

Newry Musical Feis

BALLET & THEATRE DANCE SECTION

Competition Rules

These must be read in conjunction with the

GENERAL COMPETITION BYELAWS of Newry Musical Feis

1. ENTRIES - entries will **only** be accepted **online**. Visit www.newrymusicalfeis.com

2. AGE LIMITS - In every class the age of the competitor must be calculated as on 1st January 2025. Please ensure competitors are entered in their correct class. The age and date of birth of all competitors must be provided.

3. NOVICE SECTION – Competitors in this section who gain 83 marks and above will subsequently move to the Open Classes for future festivals. A novice who gains 83 marks in one section will not be restricted from entering other sections in a novice festival.

4. SONGS FROM THE SHOWS, VOCAL AND DANCE ENTRIES

All performances using music from any show are subject to copyright law. Copyright permission is required, and the festival committee accepts these entries on the basis that the appropriate copyright permission has been sought. Performers or teachers with queries on how to obtain copyright permission for performance items should contact Festivals House.

The Newry Musical Feis does not accept liability for the infringements of copyright, recording or performing rights arising out of an entrant's accompaniment or performance. It contributes to a group licence to cover payment of fees for the use of recorded music at its events. Teachers and choreographers using music created from commercial recordings are advised that they are themselves responsible for seeking permission to re-record from the Recording Companies concerned.

5. TIME LIMITS - Solo Dances up to and including 8 years must not exceed 1.5 minutes, except Character dances, in which case 2 minutes are allowed. Solo Dances 9 years and upwards must not exceed 2 minutes. Duets and Trios must not exceed 3 minutes. Groups must not exceed 5 minutes. Song and Dance Classes are allowed extra time – see section in syllabus for details. Up to 10 seconds extra will be permitted only for a musical phrase to finish.

Dances will be timed from the first movement to the last movement. Performances over the time limit will be penalised by deducting 1 mark for every 5 seconds over. Checks will be in operation throughout the festival. Hip-Hop Crews must not exceed 3 minutes. In all Duet and Trio Sections, competitors may not dance more than two times.

6. AWARDS - Awards, Festival Cups, Medals and Certificates are awarded at the discretion of the Adjudicator. Teachers and student teachers are not eligible for overall awards. Recipients of cups and trophies will be liable for any damage.

7. PROPS / SPECIAL LIGHTING - Stage props, kept to a minimum are permitted. Please avoid items such as glitter, hats or other objects being thrown across the stage or into the audience in acknowledgement of health and safety regulations. Special lighting and special effects are not permitted.

The setting up and striking time for props or scenery for a solo should not exceed 20 seconds or 2 minutes for a group. In order to comply with Theatre Fire Regulations, props which must be fire retardant should be brought on the day they are to be used and removed from the building immediately after the class for which they were required.

8. RUNNING ORDER - Unless a valid reason is given, a competitor or group not ready to dance in the order of the programme may be disqualified.

9. BACKSTAGE - Due to fire and safety regulations only competitors in the relevant class and their teachers will be permitted backstage except in the classes for 6 years and under.

10. AERIALS - A decision has been made in conjunction with other Federation Festival Secretaries in the Northern Ireland region to **ban aerials** being performed in dance routines. (See Syllabus)

11. MODIFICATIONS - The Section Secretary may combine Sections or Classes when entries are small, divide a class when entries are large, and has the power to make any other regulations or interpret or qualify any of these rules as occasion may arise.