



# MID-AMERICA OIREACHTAS SYLLABUS 2020

Nov 26 – 29, 2020  
Schaumburg, IL

## Oireachtas Chairs

Mary Mayer McHugh, TCRG  
Alyssa Harling, TCRG  
Maureen Dillon Yawger, TCRG

## 2020 MAO Executive Board

Regional Director - Maureen Dillon Yawger, TCRG  
Vice Regional Director - Ann Lavin Cassidy, ADCRG  
Treasurer - Heather Timm, ADCRG  
Corresponding Secretary - Mary Mayer McHugh, TCRG  
Secretary - Mary Laffey Beemsterboer, TCRG  
Sergeant at Arms - Heather McClanahan Ackerman, ADCRG

# COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

**The Mid-America Oireachtas reserves the right to amend this syllabus to facilitate Covid 19 restrictions. By working together with a flexible and cooperative outlook, our event will take place safely and successfully.**

**We anticipate social distancing requirements will be in place in the month of November which may limit the maximum number of people admitted into competition areas at any one time. In addition, there may be a limit on the number of people allowed to accompany each competitor at the venue. Attendees should keep this in mind when making travel arrangements.**

It is our goal to keep every dancer, teacher and family member safe. At all times, the Mid-America Region will closely observe and follow the advice from local authorities and the CDC. An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending the Mid-America Oireachtas, visitors voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19.

- Each family attending the Mid-America Oireachtas must submit a waiver at the time of entry. The Mid-America Oireachtas reserves the right to deny entry to anyone who does not submit a waiver form.
- All attendees will be required to follow all social distancing policies and screening that are in place during the Championships as mandated by the State of Illinois.
- All attendees over the age of two will be required to wear face coverings (a mask or cloth face cover) when in a public area or when in close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public as mandated by the State of Illinois.
- Dancers will be required to wear face coverings when in a public area. Dancers will NOT be required to wear a face covering while dancing on stage.

Although it is hoped that all competitions will run as per the syllabus, adjustments to the published syllabus may be required. These may include but are not restricted to:

- Restricted access to venues for non-competitors
- Restricted facilities availability; including practice/warm up areas, vendors, and food & beverage outlets
- Possible changes to Result and Presentation procedures
- Solo Championships being decided over a lesser number of rounds and dances



# Entry Information

**Entries open August 17th - Close September 1<sup>st</sup>**

1. **Entries will open on August 17th and close on September 1st.**
2. **LATE FEES:** The late entry rule will be strictly enforced: Late entries will be accepted up to 7 days after the entry close date at a rate of double the normal entry fee. Late fee is to be capped at \$500.
3. Competitors are restricted to amateurs whose teacher holds an ADCRG, TCRG, or TMRP and are paid-up members of An Coimisiun, IDTANA, and IDTAMA, and reside in the Mid-America region. All ADCRGs, TCRGs, and TMRPs in the school must be paid-up members in all three organizations listed above. If not paid-up, the individual will be contacted to complete registration/payment with the appropriate organization(s) and they will be subjected to a \$100 fine.
4. A dancer who attends college in the Mid-America region, but whose Home of Record is in another North American region, may be entered in the Mid-America Oireachtas provided that the dancer's Home of record TCRG pays a courtesy fee of \$25 to Mid-America and pays all associated Oireachtas entry fees. The courtesy fee does not confer membership rights to the Home of record TCRG. Home of Record is defined to mean the place one was living when they entered college.
5. Competitor's age shall be determined as of January 1, 2020. Teachers will be responsible to ensure that their pupils are entered in the proper age group. Competitors must be prepared to show proof of age, if their birthday is January 1st.
6. The Committee reserves the right to reject any entry for cause, and to cancel or postpone all or part of the competition. The decision of the Committee is FINAL in all matters connected with the Mid-America Oireachtas.
7. Mid -American Oireachtas entries will be denied for any school booking hotel room blocks outside the contracts of the Oireachtas.
8. Each family must submit a waiver at the time of entry. The Mid-America Oireachtas reserves the right to deny entry to anyone who does not submit a waiver form.



# Entry FEES

<i>Item</i>	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Assessed</i>
<b>Solo Championship</b>	<b>\$ 60.00</b>	Per dancer
<b>Access Fee</b> <i>(Includes: Venue access, registration fee, results, e-program book, streaming)</i>	<b>\$ 75.00</b>	Per family
<b>Advertisement Fee</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	Per School
<b>Maximum per family</b>	<b>\$220.00</b> <i>(Does not include the \$75 Access Fee)</i>	Per family

Oireachtas 2020 Entries are at [www.quickfeis.com](http://www.quickfeis.com) only.

1. PAYMENT BY CHECK:
  - a. Submit one check per dance school payable to: **IDTAMA – OIREACHTAS**
  - b. Entry mailing address is available on the Quickfeis.com entry website.
  - c. All fees are to be mailed on or before Tuesday, September 1, 2020.
  - d. When the Oireachtas entry deadline falls on a Sunday or holiday, the Oireachtas entry deadline will shift to the next business day.
2. **OR** PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD :
  - a. Online and only through QuickFeis/PayPal
  - b. Credit card payment will incur an additional 5% of the total fees charged as the transaction fee
  - c. Print and mail invoice along with School Commitment Form to address on bottom of invoice
3. All fees are to be mailed (postmarked) or paid by credit card on or **before September 1, 2020.**
4. In the event the 2020 Mid America Oireachtas is cancelled, the full registration fees will be reimbursed. This reimbursement will not include the 5% fee charged for credit card payments.



# General Oireachtas Rules

1. Dancers do not have to check in for any solo round unless there is a change to the set dance and or speed printed on the back of the competitor's number. If a change needs to be made to the set dance and/or speed, then dancers must check in for the set round to make that change.
2. Dancer rotation start and subsequent round start numbers for solo and team competitions are to be generated by the tabulation company via a computer. The 2nd and 3rd round start numbers are determined by adding a third of the competition to each subsequent round start number. The computer-generated start numbers will be determined by the tabulation provider with no human involvement.
3. The adjudicator's decision will be final in all cases.
4. The 100-point scoring system will be used in the competitions.
5. Any legitimate complaint must be submitted in writing within one hour of the announcement of the results in question, accompanied by a fee of \$25.00. If the complaint is sustained, the fee will be refunded. If a complaint is filed with the Regional Director and agreed to by the IDTAMA Executive Board, a penalty fine of \$500.00 will be assessed to any teacher, workshop teacher, and/or assistant teacher who exhibits immature and unacceptable behavior before, during or after their pupil's performance at the Oireachtas.
6. The stage area for dancers during solos at the Oireachtas is limited to only Oireachtas Competitors in that competition, Stage Monitors, Oireachtas Volunteers and Committee Officials. Stage Monitors should act appropriately in regard to their own dancers. Dancers are allowed to leave the area if there is a problem.
7. Stages are for the sole purpose of competition and therefore may only have dancers on them during the competitions. The practice of warming up dancers and teams on a stage is prohibited at all times. The only exception is the Under 8 Ceili Teams which may practice walking on, standing in place, bowing and walking off. This will take place prior to the competitions but with the Stage Monitor present.
8. Mishaps:
  - a. 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.
  - b. Should a dancer slip, bump into another dancer or have a costume malfunction whether in solos or in teams, the bell may be rung at the discretion of the adjudicators to stop the performance of the dancer(s). Dancers so affected will be permitted to re-dance and will be marked then at the discretion of each individual adjudicator.



- c. Should a dancer lose a heel or a complete shoe or have an open lace he/she may stand back –allowing the other dancer(s), where applicable, to continue dancing uninhibited. In such a case the dancer concerned will be permitted to re-dance as soon as it is deemed practicable by the stage steward.
  - d. Should in the opinion of the stage steward, having obtained medical advice if necessary, a dancer be unfit to re-dance and if such dancer insists on his/her right to do so then the dancer concerned will only be permitted to re-dance on completion of a declaration form exonerating the Mid-America Oireachtas of liability for any consequences. Any repeat accident/incident which results in that dancer being unable to complete the required number of bars of any round, will result in the dancer withdrawing without question from the championship.
9. Mishaps/Re-dance:
  - a. If a dancer falls during the last 8 bars in a performance of their Reel, Slip Jig, Heavy Jig or Hornpipe, then he/she will only dance the last 16 bars of that dance again at a time convenient to both dancers and stage stewards.
  - b. If a dancer falls during the set part of their recall, they will only dance the set part again at a time convenient to both the dancer and the stage steward.
10. A competitor must not walk off the stage during a performance unless instructed to do so by an adjudicator or stage steward. A dancer who dismisses themselves from the stage without such permission will receive ZERO marks and ZERO points from all adjudicators.
11. If at any time during a performance on stage an adjudicator feels that due to the health and safety of a performer on stage or an infraction of Social Distancing protocols in place at the time occurs, then the performance must be stopped and the adjudicator MUST ring the bell.
12. 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.
13. Any form of unauthorized 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 camera, cine camera, commercial film, with or without flash enhancement, is expressly forbidden in competition.
14. Results of the Oireachtas may not be published on any personal/school website or social media outlet. Doing so will result in a \$300 fine.
15. The Oireachtas Committee or the host hotels/convention space will not be responsible for personal injury, property loss or property damage.
16. Anyone found intentionally destroying or defacing Hotel or Oireachtas property will be prosecuted; any competitor found to be involved with such vandalism will be disqualified from all competitions, including team competitions. Parents are responsible for their children.



# GRANT AWARDS

The winner of the Senior Men and Senior Lady competition will be offered an award of \$500 to be used toward the expense of traveling to the World Championships.

- a) In addition to the Senior Man and Lady \$500 grants, IDTAMA will award \$250 Grants to fifty World Qualifying dancers as follows: The top 10 World Qualifying girls from each qualifying solo age group and the top 5 World Qualifying boys from each qualifying solo age group, for a maximum of 10 dancers from each qualifying solo girls age group and a maximum of 5 dancers from each boys qualifying solo age group, drawing 50 grants of \$250 per dancer. The individual dollar amount and number of awards given is to be reviewed by the Board on an annual basis.
- b) Team Grants to be awarded based on 5 categories: Girls Ceili, Mixed Ceili, Mixed 4-hand, Choreography, and Drama.
- c) The top 3 placements in the qualifying age groups will be put into a drawing for their category and 3 teams are to be awarded from the Girls Ceili category and 1 team awarded from each of the other 4 categories for a total of 7 awards. Each individual dancer on the selected teams will receive \$200, subject to participation in the world championships. The team grant drawing will take place at the Oireachtas.
- d) If a dancer who wins a grant chooses not to go to the World Championships, the money will be awarded to the next name drawn.



# SOLO Championship Competitions

Comp #	Competition	Born	ROUND 1		ROUND 2		FINAL ROUND Set
			Hard Shoe	Dancing at a time	Soft Shoe	Dancing at a time	
<b>1</b>	Ladies - 22 & over	1997 or earlier	Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set Dance
<b>2</b>	Ladies - Under 22	1998 or 1999	Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set Dance
<b>3</b>	Ladies - Under 20	2000	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>4</b>	Ladies - Under 19	2001	Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set Dance
<b>5</b>	Ladies - Under 18	2002	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>6</b>	Girls - Under 17	2003	Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set Dance
<b>7</b>	Girls - Under 16	2004	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>8</b>	Girls - Under 15	2005	Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set Dance
<b>9</b>	Girls - Under 14	2006	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>10</b>	Girls - Under 13	2007	Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set Dance
<b>11</b>	Girls - Under 12	2008	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>12</b>	Girls - Under 11	2009	Jig	2	Slip Jig	2	Set Dance
<b>13</b>	Girls - Under 10	2010	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set in Jig Time Only
<b>14</b>	Girls - Under 9	2011	Jig	2	Reel	2	Trad Set
<b>15</b>	Girls - Under 8	2012 or later	Jig	2	Reel	2	Trad Set
<b>16</b>	Men - 20 & over	1999 or earlier	Jig	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>17</b>	Men - Under 20	2000	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>18</b>	Men - Under 19	2001	Jig	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>19</b>	Men - Under 18	2002	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>20</b>	Boys - Under 17	2003	Jig	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>21</b>	Boys - Under 16	2004	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>22</b>	Boys - Under 15	2005	Jig	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>23</b>	Boys - Under 14	2006	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>24</b>	Boys - Under 13	2007	Jig	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>25</b>	Boys - Under 12	2008	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>26</b>	Boys - Under 11	2009	Jig	2	Reel	2	Set Dance
<b>27</b>	Boys - Under 10	2010	Hornpipe	2	Reel	2	Set in Jig Time Only
<b>28</b>	Boys - Under 9	2011	Jig	2	Reel	2	Trad Set
<b>29</b>	Boys - Under 8	2012 or later	Jig	2	Reel	2	Trad Set





# SOLO Championship RULES

1. Solo competitors must dance in their proper age group.
2. In any solo competition where there are less than three competitors, the Committee reserves the right to combine and redefine age groups. In such cases, teachers will be notified well in advance.
3. Approved set dances and their minimum tempos, as well as tempos for the Reel, Slip Jig, Treble Jig and Hornpipe, will follow those listed in the World Syllabus.
4. Requirements for the Hornpipe and Slip Jig will be 40 bars. Reel and Treble Jig will be 48 bars. Only dancers receiving a recall will perform a set dance. In all set dances the step will be performed on both feet and the set on the right foot.
5. No block, en point, stationary or moving, will be permitted to be performed for all ages up to and including Under 11 age group. The Under 12 age group is permitted to do toe walks as of September 1st.
6. The Mid-America Oireachtas will be consistent with the World Syllabus and will match the World procedure for which dance is performed in the first round.
7. The dances for the first two rounds required at our regional will be the same dances required for the upcoming World Championships. Dancers are allowed to choose any set dance. Exceptions:
  - a. Under 8 and Under 9 are Traditional Set of choice
  - b. Under 10 are Set Dance in 6/8 time.
8. Rounds 1, 2 & 3 for all competitions are to be danced for a different panel of 3 adjudicators for a total of 9.
  - a. All competitors must be presented to the adjudicators in full costume after each of the first two rounds for a number check.
  - b. The number check as published is a guideline. Dancers will move back if necessary, to facilitate the rotation.



## 9. RECALLS:

- a. For solo championship competitions of 20 or less, all competitors will be recalled.
- b. For solo championship competitions in which the number of World qualifiers is greater than or equal to 50% of the competitions, ALL competitors will be recalled.
- c. For solo championship competitions of 21 or more, 50% of competitors will be recalled.

10. Competitors must dance in numerical order as listed in the Oireachtas program.

11. All dancers must commence dancing after an eight-bar introduction for all dances with the exception of set dances, choreographies and dance dramas, where the introduction will vary according to the dance. Dancers beginning before or after the stipulated 8 bar introduction will automatically receive a ZERO for that round from all adjudicators.

## 12. Failure to Complete:

- a. Definition of complete means that all bars as outlined in the syllabus are danced without any stops. Choreographed pauses in steps are permitted.
- b. If a competitor fails to complete the Heavy Jig or Hornpipe 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 equivalent light shoe round and while they will receive marks from each adjudicator they will automatically receive ZERO points and will not be allowed to progress further in the Solo Championship.
- c. If a competitor fails to complete the Reel or Slip Jig round of a championship, they will receive ZERO marks and ZERO points from all adjudicators for that round and will not be allowed to progress any further in the Solo Championship.
- d. A competitor who fails to complete the open set dance round will receive ZERO marks and ZERO points from all adjudicators for that round and is not eligible to be recognized in the awards, except as a recalled dancer. Any points allotted to the dancer will stay with the dancer.
- e. Any dancer who does not complete either of the first two rounds of a competition cannot be recalled to dance in the third round.



13. Under 8 and Under 9 Solo Championship dancers will perform a Traditional Set Dance in the recall round, danced one at a time. The Traditional Set Dance Guideline from An Coimisiun applies.

<b>St. Patrick's Day - Speed 94</b>	<b>King of the Fairies - Speed 130</b>
<b>Blackbird - Speed 144</b>	<b>Jockey to the Fair - Speed 90</b>
<b>Garden of Daisies - Speed 138</b>	<b>Three Sea Captains - Speed 96</b>
<b>Job of Journeywork - Speed 138</b>	

14. Solo championship dancers in Under 10 must perform a Treble Jig Set in the recall round danced one at a time. Solo championship dancers Under 11 and older select their choice of set dance, danced one at a time.
15. The Committee will ensure that no dancers from the same school dance on stage at the same time at the Oireachtas. This slight alteration in dance order would have to be approved by the Oireachtas Chair through the stage monitor. Dancers should be separated and dance as immediately as possible, for example, the next spot down.
16. Solo Competitor numbers will be handed out on the day(s) prior to the start of the competition. Lost numbers may be replaced for a \$20 charge.
17. **Split Protocol:** All competitions with 120 competitors or more entered in the Mid-America Oireachtas will be divided into two separate competitions with NO ADDITIONAL WORLD QUALIFIERS. A list of competitors entered in competitions with 120 dancers or more will be shared by the tabulation company with the Oireachtas Chairs. The Oireachtas Chairs will hand organize the splits based on the criteria outlined here for 2020 and beyond:

- a. To create splits of equal strength, entered dancers will be re-ranked from top to bottom by the previous year's Mid-America Oireachtas placement in split A. Likewise, entered dancers will be re-ranked from top to bottom by the previous year's Mid-America Oireachtas placement in split B.

In the case of a tied placement from the previous year's Oireachtas, dancers will be sorted by birth order and then ranked accordingly.

From the above, all odd ranked dancers from split A and even ranked dancers from split B will be placed on one side. Even ranked dancers from split A and odd ranked dancers from split B will be placed on the other side.

- b. Dancers who did not compete in the previous Mid-America Oireachtas will be organized by birth order and numbered, then split accordingly, odd and even. In



- the event of the same birth date, dancers sharing a birth date will be ordered alphabetically based on last name, then first.
- c. The current World Qualifier formula will be applied to the total number of dancers who competed in the combined splits and awarded accordingly.
  - d. These splits will then be confirmed by the Regional Director. The Oireachtas Chairs will return the split competition lists (A/B, even/odd) to the tabulation company, clarifying with the tabulation company that the re-ranking is not the order they are dancing in. The tabulation company will then randomize the competition, making certain schools are separate as needed.

### **18. World Qualifier Protocol**

- a. Split competitions - The following statement will be announced prior to the recall announcement of any competition that splits at the Oireachtas: The World Qualifier formula has been applied to the combined number of dancers in each split. *There will be \_\_\_\_\_ World Qualifiers for this side of the split based upon the number that danced in the entire age group. The WMH rule will be applied as usual in the final results.*
- b. Non split competitions - Qualifiers will be calculated and announced based on the number of dancers who actually dance, applying the current formula of CLRG.

