

# Fleadhanna Ceoil

Clár na gComórtas 2017

Traditional Irish Music, Song,  
Dance and Storytelling  
with Comhrá Gaeilge

*Amhránaíocht* Dance  
Music *Scéalaíocht*  
*Rince* Ceol  
Comhrá Gaeilge  
Song Story

**Mission Statement:** Fleadhanna Ceoil shall be held to propagate, consolidate and perpetuate our Irish traditional music, both vocal and instrumental, dance as well as An Teanga Gaeilge, by presenting it in a manner worthy of its dignity, and in accordance with the Aims and Objectives of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. It is not intended that competitions should be merely a means by which a competitor may gain a prize or defeat a rival, but rather a medium in which 'these competitors may pace each other on the road to excellence'.

All competitions shall be traditional in character and in conformity with the Bunreacht of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann.

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### **Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann**

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## CLÁR NA gCOMÓRTAS 2017

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All Fleadhanna are subject to Rialacha Fleadhanna Ceoil as published by the Ardchomhairle of Comhaltas. All entrants are understood to have consulted Rialacha Fleadhanna Ceoil (RFC).

## ENTRY PROCEDURE

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- i)** Entries, in Gaelic if possible, shall be submitted to the CCÉ Branch Rúnaí / Branch Secretary not later than six weeks prior to the first day of the Fleadh competitions. The CCÉ Rúnaí / Branch Secretary shall submit these entries to the County Secretary / Rúnaí Chontae not later than five weeks prior to the first day of the Fleadh competitions. Late entries shall not be accepted after the closing date.
- ii)** The fee structure is outlined on the Fleadh Entry Form.  

NOTE: In duet and trio competitions, the appropriate competition entry fee for both CCÉ member and for non-member shall apply.
- iii)** Fleadh Cheoil competitions are open to non-members of CCÉ, entries to be sent with the appropriate fee directly to the County Secretary six weeks prior to the Fleadh Cheoil.
- iv)** Competitors may not enter in the name of their teachers or in the name of any other organisation other than a Comhaltas Branch unit. Non-members of CCÉ should enter their names and home address.
- v)** Competitors, who are members of CCÉ, who qualify from County / Regional Fleadhanna to Provincial Fleadhanna and from Provincial Fleadhanna to All-Ireland Fleadhanna, do not pay an entry fee to the Fleadh for which they have qualified but do pay venue admission charge at the Fleadh in question. Fleadh entry fees do not cover venue admission charges.
- vi)** Winners of O-18(D) Competitions, winners of Mixed Set O-35 (47L) and Pipe Bands any Age (30E) at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in the previous year are ineligible to compete in the same competition, in the County / Regional or Provincial Fleadh, having as current All-Ireland Champions in these competitions, right-of-entry to the successive Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann. This does not apply to winners of Newly Composed Songs, Amhráin Nuacheaptha and Newly Composed Tunes.

## RESIDENCY

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In the case of all solo competitions, duet and trio competitions, eligible competitors are confined to residents of the County or Region in which the Fleadh is being held. In the case of Céilí Dancing, Set Dancing, Céilí Bands, Marching Bands and Grúpaí Ceoil, it is recommended that as far as possible, these also be residents of the county or region. Competitors shall be deemed to be residents of the County or Region only if ordinarily resident in that County / Region for a period of not less than six months in the previous twelve prior to the date of the qualifying Fleadh. In the case of competitions for Newly Composed Ballads in Irish, Newly Composed Ballads in English, and Newly Composed Tunes, the composer must be a resident of the county or region.

## AGE GROUPS

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The following age groups apply to Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.

- (A) U-12: a person whose 12th or earlier birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (B) 12-15: a person whose 13th, 14th or 15th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (C) 15-18: a person whose 16th, 17th or 18th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (D) 0-18: a person whose 19th or greater birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (E) Any Age.
- (F) U-18: a person whose 18th or earlier birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (G) U-9: a person whose 9th or earlier birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (H) 9-11: a person whose 10th or 11th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (I) 11-13: a person whose 12th or 13th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.

- (J) 13-15: a person whose 14th or 15th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (K) 15-18: a person whose 16th, 17th or 18th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (L) Age Group L applies to Competition 47L only – Mixed Set 0-35. All members of the set must have their 36th or greater birthday on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.

NOTE: In the event of a dispute, a certificate of age must be produced within 7 days of the competition, if requested by the County / Regional / Provincial / C.E.C. Rúnaí. Failure to do so will entail automatic disqualification.

- i) In all Solo competitions, a competitor must compete in his / her own age group only.
- ii) In Duets, Trios, Grúpaí Ceoil, Céilí Bands and Marching Bands competitions, a competitor may compete only once in any age group of the aforementioned competitions. A competitor may also compete in a higher age group, provided s/he changes instrument, but in Duets and Trios a minimum of one competitor must be in the higher age category.
- iii) In Céilí Dancing a maximum of two dancers in the case of 8-Hand Céilí Dance and a maximum of one dancer in the case of 4 Hand Céilí Dance are allowed to dance in the next higher age group only, regardless of whether they have danced in their own age group or not. i.e. two dancers for 8-Hand and one dancer for 4-Hand U-12 may dance 12-15 but cannot dance 15-18. The same applies for 12-15, 15-18 and over 18.
- iv) In Set Dancing a maximum of two dancers in the case of full sets and a maximum of one dancer in the case of half sets are allowed to dance in the next higher age group only, regardless of whether they have danced in their own age group or not, i.e. Two dancers for full set dancing teams U-12 may dance 12-15 but cannot dance 15-18. The same applies for 12-15, 15-18 and O-18.

## TUNE CATEGORIES AS PER RIALACHA FLEADHANNA CEOL

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All competitions shall be traditional in character and in conformity with the Bunreacht of CCÉ.

Air (slow or lively), Reel, Polka, Hornpipe, March, Jig (double, single, slip), Slide, Set Dance, Mazurka, Planxty, Fling, Barn Dance, Schottische, Clan March, Highlands, Germans and dance tunes played for céilí dances as approved by Ardchomhairle.

NOTE: Competitors shall play each tune twice only. In the case of a tune which is played singly, a competitor may play such a tune three times (AB AB AB). Competitors who play extra tunes, e.g. two jigs or two reels in lieu of one, shall be adjudicated on the first tune of the selection only and shall be penalized by the deduction of two marks for each extra tune attempted.

## RECALL

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No ties are permitted for 1st, 2nd or 3rd place. An adjudicator may recall a competitor to perform again. In the event of a recall for solo, duet, or trio, one new piece must be performed. Recall for Céilí Bands requirements: Age Groups A and B: one new piece, C and D two new reels in succession. In Amhránaíocht and Singing, all age groups, the recalled singer must sing one new song. Recalled competitors must present themselves within 30 minutes. Failure to report will forfeit advantage.

## COMPETITIONS 1-17: COMÓRTAIS AONARACHA – SOLO INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC COMPETITIONS

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Electronic or amplified instruments are not acceptable in any competition, except electronic piano in Céilí Band competitions where a piano is not available.

With the exception of the competitors playing the mouth organ, changing of instruments while competing in any competition except Grupaí Ceoil, is strictly forbidden.

In all Rogha Gléas / Miscellaneous, Tionlacan / Accompaniment competitions, the instrument being played shall be listed on the official Fleadh entry form. This competitor / instrument combination must be maintained at all subsequent Fleadhanna in that year and listed on Fleadh programmes.

A maximum of two musicians be permitted to play for competitors in the accompaniment, bodhrán and drumming competitions.

**1** Fídil – Fiddle A, B, C, D.

**2** Bosca Ceoil – Button Accordion A, B, C, D.

This is confined to TWO Row Button Accordion only.

**3** Feadóg Mhór – Flute A, B, C, D (See Rialacha Fleadhanna Ceoil). Concert Flute in D or Eb. Instruments pitched in E Flat or below, to include traditional simple system wooden flutes, also Boehm system, Radcliffe system etc. Flutes pitched higher than E Flat must compete in the Rogha Gléas competition.

**4** Feadóg – Whistle A, B, C, D.

A whistle can be defined as an instrument with a fipple and not more than six finger holes. The pitch of the instrument or the material from which it is made is irrelevant.

**5** Cairdín Piano – Piano Accordion A, B, C, D.

**6** Consairtín – Concertina A, B, C, D.

**7** Píb Uilleann – Uilleann Pipes A, B, C, D.

**8** Cruit – Irish Harp A, B, C, D.

**9** Orgán Béil – Mouth Organ A, B, C, D.

A diatonic instrument in a fixed key, as distinct from a harmonica. A harmonica is a chromatic instrument, incorporating the use of a mechanism or lever and, even if played as a mouth organ, is not acceptable and must be played in the Rogha Gléas competition.

**10** Bainseo – Banjo A, B, C, D.

**11** Mandolin – Mandolin A, B, C, D.

**12** Pianó – Piano A, B, C, D.

**13** Mileoidean – Melodeon A, B, C, D.

The single-row accordion is not a Melodeon and is not acceptable in the Melodeon competition.



**14 Rogha Gléas – Miscellaneous A, B, C, D.** Melody playing instruments for which there is no specifically designated competition.

This category caters for all instruments, on which the melody can be and is played, not catered for in the competitions 1-13. Electronic, mains or battery-powered instruments are not accepted. In competitions for Rogha Gléas, a competitor may compete on one instrument only. In all Miscellaneous competitions the instrument, and tuning if relevant, being played shall be listed on the Official Fleadh Entry Form. This competitor / instrument combination must be maintained at all subsequent Fleadhanna in that year. In all Fleadh programmes the competitor listings for Miscellaneous Competitions shall include the competitors name and instrument.

The following instruments are acceptable in Miscellaneous Competitions: Viola (body and bow), Single Row Accordion, 3 Row Accordion, 3 or 5 row Continental Accordion, Harmonica, Saxophone, Clarinet, Pipes other than Uilleann Pipes, Bouzouki 6 and 8 string), Guitar (6 string), Tenor Guitar (4 string), Recorder, 5 string Banjo, fife, piccolo, hammer dulcimer and cello (body and bow).

Any instrument not listed above needs to be classified as acceptable by the Ardchomhairle.

**15 Tionlacan – Accompaniment A, B, C, D.**

Tionlacan – Accompaniment is restricted to piano, harp, guitar, bouzouki, mandola, mando-cello etc. Competitors in this competition use accompaniment as opposed to melody. The accompanist in the accompaniment competition should not be penalised for starting first, i.e. setting the tempo. The aim of the competition is to adjudicate on the accompaniment only.

In all Accompaniment competitions the instrument being played shall be listed on the Official Fleadh Entry Form. This competitor / instrument combination must be maintained at all subsequent Fleadhanna in that year. In all Fleadh Programmes the competitor listings for Accompaniment Competitions shall include the competitor's name and instrument. A maximum of two musicians be permitted to play for accompaniment competitions.

**16** Bodhrán A, B, C, D.

A maximum of two musicians are permitted to play for competitors in the Bodhrán competition.

**17** Drumaí Céilí – Céilí Band Drums A, B, C, D.

A maximum of two musicians are permitted to play for competitors in the céilí drumming competition.

**Grades A and B:** ONE tune from each of TWO Tune Categories listed above.

**Grade C:** ONE tune from each of THREE Tune Categories listed above.

**Grade D:** ONE tune from each of FOUR Tune Categories listed above, BUT MUST include a slow air in the case of 1D (Fiddle), 3D (Concert Flute), 4D (Whistle), and 7D (Uilleann Pipes).

## COMÓRTAIS 18-22: FOINN MHALLA / SLOW AIRS

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**18** Foinn Mhalla, Fídl – Fiddle Slow Airs A, B, C, D.

**19** Foinn Mhalla, Píob Uilleann – Uilleann Pipes Slow Airs A, B, C, D.

**20** Foinn Mhalla, Feadóg Mhór – Flute Slow Airs A, B, C, D.

**21** Foinn Mhalla, Feadóg – Whistle Slow Airs A, B, C, D.

**22** Foinn Mhalla, Cruit – Harp Slow Airs A, B, C, D.

Each Competitor shall submit a list of airs to the adjudicator and play as outlined in Age Groups A-D:

**Age Group A:** ONE air from list of TWO (adjudicator's choice).

**Age Group B:** TWO airs from a list of FOUR (adjudicator selects the first, competitor the second).

**Age Group C:** TWO airs from list of SIX (adjudicator selects the first, competitor the second).

**Age Group D:** TWO airs from list of EIGHT (adjudicator selects both airs).

Only slow airs in the traditional idiom will be accepted.

No penalty shall be levied on a competitor in the Slow Airs Competition, if he / she plays the air through, only once.

## COMÓRTAIS 23-24: CEOL BEIRTE AGUS CEOL TRÍR – DUETS AND TRIOS

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**23** Ceol Beirte – Duets A, B, C, D.

**24** Ceol Trír – Trios A, B, C, D.

**Age Groups A and B:** ONE tune from each of TWO tune categories listed above.

**Age Group C:** ONE tune from each of THREE tune categories listed above.

**Age Group D:** ONE tune from each of FOUR tune categories listed above.

A Duet shall comprise two melody instruments. A senior duet (Age Group D) shall comprise two different melody instruments. Duet members must at all times play the melody of the tune.

A Trio shall comprise three melody instruments. A senior trio (Age Group D) shall comprise at least two different melody instruments. Trio members must at all times play the melody.

In Duets and Trios, full names and addresses and Comhaltas Branches where appropriate, of all participants must be listed on the entry forms. The instrument being played by each competitor in the ensemble shall be clearly listed with the competitor's name on the Official Fleadh Entry Form and subsequently in Fleadh Programmes. This competitor / instrument combination must be maintained at all subsequent Fleadhanna in that year; having qualified, no substitution of instrument or person allowed.

## COMÓRTAS 25: BANNAÍ CÉILÍ – CÉILÍ BANDS

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Minimum 5 members, maximum 10.

**Age Groups A and B:** ONE tune from each of TWO Tune Categories listed above.

**Age Group C:** TWO reels in succession plus ONE Tune from each of TWO other Tune Categories.

**Age Group D:** TWO Reels in succession, TWO Jigs in succession and a maximum of TWO tunes played in succession, from each of TWO other Tune Categories.

## COMÓRTAS 26: GRÚPAÍ CEoil

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Grúpaí Ceoil shall consist of a minimum of 4 and maximum of 20 members. Each group shall perform its own choice of music for a minimum of 6 minutes and a maximum of 8 minutes, but with a limit of 10 minutes on stage. In competitions for Grúpaí Ceoil, whistlers and lilters may be included, as well as players of bodhrán and bones, but piano and drums are not permitted.

Special attention should be paid to selection of tunes and efforts should be made to play tunes other than jigs, reels and hornpipes, e.g. slow airs, set dances, marches, flings, mazurkas, polkas, slides, schottisches, planxties, barn dances, clan marches, harp music and waltzes etc. to provide as much variety as possible. Slow airs need not be played by a solo performer. The programme presented by all Grúpaí Ceoil must be from within the Irish traditional idiom. All Grúpaí Ceoil are required, as part of their programme, to perform at least one dance tune, played at least once in unison by all members of the group who play melodic instruments.

The group shall perform its own choice of music for a period of 6 to 8 minutes. 2 marks shall be deducted for each minute or part thereof, in excess of 8 minutes or less than 6 minutes as determined by the adjudicator. Attention should also be given to instrumental arrangements and presentation of the music. A list of music pieces in the order to be played, e.g. slip jig, march, etc. and a list of instruments shall be submitted by each group leader to the competition clerk prior to the performance.

## COMÓRTAIS 27-30: BANNAÍ MÁIRSEÁLA / MARCHING BANDS

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- 27** Bannaí Máirseála, Cairdín – Accordion (Marching) Bands F, D.
- 28** Bannaí Máirseála, Feadóg Mhór – Flute (Marching) Bands F, D.
- 29** Bannaí Máirseála, Rogha Gléas – Miscellaneous (Marching) Bands F, D.
- 30** Bannaí Máirseála, Píob – Pipe (Marching) Bands E.

Each band must play a minimum of two marches, plus a selection from the list of tunes classifications / tune categories above. Performance time shall be from 10 Minutes (minimum) to 12 Minutes (maximum). Two marks shall be deducted for each minute or part thereof, under 10 or over 12 minutes. Bands shall compete in an outdoor arena of 40 x 20 metres.

## COMÓRTAIS 31-34: AMHRÁNAÍOCHT AND SINGING

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- 31** Amhránaíocht ar an Sean-Nós (Gaeilge, Mná) – Irish Singing (Ladies) A, B, C, D.
- 32** Amhránaíocht ar an Sean-Nós (Gaeilge, Fir) – Irish Singing (Men) A, B, C, D.
- 33** English Singing (Ladies) – Amhráin Bhéarla (Mná) A, B, C, D.
- 34** English Singing (Men) – Amhráin Bhéarla (Fir) A, B, C, D.

**Age Group A:** TWO Songs of the competitor's choice – ceann mall (slow) and ceann mear (lively).

**Age Groups B and C:** Songs from a list of FOUR submitted (TWO slow and TWO lively), adjudicator selects first song and the second (contrasting) song is selected by the competitor.

**Age Group D:** TWO Songs from a list of SIX submitted (FOUR slow and TWO lively), adjudicator selects first song and the second (contrasting) song is selected by the competitor. Lists must clearly denote the lively songs.

## COMÓRTAIS 35-36: FEADAÍL AGUS PORTAIREACHT / WHISTLING AND LILTING

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- 35** Feadaíl – Whistling A, B, C, D.
- 36** Portaireacht – Lilting A, B, C, D.

**Age Groups A and B:** ONE tune from each of TWO Tune Categories listed above.

**Age Group C:** ONE tune from each of THREE Tune Categories listed above.

**Age Group D:** ONE tune from each of FOUR Tune Categories listed above.

## COMÓRTAIS 37-39: AMHRÁIN AGUS CEOL NUACHEAPTHA / NEWLY COMPOSED SONGS (GAELIGE & ENGLISH) AND TUNES

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- 37** Amhráin Nuacheaptha, Gaeilge – Newly Composed Songs in Irish E.
- 38** Newly Composed Songs in English – Béarla E.

### 39 Píosaí Ceoil Nuacheaptha – Newly Composed Tunes E.

The tune or song must not have been previously entered in any Fleadh Cheoil competition, nor have been previously published or commercially recorded. The composer(s) must be resident of the county or region in which the song or tune is entered. The newly composed tune must be traditional in character and must adhere to the tune categories specified for Fleadh Cheoil competitions. A written copy of the tune, in staff notation only, must be submitted with the competition entry not less than one calendar month prior to the first day of the County or Regional Fleadh. Only this original version of the tune, as submitted with entry, is acceptable in performance. i.e. no edits or changes are accepted should the tune or song subsequently qualify for Provincial or All-Ireland Fleadhanna. This original version must be performed at subsequent competition(s) should the tune qualify. The newly composed tune shall be played two times through. The first time through, only the original version of the tune, as submitted with entry, is acceptable in performance; however, the second time through, variations are permitted.

The newly composed song must have a lively tempo or slow tempo as previously defined. The tune or song must be performed by a solo musician, or singer without accompaniment. The composer(s) may designate a musician or singer to perform the tune or song, and this performer may reside outside the county or region of the original entry. The tune or song will be judged solely on the merits of the composition and not on the standard of the performance. The name and full address of the composer(s) shall be written on the sheet containing the tune notation / song lyrics. A copy of the original song lyrics / tune will be forwarded together with the fleadh results to the appropriate Provincial Fleadh and to Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann if the tune qualifies.

**(Note:** It is understood that the entries for Competitions 37, 38 and 39 will comply with the general entry procedure, Rule 4, Section [1]; entries, i nGaeilge if possible, shall be submitted to the CCÉ Branch Rúnaí / Branch Secretary not later than six weeks prior to the first day of the Fleadh competitions. Entries for Competitions 37 and 38 must be accompanied by a copy of the original song words / lyrics and entries for Competition 39 must be accompanied by a written copy of the tune in staff notation only.)

**Age Group E:** Any age.

## COMÓRTAIS RINCE / DANCING COMPETITIONS

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Please refer to the specific entry forms and Rialacha Fleadhanna Ceoil.

### COMÓRTAIS 40-43: RINCE CÉILÍ / CÉILÍ DANCING

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**40** 8-Hand Céilí Dancing, Ladies A, B, C, D.

**41** 8-Hand Céilí Dancing, Mixed A, B, C, D.

**42** 4-Hand Céilí Dancing, Ladies A, B, C, D.

**43** 4-Hand Céilí Dancing, Mixed A, B, C, D.

#### i) **Entries:**

CCÉ members: i nGaeilge if possible, Names of 8 team members for 8-Hand Céilí and 4 team members for 4-Hand Céilí, together with appropriate entry fee, shall be submitted to the CCÉ Branch Rúnaí / Branch Secretary not later than six weeks prior to the first day of the Fleadh competitions. The CCÉ Rúnaí / Branch Secretary shall submit these entries to the County Secretary / Rúnaí Chontae not later than five weeks prior to the first day of the Fleadh competitions.

Non-members of CCÉ: i nGaeilge if possible, names of 8 team members together with the appropriate entry fees, shall be submitted directly to the County Secretary six weeks prior to the Fleadh Cheoil.

Late entries shall not be accepted after the closing date.

#### ii) **Age Categories:**

(A) Under 12: a person whose 12th or earlier birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.

(B) 12-15: a person whose 13th, 14th or 15th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.

(C) 15-18: a person whose 16th, 17th or 18th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.

(D) Over 18: a person whose 19th or greater birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.

NOTE: In the event of a dispute, a certificate of age must be produced within 7 days of the competition, if requested by the County / Regional / Provincial / C.E.C. Rúnaí. Failure to do so will entail automatic disqualification.

- iii) Mixed 8-Hand Céilí Dance Teams in 12-15, 15-18 and Senior must consist of four male and four female dancers and two male and two female dancers in mixed 4-Hand Céilí Dance Teams.
- iv) U-12 Mixed 8-Hand Céilí Dance Teams should, as far as possible, consist of 4 male and 4 female, but should contain a minimum of three male in the case of 8-Hand Céilí and a minimum of one male in the case of U-12 Mixed 4-Hand Céilí.
- v) A maximum of two dancers in the case of 8-Hand Céilí Dance and a maximum of one dancer in the case of 4-Hand Céilí Dance are allowed to dance in the next higher age group only, regardless of whether they have danced in their own age group or not. i.e. two dancers for 8-Hand and one dancer for 4-Hand under 12 may dance 12-15 but cannot dance 15-18. The same applies for 12-15, 15-18 and senior.
- vi) No competitor may dance more than once in any one competition i.e. any dancer may not compete with two different teams in the same competition or in the same competition in more than one county.
- vii) Substitution: A maximum of two dancers in the case of 8-Hand Céilí dance and a maximum of one dancer in the case of 4-Hand Céilí can be substituted at the first round and at each subsequent round of the competition. This also applies to All Ireland Senior Winners who qualify automatically for Fleadh na hÉireann in the following year. In the event of a recall, no further substitution is allowed.
- viii) Competitors may only perform 4-Hand or 8-Hand Céilí Dances from *Ár Rincí Céilí* (Revision Sept. 2015) and subsequent updates in the Céilí dancing handbook issued by An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha.
- ix) Recall: The following applies: Fé 12, 12-15, 15-18 and Senior. It is essential to dance a body and one new figure (not previously



danced in the competition by the team). It is essential that the same dancers will dance in the event of a recall and no substitutions are allowed for a recall. Recalled competitors must present themselves within 30 minutes. Failure to report will forfeit advantage.

- x) Two 4-hand dances will not meet the requirements of 8-Hand Competition.
- xi) The adjudicators will signify that they have seen enough of the dance by ringing a bell. Competitors are advised to have the selected dance rehearsed in full.
- xii) Simple and appropriate dress code: no school of dancing costumes allowed; no dancing wigs allowed; no tips or built-up shoes allowed.
- xiii) Marching on and off stage to music accompaniment is not permitted.
- xiv) The adjudicators' decision is final.
- xv) The managers / mentors / teachers of céilí dancing teams register in writing the name of dance and dancers, as well as age details and the parts being danced on the day, prior to the competition.
- xvi) Managers, mentors, teachers etc. are not allowed to coach teams during performance.
- xvii) Managers, mentors, teachers are allowed to communicate with the musicians prior to performance on stage.
- xviii) Winners of over 18 (D) Céilí dancing: Ladies and Mixed competitions at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in the previous year are ineligible to compete in the same competition at County / Regional or Provincial Fleadh.
- xix) The organising committee is responsible for providing the musical accompaniment. All teams must dance to the music provided. Musical accompaniment is confined to acoustic instruments only – no electronic devices such as rhythm / drum machines or such like devices are allowed. Keyboard in piano

mode only may be used. Musicians must be competent to play for all Céilí dances and be familiar with the tunes required.

- xx) Dancing to pre-recorded music tracks is not allowed for céilí dancing competitions. The same musical accompaniment must be used for all competitors in any one competition in céilí competitions.
- xxi) Only amplification / P.A. system(s) supplied by the organising coiste is allowed.
- xxii) Failure to comply with the above shall lead to disqualification.

## COMÓRTAIS 44-47: RINCE SEIT / SET DANCING

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- 44** Full Set, Ladies A, B, C, D.
- 45** Full Set, Mixed A, B, C, D.
- 46** Half Set, Mixed F, D.
- 47** Full Set, Mixed, Over-35 Age Category L.

### i) Entries:

CCÉ members: i nGaeilge if possible, Entry Form showing names of 8 team members for full sets and 4 team members for Half Sets, together with the appropriate entry fees, shall be submitted to the CCÉ Branch Rúnaí / Branch Secretary not later than six weeks prior to the first day of the Fleadh competitions. The CCÉ Rúnaí / Branch Secretary shall submit these entries to the County Secretary / Rúnaí Chontae not later than five weeks prior to the first day of the Fleadh competitions. Late entries shall not be accepted after the closing date.

Non-members of CCÉ: Entry Form showing 8 team members for full sets and 4 team members for Half Sets, together with the appropriate entry fees, shall be submitted directly to the County Secretary six weeks prior to the Fleadh Ceoil.

### ii) Age Categories:

- (A) Under 12: a person whose 12th or earlier birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.

- (B) 12-15: a person whose 13th, 14th or 15th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (C) 15-18: a person whose 16th, 17th or 18th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (D) Over 18: a person whose 19th or greater birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (F) Under 18: a person whose 18th or earlier birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (L) Age Group L applies to Competition 47L only – Mixed Set over 35.

NOTE: In the event of a dispute, a certificate of age must be produced within 7 days of the competition, if requested by the County / Regional / Provincial / C.E.C. Rúnaí. Failure to do so will entail automatic disqualification.

- iii) Mixed Full Set Dancing Teams in 12-15, 15-18 and Senior must consist of four male and four female dancers and two male and two female dancers in Mixed Half set Dancing Teams.
- iv) U-12 Mixed Full Set Dancing Teams should, as far as possible, consist of four male and four female, but should contain a minimum of three male in the case of full sets.
- v) A maximum of two dancers in the case of full sets and a maximum of one dancer in the case of half sets are allowed to dance in the next higher age group only, regardless of whether they have danced in their own age group or not, i.e. two dancers for full set dancing teams under 12 may dance 12-15 but cannot dance 15-18, the same applies for 12-15, 15-18 and Senior. In Mixed Set O-35s – all dancers must be over 35 years.
- vi) No competitor may dance more than once in any one competition i.e. any dancer may not compete with two different teams in the same competition or in the same competition in more than one county.
- vii) Substitution: A maximum of two dancers in the case of full set and a maximum of one dancer in the case of Half Set can be substituted at the first round and at each subsequent round of the competition. This also applies to All Ireland Senior and O-35 Winners who qualify automatically for Fleadh na hÉireann in the following year. In the event of a recall, no further substitution is allowed.

- viii)** Parts: Competitors in the senior set dancing and over 35 years competitions are required to dance three parts of a traditional set or half set. Two of the parts will be of their own choice, and one part nominated by the adjudicator at the time of each performance. Competitors in junior sets and half sets will be required to dance two parts of a traditional set.
- ix)** Adjudication: Where adjudicators are seated apart, they shall mark their adjudication sheets separately and the final result compiled using, using the present points system (11, 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1).

In the event of a tie of points the following shall apply: The call steward / clerk will refer to the placing already given by the relevant adjudicators, and take the overall majority of the relevant highest placing already allocated to the tied teams, so as to calculate a final and clear result and to minimize the number of teams having to perform again. (The majority decision shall always apply: in the case of three and five adjudicators, a 2:1 and at least a 3:2 majority respectively will apply).

In the event of a further tie, teams will be required to dance as per recall at (x) below.

- x)** Recall: Fé 12, 12-15 and 15-18: One new part (not previously danced in the competition by the team).

Senior and Over 35: One new part (not previously danced in the competition by the team). When a team has selected a set with only three parts they must dance one new part from a different set.

It is essential that the same dancers will dance in the event of a recall and no substitutions are allowed for a recall. Recalled competitors must present themselves within 30 minutes. Failure to report will forfeit advantage.

- xi)** While competitors in the full set competition may also dance in the half set competition and vice-versa, only recognised traditional half sets will be accepted e.g. Wexford Half Set. East Galway Half Set etc. Adapting or converting a recognised full set to a half set is not permitted.
- xii)** The managers / mentors / teachers of Set dancing teams register in writing the name of dance and dancers, as well as age details and parts of sets being danced on the day, prior to the competition.

- xiii)** All dancing must cease at the end of the recognised part.  
Simple and appropriate dress code, no school of dancing costumes are allowed. No dancing wigs are allowed, no tips or built up shoes are allowed.
- xiv)** Marching on and off the stage to music accompaniment is not permitted.
- xv)** The adjudicators' decision is final.
- xvi)** Managers, mentors, teachers are not allowed to coach teams during the performance.
- xvii)** Managers, mentors, teachers are allowed to communicate with the musicians prior to performance on stage.
- xviii)** Winners of over 18 (D) set dancing: Ladies and Mixed competitions, half-sets and O-35s at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in the previous year are ineligible to compete in the same competition at County / Regional or Provincial Fleadh.
- xix)** Teams must provide their own live music. Musical accompaniment is confined to acoustic instruments only No electronic devices such as rhythm / drum machines or such like devices are allowed. Keyboard in piano mode only may be used. Only amplification / P.A. system(s) supplied by the organising coiste is allowed.
- xx)** Dancing to pre-recorded music tracks is not allowed for set dancing.
- xxi)** Ten days prior to the competition adjudicators shall be provided with the names of the sets that may be danced.
- xxii)** Failure to comply with the above shall lead to disqualification.

## COMÓRTAS 48: RINCE AR AN SEAN-NÓS

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This competition is intended for Traditional Style Sean-Nós dancing.

Competitions are open to non-members as well as to members of Comhaltas.

### (i) Age Categories:

- (A) Under 12: a person whose 12th or earlier birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.

- (B) 12-15: a person whose 13th, 14th or 15th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (C) 15-18: a person whose 16th, 17th or 18th birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.
- (D) Over 18: a person whose 19th or greater birthday occurs on any date in the year of Fleadhanna Ceoil competitions.

NOTE: In the event of a dispute, a certificate of age must be produced within 7 days of the competition, if requested by the County / Regional / Provincial / C.E.C. Rúnaí. Failure to do so will entail automatic disqualification.

- ii) One dance tempo of competitor's own choice to be performed from reel, jig, hornpipe (this must not exceed three minutes).
- iii) No tips or built up shoes allowed.
- iv) No props of any kind allowed.
- v) The organising Committee is responsible for providing the musical accompaniment. All dancers must dance to the music provided. No electronic devices such as rhythm / drum machines or such like devices are allowed. Keyboard in piano mode only may be used.
- vi) Dancing to pre-recorded music tracks is not allowed for sean-nós dancing competitions.
- vii) The same musical accompaniment must be used for all competitors in any one competition in sean-nós dance.
- viii) Only amplification / P.A. system(s) supplied by the organising coiste is allowed.
- x) The adjudicators' decision is final.
- xi) Failure to comply with the above shall lead to disqualification.
- xii) Winners of Over 18 (Grade d) Sean-Nós Dancing Competition at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in the previous year are ineligible to compete in the same competition, in the County / Regional or Provincial Fleadh.

## COMÓRTAS 49: COMHRÁ GAEILGE

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**Age Groups: G = Under-9; H = 9-11; I = 11-13; J = 13-15; K = 15-18**

- i) The focus of the competition is conversational Irish.
- ii) Five prize winners qualify from County (Regional) to Provincial Fleadhanna and five prize winners qualify from Provincial to the All-Ireland Fleadh in each age group. At All-Ireland Level 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes are awarded. A percentage mark must be shown on each competitor's adjudication sheet.
- iii) Competition: The competitors are assessed under the following categories:
- Accuracy and Fluency; 55
- Information; 25
- Poem or Story; 20 (Singing a song is not acceptable as a substitute for the poem / story).
- Note: The 'Information' Section is adjudicated as follows:
- Competitors U-9 will be expected to have knowledge of Comhaltas.
- Competitors U-11 and U-13 will be expected to have knowledge of Comhaltas and the Gaelic Athletic Association.
- Competitors U-15 and U-18 will be expected to have knowledge of Comhaltas, The Gaelic Athletic Association, Conradh na Gaeilge, Glór na nGael, RnaG, TG4 and Údarás na Gaeltachta.
- Basic information is sufficient.
- In the case of Comhaltas emphasis will be on local Comhaltas activity.
- iv) Duration: The duration of time allocated to each competitor is as follows: inclusive of the poem or story extract, which is no more than 2 mins.

**Age Group G:** U-9: 6-7 Minutes

**Age Group H:** 9-11: 6-7 Minutes

**Age Group I:** 11-13: 9-10 Minutes

**Age Group J:** 13-15: 9-10 Minutes

**Age Group K:** 15-18; 11-12 Minutes

## COMÓRTAIS 50-51: STORYTELLING AND SCÉALAÍOCHT

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See Guidelines.

### GENERAL RULES (ABRIDGED)

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- Competitors must perform in person, unless in Newly Composed Song, Amhráin Nuacheaptha and Newly Composed Tunes, at the competition venue and as far as possible, compete in the order in which they are called by the Call Steward. A competitor who fails to present him / herself when called for a specific competition, and who has not notified the Call Steward on duty, of a just cause for his / her absence, shall be disqualified from the competition.
- The Call Steward shall terminate a competition after the completion of the performance by the last available competitor, unless the Call Steward has been previously notified that the missing competitor is detained while competing in another competition, in which case the competition shall, at the discretion of the Call Steward, be kept open for a maximum of fifteen minutes. Once the Call Steward has closed the competition, it cannot be reopened.
- No communication with the adjudicator is permissible on the day of the competition at the Fleadh venue, except through the stewards.
- Prompting and / or coaching of competitors during the course of any competition is prohibited.
- Adjudicators may withhold the awarding of a first prize, should competitors fail to reach a meritorious standard.
- Winners of First and Second prizes shall qualify from County / Regional Fleadhanna to Provincial Fleadhanna in the same year together with a maximum of one other competitor in each competition, if the adjudicator is satisfied that the competitors have reached a sufficiently high standard in the appropriate grade. Winners of First and Second prizes shall qualify from Provincial Fleadhanna to Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in the same year.



- Ten days after the Fleadh, a copy of the adjudication sheet, in respect of his / her own entry will be made available to a competitor on the payment of €1 per sheet plus postage.
- Disputes involving interpretation of Fleadh Rules shall be resolved by reference to 'Rialacha Fleadhanna Ceoil'.

## AMENDMENTS / NOTES

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