



January 1st. 2019

Grade Examinations Scheme:

The purpose of the Grade Examinations Scheme is to provide a structured framework within which dancers can progress towards an achievable goal. The syllabus has been designed to provide a strong foundation in Irish Dance by developing a candidate's physical skills, stamina, expression, musicality and an appreciation and knowledge of the traditional dances and culture. It provides a worthwhile sense of achievement for individuals whether they dance solely for health, recreation or competitive reasons or hope to pursue a career in Irish Dancing.

Grade examinations are unlike competitions in that each candidate is individually examined and receives a detailed written assessment of their performance and knowledge of the grade being attempted. They are open to both male and female candidates regardless of age and ability.

The scheme consists of an optional Preliminary Grade followed by a further 12 grades with each grade becoming increasingly more demanding on the candidate's skill, knowledge and ability. Each Grade must be passed and certificate awarded before a candidate may attempt the next level. A dancer who successfully completes all Grades will be awarded "The Diploma of the Irish Dancing Commission".

All 12 Grade Examinations must be completed to be eligible to apply for the TCRG Examination effective from January 1st 2018.

All candidates must produce previous reports before proceeding to higher grades. Reports must be presented at examinations.

Rules & Regulations

1. Only Basic Steps may be danced in the Preliminary grade and Grades 1, 2 & 3.
2. The number of bars of music to be danced to for all Reels, Single or Hop Jigs, Light Jigs, Slip Jigs, Heavy Jigs and Hornpipes is **40**.
3. St. Patrick's Day, Blackbird, Garden of Daisies, Job of Journeywork, King of the Fairies, Three Sea Captains, and Jockey to the Fair must be performed in a traditional style and manner.
4. The same set dance **must not** be performed in more than one of the Grades from 9 to 12 inclusive.

5. A dancer must take all grades in order, beginning with Grade 1 - the Preliminary grade is optional. However, a candidate may **only** attempt a maximum of 3 consecutive Grades at any one sitting.
6. Candidates must be able to adequately demonstrate practical and theoretical knowledge of all ceili dances as per “Ár Rincí Céilí ” as specified in the syllabus for Grades 5 -12 inclusive.
7. Dance costumes should not be worn.
8. **All candidates must produce previous reports before proceeding to higher grades. Reports must be presented at examinations.**
9. Grade 11 may only be attempted by candidates at least 16 years of age.
10. Grade 12 may only be attempted by candidates at least 17 years of age.
11. A special application form and certificate/diploma will apply for Grades 11 and 12.
12. All 12 Grade Examinations must be completed to be eligible to apply for the TCRG Examination effective from January 1st 2018.
13. Scrúdú Béil (Oral Irish Exam) for grades 1-4 in Ireland.
14. **Dancers taking the exams must be associated with a currently registered CLRG teacher.**

Grades and Required Dances <i>(Céilí Dances are underlined and in italics)</i>			
Grade / Grád	Rincí / Dances	Speed	
Prelim	Ríl Éasca nó Port Eadtrom Dúbalta Easy Reel or Light Jig	Easy Reel Light Jig	122-124 116
1	Bun Ríl agus Bun Port Dúbalta Easy Reel and Light Jig Scrúdú Gaeilge (Éire)	Easy Reel Light Jig Oral Irish (Ireland)	122-124 116
2	Bun Port Luascach & Bun Port Singil Easy Slip Jig and Easy Single Jig Scrúdú Gaeilge (Éire)	Basic Slip Jig Basic Single Jig Oral Irish (Ireland)	124 124
3	Tús Ríl agus Bun Port Trom Primary Reel and Basic Heavy Jig Scrúdú Béil (Éire)	Primary Reel Basic Heavy Jig Oral Irish (Ireland)	116-118 96
4	Tús Port Luascach agus Lá Féile Phádraig Primary Slip Jig and St. Patrick's Day (Traditional) Scrúdú Béil (Éire)	Primary Slip Jig St Patrick's Day Oral Irish (Ireland)	120 94
5	Ríl Cruaidh (Méan/ Primary/Ard) Advanced Reel (Intermediate/ Primary/Open) Bun Cornphíopa Basic (Traditional) Hornpipe agus <i>Ballaí Luimnín</i> and <i>Walls of Limerick</i>	Advanced Reel (Intermediate/Primary/Open) Basic Hornpipe <i>Walls of Limerick</i>	113 144
6	Port Luascach Cruaidh (Méan/ Primary/Ard) Advanced Slip Jig (Intermediate/Primary/Open) An Londubh Blackbird (Traditional) agus <i>Ionsaí na hInse</i> and <i>Siege of Ennis</i>	Advanced Slip Jig (Intermediate/ Primary/Open) The Blackbird <i>Siege of Ennis</i>	113 144

7	Port Trom Cruaidh Advanced Heavy Jig Gáirdíní na Nóiníní Garden of Daisies (Traditional) agus <u>An Ríl Ceathrair and Four Hand Reel</u>	Advanced Heavy Jig 73 Garden of Daisies 138 <u>Four Hand Reel</u>
8	Cornphíopa Cruaidh Advanced Hornpipe Greas Giúrnála Job of Journeywork (Traditional) agus <u>Pléaracha na Bandain and Humours of Bandon</u>	Advanced Hornpipe 113 Job of Journeywork 138 <u>Humours of Bandon</u>
9	Dhá rince Leithleach, ceann acu in am 6/8 agus an ceann eile in am 2/4 nó 4/4 (nach ríncí traidisiúnta iad) agus <u>Caip an Chúil Aird</u>	Two modern set dances, one in 6/8 time and the other in 2/4 or 4/4 time and the <u>High Caulead Cap</u>
10	Dhá rince Leithleach, ceann acu in am 6/8 agus an ceann eile in am 2/4 nó 4/4 (nach ríncí traidisiúnta iad) <u>(éagsúil ó iad i nGrád 9)</u> agus <u>an Port Ochtair</u> .	Two modern set dances, one in 6/8 time and the other in 2/4 or 4/4 time <u>(different from those in Grade 9)</u> and the <u>Eight Hand Jig</u>
11	Ríl Cruaidh, Port Luascadh Cruaidh, Port Trom Cruaidh. Rí na Siog/ King of the Fairies (Traditional) móide dhá rince leith-leacha nua a roghnóidh an scrúdaitheoir as liosta cúig rince a sholáthróidh an iarrthóir <u>(éagsúil ó iad i nGrád 9 & 10) agus An Cor Ochtair agus Port an Fhómhair</u> .	Advanced Reel, (113) Advanced Slip Jig,(113) Advanced Heavy Jig.(73) King of the Fairies 130 plus two modern set dances selected by the examiner from a list of 5 submitted by the candidate (different from those in Grades 9 & 10) and the <u>Eight-Hand Reel and Harvest Time Jig</u>
12	Port Eadtrom Dúbailte, Port Singil, Cornphíopa Cruaidh, Triúr Captaen Mara, /Three Sea Captains (Traditional) An Marcach Chuig an Aonach, /Jockey to the Fair (Traditional) móide dha rince leithleach nua a roghnóidh A n scrúdaitheoir as liosta cúig rince a soláthróidh an iarrthóir <u>(éagsúil ó iad i nGrádanna 9, 10& 11) agus Cor Muirghéis agus Cor Sé Dhuine Dhéag</u> .	Light Double Jig,(116) Single Jig,(124) Advanced Hornpipe,(113) Three Sea Captains (96) Jockey to the Fair (90) plus two modern set dances selected by the examiner from a list of five submitted by the candidate (different from those in Grades 9, 10 and 11) and the <u>Morris Reel</u> and the <u>Sixteen Hand Reel</u>

St Patrick's Day, Blackbird, Job of Journeywork Garden of Daisies, King of the Fairies, Three Sea Captains and Jockey to the Fair must be performed in a traditional manner.

40 bars of music must be danced to for all Reels, Single or Hop Jigs, Light Jigs, Slip Jigs, Heavy Jigs and Hornpipes.

Music Speeds as per CLRG Rules.