p>Schedule</p>	<p>Champs will run concurrently starting at 8am on the Performing Arts Center and Ballroom Stages!</p> <p>Grades will begin immediately following Champs. Grades will run concurrently on the Performing Arts Center and Ballroom Stages.</p> <p>Please check the final schedule for stage assignments each day!</p> <p>Champs Round 1 is Hard Shoe</p> <p>Preliminary Champs will dance three rounds on Saturday & two rounds on Sunday</p> <p>The final feis schedule will be published as soon as possible after the registration deadline. Please follow our Facebook page for updates!</p>
<p>Level Advancement</p>	<p>For dancers who advance at Arkansas State Championship and Feis:</p> <p>Changes to Sunday's Diamond State Feis registration must be initiated during registration advancement immediately following Saturday's feis at the Registration Table in the Lobby of the Performing Arts Center</p> <p>Times to be announced on Feis Facebook page</p> <p>Each change will incur a \$10 fee to be paid by cash or check at the time of advancement and will not be counted in the Maximum Family Entry</p>
<p>Hotel</p>	<p>Courtyard by Marriott Fort Smith Downtown</p> <p>900 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72901 Phone: +1 479-783-2100</p> <p>Booking link - Book your group rate for Ozark Mountain Irish Arts Council</p> <p>A limited number of rooms have been reserved with our block. The last Day to Book is Saturday, October 30, 2021 or until block is filled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 92 USD (+ tax and fees) per night for two adults • Breakfast for two included • Free parking • Complimentary WIFI in guest rooms
<p>Adjudicators & Musicians</p>	<p>Will be posted by 10/15/2021 on www.RinceArkansas.com</p>
<p>Registration Packet Pick-up</p>	<p>Lobby of the Performing Arts Center Auditorium:</p> <p>Friday, November 13th 6:00 – 9:00 PM Saturday, November 14th beginning at 7:00 AM Sunday, November 15th beginning at 7:00 AM</p> <p>Number cards will be alphabetized on the registration table. Please pick up only the number cards for your dancer. Remember to print a copy of the final schedule or access a copy online at our Facebook page.</p>

<p>Visual Art and Soda Bread Baking</p>	<p>Entries must be submitted at the Registration table in the Lobby of the Performing Arts Center by 10am</p> <p>Saturday – Soda Bread Baking Sunday – Visual Arts</p>
<p>Sunday Black out Feis</p> <p>No wigs, no solo dresses, just dancing!</p>	<p>Sunday - All competitions will be danced in appropriate plain black attire as follows:</p> <p>For girls, a solid black dress or plain black skirt with solid black shirt. Black tights are required for ages 14 and above. Other ages may wear black or white socks.</p> <p>Boys will dance in a solid black shirt, black pants, and white or black socks.</p>
<p>COVID-19 Policies & Safety Measures</p>	<p>Our goal is to provide a safe event for everyone attending our feis!</p> <p>Consult our COVID-19 Policies & Safety Measures to be published on our Facebook page. Please make sure to carefully read the document as it becomes available. It will include information on mask requirements, spectator limits, distancing protocols, registration packet pickup, and award announcements and pickups, etc.</p> <p>Please check all applicable travel advisory rules. Because the feis committee has significant upfront costs, there will be no refunds for any reason, including but not limited to: changes in quarantine requirements, illness, or any other COVID-19 related issue.</p>
<p>Contact & Social Media</p>	<p>Follow our Facebook Page for venue map, updates, award times, special announcements, and Registration advancement times:</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/Arkansas-State-Championship-FeisDiamond-State-Feis-2372278713017707/</p> <p>Website: https://rincearkansas.com</p>
<p>Registration/Fees</p>	<p>Register Online at www.Feisworx.com</p> <p>Registrations close Friday, October 29th. Changes with late registration fee are allowed after this date through Monday, November 8th. No late registrations or changes will be allowed after this date.</p> <p>Family Registration Fee \$25 Solo grade level dancing (per competition) \$10 Preliminary Champion (2 rounds) \$40 Open Championship (3 rounds) \$45 Adult Championships and Adult Masters Preliminary (2 rounds) \$40 Adult Masters Open (3 rounds) \$45 Visual Arts \$8 Late Registration fee (per dancer) \$25 Registration Advancement Fee (per change) \$10</p> <p>Family Maximum \$150 (excludes family registration fee, specials, Feisworx fee, second chance, registration advancement, and late fees)</p>

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FIRST FEIS						
The First Feis level has been established for dancers who are competing in their very first Feis. Once a dancer competes in the First Feis category, the dancer must move into Beginner 1 or Beginner 2. Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined.						
	U5	U7	U9	U11	11&O	
REEL	105RL	107RL	109RL	111RL	112RL	
LIGHT JIG	105LJ	107LJ	109LJ	111LJ	112LJ	
BEGINNER 1 (BEGINNER)						
A dancer who has been dancing for less than one year. A Beginner 1 must move to Beginner 2 no later than January 1 st of the dancers second year of instruction, or may move to Beginner 2 earlier with teacher's permission and provided that the Feis has not closed to changes. Note: a Beginner 1 dancer who starts in September, may continue as a Beginner 1 until December of the following year (16 months) before moving into Beginner 2. Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined						
	U5	U7	U9	U11	U13	13&O
REEL	205RL	207RL	209RL	211RL	213RL	214RL
LIGHT JIG	205LJ	207LJ	209LJ	211LJ	213LJ	214LJ
SINGLE JIG	205SN	207SN	209SN	211SN	213SN	214SN
SLIP JIG	205SJ	207SJ	209SJ	211SJ	213SJ	214SJ
BEGINNER 2 (ADVANCED BEGINNER)						
All hard shoe dances at traditional speeds.						
A dancer who has been dancing for more than one year and who has not won a 1 st , 2 nd , or 3 rd , in Beginner 2. A dancer who has won a 1 st , 2 nd , or 3 rd in a Beginner 2 dance must move into Novice in that dance no later than January 1 st of the next calendar year or with teacher's permission as soon as the next Feis (if said Feis has not closed to changes). Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined						
	U5	U7	U9	U11	U13	13&O
REEL	305RL	307RL	309RL	311RL	313RL	314RL
LIGHT JIG	305LJ	307LJ	309LJ	311LJ	313LJ	314LJ
SINGLE JIG	305SN	307SN	309SN	311SN	313SN	314SN
SLIP JIG	305SJ	307SJ	309SJ	311SJ	313SJ	314SJ
TREBLE JIG	305TJ	307TJ	309TJ	311TJ	313TJ	314TJ
HORNPIPE	305HP	307HP	309HP	311HP	313HP	314HP
NOVICE						
All hard shoes dances can be done at either traditional speed or slow speed.						
A dancer moves into Novice as a result of placing 1 st , 2 nd , or 3 rd in that dance as indicated above in Beginner 2. A dancer who wins a 1 st in Novice must move into Prizewinner in that dance no later than January 1 st of the next calendar year or with teacher's permission as soon as the next Feis (if said Feis has not closed to changes). Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined						
	U7	U9	U11	U13	13&O	
REEL	407RL	409RL	411RL	413RL	414RL	
LIGHT JIG	407LJ	409LJ	411LJ	413LJ	414LJ	
SINGLE JIG	407SN	409SN	411SN	413SN	414SN	
SLIP JIG	407SJ	409SJ	411SJ	413SJ	414SJ	
TREBLE JIG	407TJ	409TJ	411TJ	413TJ	414TJ	
HORNPIPE	407HP	409HP	411HP	413HP	414HP	
PRIZEWINNER						
All hard shoes dances can be done at either traditional speed or slow speed.						
A dancer moves into Prizewinner as a result of placing 1 st place as indicated in Novice. Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined						
	U7	U9	U11	U13	13&O	
REEL	507RL	509RL	511RL	513RL	514RL	
SLIP JIG	507SJ	509SJ	511SJ	513SJ	514SJ	
TREBLE JIG	507TJ	509TJ	511TJ	513TJ	514TJ	
HORNPIPE	507HP	509HP	511HP	513HP	514HP	
	U9	U11	U13	13&O		
LIGHT JIG	509LJ	511LJ	513LJ	514LJ		
SINGLE JIG	509SN	511SN	513SN	514SN		
VISUAL ARTS						
Under 13			13 and Over			
1VA			2VA			

PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS

A dancer who wins 1st place in each of the Open dances (reel, slip-jig, treble jig, and hornpipe) can move into Preliminary Championships, PC, with teacher's permission. In cases where a Feis elects to split a competition due to a large entry, the split must be done by birth date age in the same manner as the North American Championships.

PC will dance two rounds. Dancers will perform 48 bars of the reel or 40 bars of the slip-jig and 40 bars of the hornpipe or 48 bars of the treble jig, Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined

Preliminary Championship	U9	U10	U12	U14	U16	U18	18&O
	609PC	610PC	612PC	614PC	616PC	618PC	619PC

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

A dancer who wins two First Place awards in one calendar year will move on to Open Championship the following year, or as soon as the second win is achieved, in any age category, in the following years. Only in the case of back-to-back Feiseanna (successive days), in which case the first win in the first Feis will not change the dancer's status for the second Feis. Placing in a Regional or National Oireachtas does not change the status of a competitor.

Dancers will perform: 48 bars of reel or 40 bars of slip-jig, 40 bars of the hornpipe or 48 bars of the treble jig, and a Set Dance. Competitions of less than 5 dancers may be combined

Open Championship	U9	U10	U12	U14	U16	U18	18&O
	709OC	710OC	712OC	714OC	716OC	718OC	719OC

ADULT

A dancer over the age of 18 who has not danced in a youth competitions for a period of five years. Dancers who are in the Adult categories cannot enter any competition other than Adult specified competitions. A dancer who wishes to return to any category other than Adult must remain out of Adult competitions until they retire from dancing for five consecutive years.

	BEGINNER 1 AND 2	NOVICE/PRIZEWINNER
REEL	835RL	855RL
LIGHT JIG	835LJ	855LJ
SINGLE JIG	835SN	855SN
SLIP JIG	835SJ	855SJ
TREBLE JIG	835TJ	855TJ
HORNPIPE	835HP	855HP

Adult Championships

An Adult Dancer beyond Beginner is defined as any dancer who started Irish dancing at the age of 18 or older, or any dancer 18 or older who has not competed in at least five years in a Youth competition AND has never placed in the top three in a youth Preliminary champ competition of more than five competitors

Reel (48 bars) or Slip Jig (40 bars) and Treble Jig (48 bars) or Hornpipe (40 bars)	875
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Masters Preliminary

A Masters Preliminary dancer is defined as any dancer over the age of 25 who has previously placed in the top three of a youth Preliminary competition of five or more competitors.

Reel (48 bars) or Slip Jig (40 bars) and Treble Jig (48 bars) or Hornpipe (40 bars)	625
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Masters Open

A Masters Open level dancer is defined as any dancer over the age of 25 who has ever competed in a youth Open Championship competition.

Reel (48 bars) or Slip Jig (40 bars) and Treble Jig (48 bars) or Hornpipe (40 bars) and any non-traditional set dance.	725
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IDTANA Southern Region-Dancing Competition Rules

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2016

- 1) In the case of all solo and team competitions in all grades, the age of a competitor on 1st January of the year in which the competition is held will determine the right of entry. For the purposes of this Rule a competitor whose birthday occurs on 1st January shall be deemed to be under the age attained on that date.
- 2) Competitions are open to all but those holding a TMRF, TCRG, or ADCRG designation. A Feis can only accept entries from pupils of teachers registered with An Coimisiún, regardless of their domicile, and where applicable, registered with both the IDTANA and the North American region in which they reside.
- 3) A competitor may be disqualified for any of the following reasons:
 - a) Conduct unbecoming a lady or gentleman.
 - b) Failure to report on time to compete. (Penalty: disqualification from said event)
 - c) Falsification of age or other important facts – i.e., teaching, award winning, competing under another competitor's name or number, etc.Penalty for a) or c): Competitor will be disqualified from the Feis at which the occurrence happened and from all NAFC – registered Feiseanna for a period of one year beginning at the date of the occurrence.
- 4) Competitions may be closed if there are no competitors at the assigned stage ready to compete when the competition is scheduled or announced. May not pertain to a situation where competitors are involved in stage conflicts.
- 5) Solo competitors in First Feis (if offered), Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Novice or Open (Prizewinner), Adult, and Master level competitions:
 - a) Must compete in their proper age group.
 - b) Must be prepared to perform two steps in each event.
 - c) Cannot change competition on the day of the Feis.
- 6) Steel taps or “bubble” heels on dancing shoes, display of awards, wearing of shorts or other unconventional dress is prohibited. Authentic Gaelic dress is desired. First Feis (if offered), Beginner and Advanced Beginner, aka Beginner I and II, must wear a class costume, or a skirt and blouse. All other categories are excluded from this rule. Modest attire is encouraged when a competitor is not dancing.
- 7) Competitor's number must be worn and visible to adjudicators when performing in all competitions, use of reflective plastic number covers is discouraged.
- 8) Awards will be determined in proportion to the number of entries in each competition and to the degree of proficiency shown.
- 9) Complaints regarding the running or rules of a Feis must be in writing, stating names and other factual information and signed by the complainant. A ten-dollar fee must be enclosed and presented to the Feis Chairman within one hour of the occurrence. The fee will be returned if the complaint is upheld.
- 10) The Feis Committee and any organization affiliated with same, will not be held responsible for personal injury, property loss or damage. Destruction of Feis property or rental property will be punishable by law.
- 11) The Feis reserves the right to reject any entry for cause, to cancel all or part of the Feis and to limit competitor's performing time. The decision of the Feis Committee is final in all matters connected with the Feis.
- 12) All Feiseanna must have a process to allow parents to request that their child or children's name(s) not be listed on the posted competitor list prior to the day of the Feis.
- 13) Competitors must answer all questions as required by the Feis Entry committee, including teacher's name, and enclose the entry fee when mailing. Failure to do so will result in a rejected entry. Entries must be received on or before the closing date or they will be subject to a late fee as Determined by the Feis.
- 14) Entrants in any Championship event may not enter in any other (Grade) events, but may enter in Figure Dances. Entrants in Championships should specify, on the entry form, their choice of set dance. Entrants cannot change competition or category on the day of the competition.
- 15) Open Championship:
 - a) Dancers must qualify for open championship via the method now in place for preliminary championship, i.e. two 1st place wins.

- b) Dancers must compete in the preliminary championship competition in order to qualify for open championship
 - c) The regional syllabus where the Feis is being held may have different qualifications for entry.
- 16) Combining male and female dancers in any age category is left to the discretion of each region of the IDTANA.
- 17) Preliminary Championships are open to those who, at any recognized Feis:
- a) Have won 1st place in both an open/prizewinner light and heavy shoe competition, and
 - b) Have never won 1st, 2nd or 3rd in Open Championship. A dancer who wins two first place awards will move on to Open Championship at the next Feis they enter, or as soon as the second win is achieved, in any age category, in the following years. Only in the case of back-to-back Feiseanna (successive days), in which case the first win in the first Feis will not change the dancer's status for the second Feis. A dancer is required to perform a light shoe dance (reel or slip jig for ladies and reel only for men), and a hard shoe dance. A Feis can opt to offer either a) a set dance or b) a jig/hornpipe.
 - c) The regional syllabus where the Feis is being held may have different qualifications for entry.
- 18) Open Championships and Preliminary Championships require at least three adjudicators.
- 19) First place winners in the Open Championship category cannot return to a Preliminary or Open (Prizewinner) competition. Placing in a Regional or National Oireachtas does not change the status of a competitor. A dancer who moves into open championship must stay a minimum of 2 years. If after 2 years they have not placed they are allowed to return to preliminary. An open championship dancer who places is not allowed to return to preliminary until 2 years after their last placement. The regional syllabus where the Feis is being held may have different qualifications for entry.
- 20) The status of the dancer does not change unless there are five or more dancers in a competition.
- 21) Each region may determine the system for moving dancers from one grade to another, as they see appropriate for their region. The syllabus is to contain all grade categories. A Feis Committee may combine two consecutive age categories into the higher of the two categories within that grade when less than five (5) competitors are entered.
- 22) Grade Category Definitions:
- Beginner Grade: A beginner is a competitor who has not yet taken a full year of Irish Dance lessons, thereby giving beginners a full year with such status. A Beginner must move into the Advanced Beginner category the next year.
- Advanced Beginner Grade: An advanced beginner who wins 1st, 2nd or 3rd place will advance to the Novice category in that particular dance. Competition dances are reel, light jig, slip jig, traditional treble jig and traditional hornpipe, as a minimum requirement.
- Novice Grade: A novice who wins a 1st place will advance to the Prizewinner category in that particular dance.
- Prizewinner: A competitor who does not qualify as a beginner, advanced beginner or as a novice.
- 23) Adult Dancers and Adult Competition in the Southern Region:
- Adult Beginner: An adult beginner is a competitor who never took Irish dancing lessons as a juvenile and is over 18 years of age
- *Adult dancer beyond Beginner: Any dancer who started Irish dancing at the age of 18 or older, or any dancer 18 or older who has not competed in at least five years in a Youth competition AND has never placed in the top three in a Youth Preliminary competition of more than five competitors.
 - *A Masters Preliminary dancer is defined as any dancer over the age of 25 who has previously placed in the top three of a youth Preliminary competition of five or more competitors.
 - *A Masters Open level dancer is defined as any dancer over the age of 25 who has ever competed in a youth Open Championship competition
- a) *Dancers over the age of 25 currently competing in either youth championship level may move at any time into the corresponding Masters level, but will then no longer be eligible to compete in a youth solo championship.
 - b) *All Southern Region feiseanna must offer Adult competitions, including Adult championships, starting May 1, 2021.

- c) *All Southern Region feiseanna must offer Master level competitions starting May 1, 2021.
 - d) *All Masters levels consist of one light round (reel or slip jig) and one heavy round (treble jig or hornpipe) to facilitate the possibility of merging at Southern Region feiseanna. Feiseanna may offer additional Masters level competitions including traditional set, non-traditional set etc.
 - e) *All Southern Region feiseanna may combine the Masters levels into one competition in the event that fewer than five Masters Preliminary level dancers are entered.
 - f) *Dancers competing at the Adult Championship level may move to the Masters Prelim level per teacher's discretion.
 - g) *For Masters level dancers to progress from Prelim to Open, youth competition rules apply. A win in any combined Masters competition of five or more competitors would count towards that progression.
 - h) *The Southern Region is to offer separate solo championship competitions for Adults and Masters at our Regional Oireachtas starting in 2021, with traditional set as the third round for Adults, and non-traditional set as the third round for Masters.
 - i) *Only dancers who meet the definition of "Adult dancer" may compete in Adult Ceili competitions. Masters level solo dancers competing in a Ceili must compete in the Youth Ceili categories.
- 24) Musicians and adjudicators cannot be approached during a competition by anyone except the Feis Committee. No one can approach them while a competitor is performing.
- 25) Musicians employed by the Feis Committee will be solely under the direction and management of the Feis Committee on Feis day.
- 26) Teachers or team captains are responsible that their teams are complete and in position when the competition is announced. Competitors may compete in the next higher age group. A competitor may compete in no more than two different age groups for any one category (4-hand, 8-hand, etc.)
- 27) In matters pertaining to adjudication, the decision of the adjudicators is final.
- 28) Adjudicators are to monitor the quality of music at the stage(s) to which they are assigned.
- 29) First Feis (if offered), Beginner, and Advanced Beginner dancers are required to dance at traditional speeds. Novice and Open/Prizewinner dancers may choose between traditional and Oireachtas speeds. Adult dancers are allowed to dance traditional or Oireachtas speed dances in the novice and prizewinner grade levels. Refer to Master Category rules in regard to contemporary set dances.
- 30) The length of 2 hand and 3 hand dances in competition are to be 48 bars of music plus an 8 bar introduction
- 31) In consideration of safety and in fairness to dancers performing at a Feis, photography of any kind which has the capability of capturing a dancer's image while in motion is strictly forbidden.
- 32) A Feis may elect to allow in motion photography for publicity purposes, but the pictures are considered the sole property of the Feis and solely for Feis use only; these are not to be used for personal gain through commercial use or sale, and under no circumstances can they be published on any website or other areas, without the express written permission of the persons involved. Additionally, a professional photographer may be formally contracted by a Feis to capture non-motion photographs, such as portrait photography, awards ceremonies, etc. and/or in motion photography provided it is taken at a vendor station or suitable location: (a) away from the dancing stages and, (b) requested by a consenting parent, guardian, or dancer (over the age of 18).
- 33) No block, en Pointe, toe walking movements, stationary or moving is allowed to be performed for all ages up to and including the under 12 age group. However, after September 1 of each year an exception is made for those dancers who are 11 dancing in the under 12 age group.
- 34) Make up is prohibited on a dancer in the first three grades (First Feis (if offered), Beginner and Advance Beginner or their equivalent) up to and including the under 12 age group.
- 35) Any competitor found to be using artificial carriage aids and subsequently refuses to remove same, will be subject to disqualification from that particular competition. Medically prescribed aids (proof of which may be required) will be exempt from this rule.
- 36) Each Feis is required to list their adjudicators on their syllabus and/or website. If adjudicators are not listed on the syllabus, they must be posted on the Feis website a minimum of three weeks prior to the Feis. Once the Feis has closed for entries the adjudicators names may be removed from the Feis website. One third of the adjudicators are to be from outside the region where the Feis is being held.

- 37) Competitors in girl's competitions at the First Feis (if offered), Beginner and Advanced Beginner Grade will wear only the competitor's dancing School costume or a skirt and blouse.
- 38) No substance that can become airborne should be used on any dance floor in an attempt to improve traction.