



GREGORY ACADEMY
OF IRISH DANCE

presents the 2026

Canberra Feis

Date: Saturday 9th May 2026

Adjudicator: Catherine Poulton ADCRG

Feis Registration Number: 8350/26

Venue: Canberra Rex Hotel

The Canberra Feis organising committee alongside the Gregory Academy of Irish Dance welcomes all local and interstate competitors and their families to the Canberra Feis.

Entries can be made [online](#) and enquiries can be submitted by emailing info@gregoryacademy.com.au

DATE: Saturday 9th May 2026

FEIS REGISTRATION NUMBER: 8350/26

TENTATIVE TIMETABLE

AM *All dancers aged 13 and under as of 1st January 2026*

PM *All dancers aged 14 and over as of 1st January 2026*

ADJUDICATOR

Catherine Poulton ADCRG

Victoria, Australia

VENUE

Canberra Rex Hotel

Address: 150 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon, ACT

Phone: +61 2 6248 5311

Email: reservations@canberrarexhotel.com.au

The venue for the Canberra Feis is the Great Room at the Canberra Rex Hotel.

A practice floor and area will be provided.

Dancers are requested to refrain from walking on tiles in their hard shoes.

The venue has food and beverage facilities available for the entire weekend. External food is not permitted to be consumed within the venue.

DIRECTIONS

Coming from Sydney

After you exit on to Federal Highway

Continue on to Northbourne Avenue

Canberra Rex Hotel is on your left, just after Ipima Street intersection

Coming from Melbourne

After you exit on to Barton Highway

Turn right at Northbourne Avenue

Canberra Rex Hotel is on your left, just after Ipima Street intersection

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is available at the venue, the Canberra Rex Hotel.

Bookings can be made online via this [link](#)

PREMIERSHIPS

GRADE	Please note you are permitted to enter more than one premiership
NOVICE	Reel (122) (48 BARS) OR Jig (116) (48 BARS) <i>**Same dance danced twice** Entries only permitted for dancers that have never competed these dances at a competition before</i>
BEGINNERS	Reel (122) (48 BARS) & Jig (116) (48 BARS) Reel
PRIMARY	REEL (116) & TREBLE JIG (32 BARS)
INTERMEDIATE	REEL (113) OR SLIPJIG & JIG (73) OR HORNPIPE (113)
OPEN	OWN CHOICE SET DANCE (INCLUDING TRADITIONAL SETS) & REEL OR SLIPJIG
	6 YEARS & UNDER MIXED – REEL (113, 116 OR 122), SINGLE JIG & LIGHT JIG
ADULT	BEGINNERS: REEL (124) & JIG (116) OR ADVANCED: REEL (113) OR SLIP JIG (113) & TREBLE JIG (73) OR HORNPIPE (113) OR TRADITIONAL SET

WARM UP DANCES

Max 2 warm up dances per grade for novice, beginners and primary per dancer				
LITTLE STARS	REEL (16 BARS) or JIG (16 BARS) Section for 6 & under dancers who have not competed before. Competitors will dance to the music for 16 bars.			
NOVICE	BEGINNERS REEL		BEGINNERS JIG	
BEGINNERS	REEL	JIG	SLIPJIG	SINGLE JIG
PRIMARY	REEL (116)	SLIPJIG	TREBLE JIG (32 BARS)	TRADITIONAL SET
Max 1 warm up dance per grade for elementary, intermediate, open and adults per dancer				
ELEMENTARY	JIG (73) Two steps		HORNPIPE (113) Two steps	
INTERMEDIATE	JIG (73) Two steps		HORNPIPE (113) Two steps	
OPEN	JIG (73) Two steps		HORNPIPE (113) Two steps	
ADULTS	BEGINNERS: REEL (124) OR JIG (116)		ADVANCED: JIG (73) OR HORNPIPE (113) Two steps	

LITTLE STARS

A special section for our upcoming stars who are 6 & under and who have not competed a full dance before (i.e. participated in Novice or Beginners). Following AIDA ACT's ruling dancers are permitted to dance in Little Stars/Dance to the Music for a maximum of 2 times. This is not applicable to dancers aged 4 and under.

Competitors will dance to the reel or jig for a maximum of **16 bars** and will be performed step down the line with assistance from teachers (as required). AIDA registration is not required to enter this section, and participants of this section are not permitted to enter in any other section.

FEES

Warm Up Dance

\$12.00 per warm up dance

Premiership

\$40.00 per premiership *OR*

\$35.00 per premiership if entering 2 or more grades of premierships

Facility Fee

\$20.00 per family, includes a copy of program

PAYMENT

Direct Deposit

Account Name: GREGORY

BSB: 484-799

Account Number: 351 074 601

Reference: Entrant's surname and initial, with CFEIS

ENTRIES

Entries may be capped to maintain the tentative timetable of the competition.

Online Entries – our preferred method of entry submission

Entries can be submitted by completing our [online form here](#) or emailing info@gregoryacademy.com.au

Please note online entries will only be accepted with receipt of payment.

ENTRY DUE DATE

Entries are to be received on **Wednesday 22nd April, 2026**, preferably submitted online by completing the [online form](#) or by emailing info@gregoryacademy.com.au

LATE ENTRIES

Late entries will be accepted until **Sunday 26th April, 2026**.

A \$20.00 fee applies to any entries sent during this period (**Thursday 23rd April 2026 – Sunday 26th April 2026 inclusive**).

No entries will be accepted after Sunday 26th April 2026.

RULES & REGULATIONS

The following rules should be read in light of the AIDA Mission statement, the objective of which is to encourage good sportsmanship in a healthy, positive and fair spirited environment. This objective should be upheld by ALL teachers, dancers, parents and spectators at all events.

The Canberra Feis is conducted under the Rules and Regulations of An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha and the Australian Irish Dancing Association Inc. ("AIDA Inc.").

LODGEMENT OF ENTRIES

1. For entries to be accepted teachers must note that all competitors:
 - a) must be pupils of teachers who at the date of entry are registered with An Coimisiún for the year 2025 - 2026;
 - b) all dancers who are resident in Australia are required to be registered with AIDA Inc for the year 2026
 - c) must not on the date(s) of their competitions(s) be ineligible to compete due to any rule and;
 - d) must have been formally entered and have had their entry fees paid in full in due time in accordance with these.
2. All dancers can submit their entry online.
3. Following lodgment of entries, an email confirming all entries submitted will be sent within 7 days of email receipt. If you do not receive a confirmation email within this period, please ensure you send a follow up email.
4. **Entries close on Wednesday 22nd of April, 2026.** Entries received after the due date up until **Sunday 26th April 2026** will be accepted and will be charged a late fee of **\$20.00 per competitor**. Entries cannot be accepted after 23:59 **Sunday 26th April 2026**
5. No refunds will be made for any entry money received.
6. The age of a competitor shall be taken as on 1st January 2026. Where a competitor's birth date falls on 1st January they shall, for the purpose of the Canberra Feis be regarded as under the age attained on that day.

GENERAL RULES

1. Competitors must:
 - a) Obey all instructions of the Organising Committee otherwise permission to dance will be withdrawn;
 - b) Dance in numerical order as published in the official program;
 - c) The organising committee has the right to commence a section not more than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled commencement time;
 - d) With the exception of the first section of the day, dancers must be in costume and ready to dance not less than 30 minutes prior to the time scheduled for their section;
 - e) Present to the marshalling area when called to do so by Stage Personnel. Sections will only be called for ONCE.
2. Should a dancer lose a heel or a complete shoe or have an open lace, they 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.
3. Should a dancer fall, slip or bump into another dancer on stage, whether in solos or in teams, the adjudicator MUST ring the bell thereby stopping the performance of all dancers on stage. Dancers so affected will be permitted to re-dance and will be marked then at the discretion of each individual adjudicator.

4. 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.
5. If a dancer falls during the last 8 bars of any performance, then they will only be required to dance the last 16 bars of that dance again at a time convenient to both the dancers and the stage stewards.
6. A competitor must not walk off the stage during a performance unless instructed to do so by an adjudicator.
7. A dancer who dismisses himself or herself from the stage without the permission of an adjudicator will not be marked for that particular dance.
8. 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.
9. Respect for fellow competitors on stage is always a requirement. 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.
10. The decision of the adjudicator is final.
11. The use of artificial arm aids is not permitted.
12. The light rounds from 13 Years upwards will be danced 2 at a time and the heavy rounds will be danced 2 at a time from 15 Years upwards. All other ages will dance 3 at a time.
13. Decisions of the Organising Committee as to the interpretation of these rules, and in relation to all other matters pertaining to the Canberra Feis, shall be final.
14. Lead Round - Heavy Dances: In all heavy dances, i.e. Jig and Hornpipe, for competitions for Tus, Mean and Ard Grads, the Lead Round must be danced on both right and left foot.
15. In graded sections, competitors are required to perform the correct standard of work as set out in the AIDA Inc. Competition Rules and Regulations. Competitors will be disqualified by adjudicators if incorrect standard of work is performed.
16. No block, over toe, en point movement, stationary or moving is allowed to be performed in any age group up to and including the 11 years.
17. Prizes will be awarded according to the number of competitors who compete in a section.
18. To receive prizes or awards, competitors must wear their full dance costumes, including shoes on stage.
19. In accordance with our obligations under the Protection policy, dancers are reminded to wear appropriate clothing at all times whilst at the Feis. This means for that shorts and/or a skirt must be always worn over leotards.
20. Make-Up, Wigs and Fake Tanning will not be permitted for any dancers in Novice, Bun or Tus for 11 years and under.
21. Facial make up is not permitted for any dancer under the age of 10 years.

22. Dancers competing in Bun & Tus Grad in 11 years & under may only wear a Team Costume or girls may wear a skirt and top with no sleeveless tops permitted. Solo costumes and wigs are not permitted in Bun Grad for dancers 11 years and under . Boys may wear their team costume, shorts/trousers/kilt

GRADE	AGE	COSTUME	MAKE UP & LEG TAN	WIG
NOVICE and BEGINNER (BUN)	11 yrs & under	Traditional class costumes or appropriate attire* but NO Solo costume may be worn	No	No
	12 yrs & over	Solo Costume allowed	Yes	Yes
PRIMARY (TUS)	11 yrs & under	Traditional class costumes or appropriate attire* but NO Solo costume may be worn	No	No
	12 yrs & over	Solo Costume allowed	Yes	Yes
INTERMEDIATE (MEAN) OPEN (ARD)	9 yrs & under	Solo Costume allowed	No facial make-up but leg tanner allowed	Yes
	10 yrs & over	Solo Costume allowed	Yes	Yes

Appropriate attire* refers to long/short-sleeved blouses/shirts & skirts/trousers, polo tops & skirts/ trousers, body suits & skirts or tunics that conform to the regular costume length rule. Low-cut tops and short tight skirts are not permitted.

23. Length of costume must adhere to principles of modesty and enable dancers to safely execute their movements and steps. Adjudicators who determine a costume to be too short or to lack modesty may ask a competitor to wear black tights (of a denier not less than 70 percent) in order to continue in the competition. For competitions adjudicated by a panel of more than one adjudicator, all adjudicators on the panel must agree to asking the dancer to wear tights. **Effective March 1st 2022**
24. Appropriate undergarments covering the midriff must be worn. Undergarments must provide full coverage as per the illustration attached. (See Addendum A). Dancers wearing undergarments that do not cover the areas of the body as in the illustrated example will be asked to put on black tights of a denier of not less than 70%. This is monitored by the adjudicator. For competitions adjudicated by a panel of more than one adjudicator all adjudicator on the panel must agree to ask the dancer to put on tights
25. Female Adult Dancers participating in Adult competitions entitled “Adult Competitions” both solos and teams are required to wear tights of a denier not less than 70.
26. No liability is accepted by the organising committee, Gregory Academy of Irish Dance or the venue (Rex Braddon PTY LTD) 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 the organising committee, its servants or agents. The lodgment of an entry will be deemed to be an acceptance of this provision.
27. Lodgment of an entry shall be taken to signify that the Teacher, Parent and Pupils concerned accept ALL these rules in full and agree to strictly abide by them.

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 Canberra Feis may appoint volunteers to photograph and provide live commentary of the Canberra Feis. This may require the nominated volunteers to take photographs and videos of competitors, competitions and presentations. Such photographs and videos may be subsequently used for the marketing and promotional purposes of the Canberra Feis and Gregory Academy of Irish Dance including the publication of such photographs on the related website and social media outlets.

Should any dancer or dancer's parent or guardian wish to be excluded from any of these photographs, please contact any member of the Organising Committee with relevant details.

PHOTOGRAPY CONDITIONS FOR NOVICE AND BEGINNER DANCERS

Following recent changes made to the photography rule as set down by An Coimisiún le Rinci Gaelacha, Ireland, families will now be given the opportunity to film their children dancing in **NOVICE AND BEGINNER SECTIONS ONLY** under the guidelines set out below.

Who Only persons known to the Dancer may be photographers. There will only be one photographer permitted per dancer per dance.

What Video and still Photo images only. NO FLASH Photography permitted. Only those permitted to take images of the Dancer/s for whom the Photographer has been granted permission. Photography of any other Dancer is NOT Permitted. If the same dancer who competes in Novice/Beginners also competes in a higher Grade event, photography is not allowed in the higher Grade event under any circumstances.

Where Any Novice/Beginner events of any AIDA Feis. Photographers only permitted to take photographic images from the designated area/s assigned by the Feis organisers. Prize presentation photography is permitted and is not limited to the designated photography area.

When During the time of the actual performance on stage of the particular dancer only. Any other photography at the Feis e.g. outside the Feis venue or during warm up, is by the express permission of the Dancer and / or their guardians only.
