

ALBAIN SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING

www.albain.de

Brandenburg Championship
5. Éire Open Féis

*Open Irish Dancing Competition
in Cottbus*

Sa, 20th October 2012

Venue: to be announced, Cottbus (Brandenburg)

Application: Online via web site tanz.albain.de

Albain School of Irish Dancing

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Time: 10:00-21:00 (including Céilí)

Contests are qualifying for performance levels!

Special contests!

Special Harmony Trophy (synchronous duo)

Special Contrast Trophy (light-heavy-dancing duo)

Song contests

Baking contests (Irish soda bread)

Irish Dancing Net (IDN)

www.irish-dancing.net

Detailed information concerning programme, syllabus, rules and fees on the web sites.

FEES

Admission fee	2.00 €	per dancer
Entry fee	5.00 €	per guest
Standard contests	4.00 €	per solo dance
Figure/Set/Show contests	3.00 €	per dancer per dance
Trophy contests	5.00 €	per trophy dance
Solo Championships	12.00 €	per dancer
Figure Championships	3.00 €	per dancer
Song contests	3.00 €	per song
Baking contests	1.00 €	per bread

The total fee for standard, figure, set, and special contests is limited to 34.00 € per dancer. Trophy and show contests as well as championships are not included.

SPECIAL CONTESTS

Brandenburg Championship (Solo)

- the championships according to the syllabus decide the Brandenburg Champions
- the championships are open and not limited to dancers from Brandenburg

Brandenburg Championship (Figure)

- the championships according to the syllabus decide the Brandenburg Champions
- the championships are open and not limited to dancers from Brandenburg

Synchronous duo (Special Harmony Trophy)

- 2 dancers dance synchronously side by side
- any light dance, any difficulty
- 3 steps = 48 bars, absolutely identical for both of the dancers
- main criterion: synchronism of performance
- no levels, open to all

Light-heavy dancing duo (Special Contrast Trophy)

- 1 dancer in light shoes, 1 dancer in heavy shoes, alternating or interacting
- any Irish solo rhythm, any difficulty
- 3 steps = 48 bars
- no levels, open to all

Song contests

- participants sing an Irish song of any kind
- categories:

Solo = a capella

Song = with self-accompaniment

Team = several participants

Backing contests

- Irish soda bread according to traditional recipe
- categories:

Classical = just flour, soda, salt, buttermilk

Innovative = further ingredients

SCHEDULE

Open to changes on the day of the feis. Please bear in mind that this schedule is for orientation only. We try hard, but we cannot guarantee to keep the times given.

10:00	Welcome
10:00-11:15	Light dancing U17, all levels
11:15-12:00	Heavy dancing U17, all levels
12:00-12:45	Figure dancing U17
12:45-13:00	Song contests, all levels
13:00-13:10	Baking contests, all levels
13:10-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:00	Light dancing O17, all levels
15:00-16:00	Heavy dancing O17, all levels
16:00-16:30	Figure dancing O17
16:30-17:00	Solo championships
18:00	Opening céilí
18:00-18:20	Trophy
18:20-18:50	Figure championships
18:50-19:10	Show dancing
21:00	End of céilí

Please mind: Winners of all dancing contests above Under 13 and above Beginner Level are expected to dance their winning dances at the céilí in order to advertise Irish dancing!

RULES OF THE FEIS

The feis is registered with the Irish Dancing Net (IDN) and follows its rule system.

§ 1 General

- (1) The instructions of the organiser and their representatives are to be followed.
- (2) No smoking in the dressing area as well as in the dancing hall.
- (3) Photography and video recording is free and can be used freely. However, they stay copyrighted property of the organiser and must be provided to the organiser on request for free use free of charge. Participants and visitors grant the unlimited right to the organiser to use photographs and video recordings of the event where they are pictured just as they like. Usage of flash during contests beginning or in progress is strictly forbidden.
Attention! Usage of flash during a contest beginning or in progress is fined 20 € without prior warning!
- (4) It is not allowed to give instructions to dancers while they are competing.
- (5) The arrangement of measures in case of violation of these rules is solely to the responsibility of the organiser.
- (6) Participation in a contest is at one's own risk. The organiser cannot be made responsible for physical or material damage. The Participants themselves are responsible for their insurance cover.
- (7) Participants and guests are liable to the organiser for damage caused by them. Parents and minders are held liable for their children.
- (8) The participants themselves are responsible for the observance of the copyright of third parties for choreographies, costumes and music used by them.
- (9) The organiser has the right to operatively vary rules in favour of the participants.

§ 2 Participation

- (1) The Feis is open to all dancers independent of organisation or school membership.
- (2) The age group is determined by age as of January 1st of the current year.
- (3) The dancers themselves are responsible to arrive at a contest in time. Published schedules are not binding.
- (4) After a contest has been closed it cannot be opened again for late dancers.
- (5) Dancers must wear clothing appropriate to a traditional Irish dancing competition. Celtic design should be preferred. Adjudicators have the right to deduct points for grossly inappropriate clothing.
- (6) Dancers must wear traditional Irish dancing footwear. Adjudicators have the right to exclude dancers without appropriate footwear from the contest.
- (7) Jewellery must not disturb the overall impression of the dance. Adjudicators have the right to demand to stop wearing grossly disturbing jewellery as a prerequisite for participation in a contest.
- (8) It is advised to best avoid artificial hair pieces and make-up, except when necessary for performance.
- (9) Dancers must be in costume including shoes when receiving awards.

§ 3 Solo dancing

- (1) All dancers start in those performance levels they are qualified for. Performance levels are Basic Level - Bun Ghrád, Primary Level - Tús Ghrád, Main Level - Meán Ghrád, Open Level - Ard Ghrád.

- (2) The participating dancers will stand in a line on stage. Two at a time will come forward to dance. During the last 8 bars the next two dancers get ready and start immediately afterwards without break.
- (3) The trophy contests follow the same rule. However, it can be ordered that one to four dancers dance at a time, and that as finish a common step is to be danced by all dancers simultaneously.
- (4) After finishing their dance the dancers bow briefly and leave the stage to the side without obstructing the next dancers. They go back to their place in the line and wait until the adjudicator indicated the end of the contest. Before leaving all dancers bow first to the adjudicator, then to the musician.
- (5) In all performance levels light reel, light jig, hop jig and slip jig as well as treble reel, treble jig, hornpipe and sling as well as solo set can be danced as standard contests.
- (6) In all performance levels in standard contests 32 bars per dance must be dances, except for the solo sets where a full step and a half set is to be danced.
- (7) In all performance levels only steps not exceeding the respective difficulty level may be danced.
- (8) There are two combined trophy contests without division into age groups and performance levels.
- (9) In open level there are championships. These consist of three rounds. In round 1 48 bars of a light dance of own choice, in round 2 48 bars of a heavy dance of own choice and in round 3 a full step and a full set of an open solo set must be danced.
- (10) For the four performance levels the following solo sets will be danced as standard contests:
 - Basic: traditional St. Patrick's Day (1st step/set) or The Three Sea Captains (1st step/set),
 - Primary: any traditional solo set (any traditional step/set combination),
 - Main: open solo set in jig rhythm,
 - Open: open solo set in hornpipe rhythm.
- (11) For the four performance levels the following speeds for step dances are used (variations in live-played music may occur):
 - Basic: light reel, hop jig and slip jig: 128 bpm; light jig: 120 bpm; treble reel: 124 bpm; treble jig: 93 bpm; hornpipe and sling: 140 bpm,
 - Primary: light reel, hop jig and slip jig: 122 bpm; light jig: 114 bpm; treble reel: 120 bpm; treble jig: 85 bpm; hornpipe and sling: 128 bpm,
 - Main: light jig: 109 bpm; treble jig: 77 bpm; all others 116 bpm,
 - Open: light jig: 106 bpm; treble jig: 74 bpm; all others 113 bpm.
- (12) For solo set dances the following speeds are used (variations in live-played music may occur):
 - Traditionals: jig rhythm: 93 bpm; hornpipe rhythm: 140 bpm,
 - Reel rhythm: free choice from 102 bpm to 113 bpm,
 - Jig rhythm: free choice from 67 bpm to 74 bpm,
 - Hornpipe rhythm: free choice from 102 bpm to 113 bpm,
 - Slip jig rhythm: free choice from 102 bpm to 113 bpm.
- (13) Toe stands are not allowed before an age of 12 years.

§ 4 Group dancing

- (1) In group dancing contests can be held in traditional figure dancing, open figure dancing, traditional set dancing, open set dancing und show dancing.

- (2) In group dancing dancers are allowed to take part with several groups in the same contest. The number of dancers within a group, who take part in a certain contest with this group only, must reach at least 50%.
- (3) In traditional figure dancing contests all accepted traditional figure dances may be danced.
- (4) Traditional figure dancing contests can be held in the following categories:
 - up to 32 bars
 - more than 32 and up to 56 bars
 - more than 56 and up to 128 bars
 - more than 128 bars
- (5) Participants in traditional figure dancing contests must be able to dance the complete dance. The adjudicator can break off longer dances as required.
- (6) In open figure dancing contests traditional basic material must be used. The difficulty level of the combinations used, however, is free of choice. As rhythms all rhythms used in traditional figure dances are possible. Own music can be used.
- (7) Open figure dancing contests can be held in the following categories:
 - 2-hand dances
 - 3-hand dances
 - 4-hand dances
 - Chorus dances
- (8) In open figure dancing contests for 2-hand, 3-hand and 4-hand dances 48 bars will be danced. Chorus dances with 5 to 20 dancers will be danced 1 minute minimum up to 3 minutes maximum.
- (9) In traditional set dancing contests all accepted historical and traditional social sets may be danced.
- (10) In traditional set dancing contests two sections of the dancers' choice will be danced. The adjudicator can break off longer dances as required.
- (11) In open set dancing contests traditional basic material must be used. The difficulty level of the combinations used, however, is free of choice. As rhythms all rhythms used in traditional social sets are possible. Own music can be used.
- (12) In open set dancing contests two sections of the dancers' choice will be danced. The adjudicator can break off longer dances as required.
- (13) In show dancing contests any material and any rhythm can be used. However, the dance must be recognisable as Irish dancing. Own music will be used.
- (14) Show dance contests can be held in the following categories:
 - Free choreography
 - Dance drama
- (15) Show dances with 1 to 20 dancers will be danced 2 minutes minimum up to 5 minutes maximum.
- (16) In figure dancing championship contests may be held. These consist of the results of all regular figure dancing contests, which are used as rounds. Only the best single team of a championship team within a contest is taken into account. If a championship team does not participate in one of the rounds, its place number is taken by 1 higher as if it came in last.
- (17) In figure dance championships dancers are not allowed to take part with several teams.
- (18) For group dances the following speeds are used (variations in live-played music may occur):
 - Figure dances: hornpipes: variable from 180 bpm to 240 bpm; other rhythms: variable from 116 bpm to 123 bpm

- Social sets: comfortable dance speed of the dancers' choice
- Show dances: free choice

PERFORMANCE LEVELS

§ 1 General

- (1) Division into difficulty and performance levels is for solo dances only. Group dances are not divided into performance levels.
- (2) The classification of the difficulty levels of solo steps is oriented towards technical, structural and rhythmical criteria. Is at least one of these three criteria met without meeting a criterion of a higher level the step is classified as belonging to the according level. Another criterion is the dynamics of floor movements, which does not, however, qualify alone for a difficulty level. A step is the better within its difficulty level, the more criteria are met.

§ 2 Specification

- (1) For **basic dances** there are the following criteria:
 - Technique: As motions only the following may be contained: passes, singles (steps, stamps), taps (taps, flops, beats, digs, brushes) and simple jumps (hops, leaps, assembles, sissonnes) with kick, cut, cast, raise, lift and bend as preparation for the jump or in partial combinations with singles and taps or simultaneously with raise, lift, cast and cut as rush, push, dash, wash, lash, snap, toss, swash and slash, furthermore switches and points as single jumps within a partial combination with or without a preparation of the jump, as well as single heel drums, toe-to-heel-hits, shuffles and, for heavy dancing only, trebles. Motions must not be done in toe stand.
 - Dynamics: As locomotions only the following may be contained: simple straight movements in DS-US as well as SL-SR direction and circular movements as well as slow step turns, though orientation towards DS is the rule.
 - Structure: The combinations may consist of simple regular compositions of partial combinations only, though in light dances steps and in heavy dances additionally brushes and shuffles should dominate. Repetition of combinations or at least partial combinations within a step is the rule.
 - Rhythm: The motions generally follow the intermediate rhythm and in treble jig and hornpipe the basic rhythm respectively. The only exceptions are motions like single drums and treble as well as combinations like grind in the light jig consisting of several single moves, as well as filling motions in all types of jig technically imperatively requiring basic rhythm and in the hornpipe subrhythm respectively.
- (2) For **primary dances** there are the following criteria:
 - Technique: As motions the following may be contained additionally: rocks, drops, clicks, hits, drags, springs, yanks, whisks, flacks, flicks, switch catches, front slices, turns up to 90° (pivot, pirouette, spiral), simple and binary twists with the exception of shake and stir, slow twizzles, single drums and, for heavy dancing only, slow double drums. Jumps may occur in combinations as double jumps as well, just as switch-point, also as switch-back, because here for technical reasons the step backwards is more a leap. Motions must not be done in toe stand.
 - Dynamics: As locomotions the following may be contained additionally: diagonal straight movements as well as fast step turns, though orientation towards DS is preferred.
 - Structure: The combinations consist of simple regular compositions of partial combinations with less steps, brushes and shuffles as well as occasionally of more complexly built combinations. Repetitions of combinations or at least partial combinations within a step are used only occasional.
 - Rhythm: The motions follow mainly the intermediate rhythm in the light dances and up to the half the basic rhythm in treble reel and sling and up to the half the subrhythm in treble jig and hornpipe respectively.
- (3) For **main dances** there are the following criteria:

- Technique: As motions the following may be contained additionally: swizzles, quivers, stirs, shakes, swirls, wraps, butterflies, dragonflies, lightning bolts, fans, rear slices, bird jumps, pincers, pincer switches, any turns, ternary twists (twizzle, crosskey) as well as all allowed jumps with simultaneous heel catches and cuts and, for heavy dancing only, riffs, scuffles, clicks in out and fast double drums. Jumps may occur in combinations as triple and multiple jumps as well. Single steps only may be done in toe stand.
 - Dynamics: Any locomotions may be used causing several changes of orientation.
 - Structure: Instead of simple regular compositions of partial combinations the combinations mostly consist of more complexly built combinations. Repetitions of combinations or at least partial combinations within a step are scarcely used.
 - Rhythm: The motions change at choice between intermediate rhythm and basic rhythm and in treble jig and hornpipe between basic rhythm and subrhythm respectively. In treble reel and sling the basic rhythm and in treble jig and hornpipe the subrhythm respectively dominates, though there may be further occasional rhythm doubling.
- (4) For **open dances** there are the following criteria:
- Technique: The technical minimum criteria correspond to those for main dances. However, also any other motion may be used, especially toe steps, toe stamps, glides, bells, kung fu jumps, flies, crane flies, hoverflies, bird hops, bell slices, double slices, scissors, flea hops, flea jumps, bicycle hops, bicycle jumps, bunny hops, bunny jumps as well as all allowed jumps with simultaneous heel catches and cuts and, for heavy dancing only, rallies and triple drums. All motions may be done in toe stand.
 - Dynamics: Any locomotions may be used covering the whole stage area.
 - Structure: The structural minimum criteria correspond to those for main dances. However, also any other structure covering several bars and levelling bar limits may be used.
 - Rhythm: The rhythmical minimum criteria correspond to those for main dances. However, also more rhythm doubling may be used.

§ 3 Qualification

- (1) The qualification to participate in a contest in a certain performance level is obtained in a qualifying standard contest or in a graduation exam.
- (2) A standard contest in a dance can only be qualifying if a minimum of five starters took part.
- (3) The qualification is not effective before the next dance competition, i.e. not for contests within the same dancing competition.
- (4) For standard contests in a dance there are the following rules of qualification:
 - All dancers, which have not yet qualified in this dance for a higher level, start in basic level.
 - Dancers, which belong to the best 20% (rounded) in a basic level contest, qualify in this dance for primary level.
 - Dancers, which belong to the best 15% (rounded) in a primary level contest, qualify in this dance for main level.
 - Dancers, which belong to the best 10% (rounded) in a main level contest, qualify in this dance for open level.
- (5) The qualification in a dance is only valid, if in addition to a sufficient placement the respective adjudicator acknowledges the dancing performance of the candidates explicitly as qualifying.
- (6) For performance levels obtained in competitions of other organisations the following conversion table is to be used:

Organisation	Basic Level	Primary Level	Main Level	Open Level
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<i>CLRG</i>	Beginner	Primary	Intermediate	Open
<i>IDTANA</i>	Beginner, Advanced Beginner	Novice	Prizewinner	Open
<i>WIDA</i>	Beginner	Primary	Intermediate	Open
<i>CRDM</i>	A	B	NPW	Open
<i>IDG</i>	Beginner	Primary	Intermediate	Open
<i>CRN</i>	Beginner, Preparatory	Middle	Principal	Championship
<i>AAIDT</i>	Beginner, Advanced Beginner	Novice	Prizewinner	Open

Championship performance levels are not converted. Performance levels of all other organisations concerned with traditional Irish dancing will be converted by the secretariat of IDN on request.

- (7) A passed graduation exam is accepted as qualification for the dances in the performance levels included therein.
- (8) Graduation exams of IDN only are accepted as qualifying. Graduation exams of other organisations are not qualifying.
- (9) Trophy and championship contests in solo dancing are not qualifying.
- (10) For the participation in the championships in solo dancing there are the following rules of qualification:
 - The championships are open and not limited to dancers from Brandenburg.
 - Dancers, which are qualified in at least one light dance as well as one heavy dance for open level, are entitled to start at the championships.
 - If less than three dancers participate, which are qualified in at least one light dance as well as one heavy dance for open level, the championships will be opened for dancers, which are qualified in at least one light dance as well as one heavy dance for main level.
- (11) For participation at the championships in figure dancing no qualification is necessary.

SYLLABUS

without song and baking contests

BASIC	PRIMARY	MAIN	OPEN
	<i>age groups according to need</i>		
Light Reel	Light Reel	Light Reel	Light Reel
Light Jig	Light Jig	Light Jig	Light Jig
Hop Jig	Hop Jig	Hop Jig	Hop Jig
Slip Jig	Slip Jig	Slip Jig	Slip Jig
Treble Reel	Treble Reel	Treble Reel	Treble Reel
Treble Jig	Treble Jig	Treble Jig	Treble Jig
Hornpipe	Hornpipe	Hornpipe	Hornpipe
Sling	Sling	Sling	Sling
Set Dance	Set Dance	Set Dance	Set Dance

Championships

SPECIAL HARMONY TROPHY (Trophy 1)	SPECIAL CONTRAST TROPHY (Trophy 2)
<i>any age</i>	<i>any age</i>
<i>any level</i>	<i>any level</i>
Duo Light Dancing	Duo Light & Heavy Dancing
48 bars	48 bars
synchronous	interacting

FIGURE DANCING	SOCIAL SET DANCING	SHOW DANCING
<i>age groups according to need</i>	<i>any age</i>	<i>any age</i>
2-Hand	Open Set	Free Choreography
3-Hand		
4-Hand		
Chorus		
Traditional ≤ 32 bars (Céilí 1)	Traditional Set	Dance Drama
Traditional 40-56 bars (Céilí 2)		
Traditional 64-128 bars (Céilí 3)		
Traditional >128 bars (Céilí 4)		

Championships