

What is a FEIS? and other info about this event...

This annual event is our way of introducing new dancers and families to the world of competitive Irish dance. We combine both competitive and performance aspects of our school into one fun day of showing off! In addition to “competing” (everyone wins a medal), our upper level classes will present a performance piece, including several featuring our most accomplished students. The main purpose of the day is to display what all of our dancers, including the littlest, have accomplished this year!

We expect that ALL Pre-Beginner, Beginner, Advanced Beginner & Novice dancers participate in the competitions at the Class Feis.

The Feis Syllabus (at right) is set up to mimic those of other local feiseanna, and you should make an effort to follow the guidelines here as a way of practicing how to enter a real feis. If you’re interested in more competing, syllabi for local feiseanna are available at the studio.

What is a Feis?

A “feis” (fesh) is Irish for “festival”. (Feiseanna is plural for feis.) A feis is a local competition featuring dance events, and sometimes competitions for music, crafts and baked goods. Competing is a central part of traditional Irish dance, going back centuries in Ireland. If this is your first FEIS, welcome to the craziness! “Feis-ing” can be a fun, exciting activity for dancers and families.

Levels of Competing

Dancers typically start competing at the Beginner level, though many feiseanna also offer Pre-Beginner (or First Feis) competitions for the youngest children. A dancer may stay in a beginner category for only 12 months, and then must move up to the next category. Specific requirements must be met for the dancer to move up through the advanced levels: Novice, Prizewinner, Preliminary Championships and finally Open Championships. Most dancers spend 1-2 years in Novice through Preliminary Championships, which gets to be very competitive! Our most competitive dancers attend 10 or more feiseanna a year, plus other regional and local championships, which dancers must qualify for separately. The highest honor is competing at the World Championships, which are the Olympics of Irish dance. This competition is held annually during Easter week and features elite Irish dancers from all over the world. This year SIX Dunleavy Shaffer dancers are competing at the Worlds in Glasgow, Scotland!

General Feis Guidelines

- Arrive early for your competition. While feiseanna may often run behind, if a dancer is not present when his or her competition begins, he or she may not compete.
- Please be kind and courteous to all other dancers and their families at all times. At a feis, you represent our school and our reputation, and we expect good sportsmanship under every circumstance.
- Never approach an adjudicator for any reason. Stage monitors are available if their assistance is required.
- Use of flash and/or digital or video cameras is strictly prohibited at a “regular” feis (but is fine for today’s class feis—snap away!)

If you are unsure of your dancer’s level, enter for your class level and we will adjust as needed. Agegroups are based on your dancer’s age as of January 1, 2010. If they were 5 as of 1/1/10, they dance Under 6 during 2010.

PRE-BEGINNER: dancers registered in PreBeginner classes or Beginners that know only 1 step

Agegroup	Birth Year	REEL	LIGHT JIG
UNDER 4	2006	1R	1J
UNDER 5	2005	2R	2J
UNDER 6	2004	3R	3J

BEGINNER: dancers who know 2 steps in Reel OR Light Jig (do not have to do both)

Agegroup	Birth Year	REEL	LIGHT JIG	SLIP JIG
UNDER 5/6	2004 & 2005	4R	4J	4SJ
UNDER 7	2003	5R	5J	5SJ
UNDER 8/9	2002 or before	6R	6J	6SJ

ADVANCED BEGINNER: dancers who started prior to Sept 2009 and know Reel, Light Jig & Slip Jig

Agegroup	Birth Year	REEL	LIGHT JIG	SLIP JIG	HORNPIPE	TREBLE JIG
UNDER 6/7	2003 & 2004	7R	7LJ	7SJ	7HP	7TJ
UNDER 8	2002	8R	8LJ	8SJ	8HP	8TJ
UNDER 9/10	2001 & 2000	9R	9LJ	9SJ	9HP	9TJ
UNDER 11	1999 or before	10R	10LJ	10SJ	10HP	10TJ

NOVICE: dancers who have won a 1st, 2nd or 3rd in Adv Beginner

Agegroup	Birth Year	REEL	SLIP JIG	TREBLE JIG	HORNPIPE	TRADITIONAL SET
UNDER 11	2003 or before	11R	11SJ	11TJ	11HP	11TS

FOUR HAND REEL SPECIAL

Open to any team Adv Beginner & Up. Dancers may only compete on 1 team per competition and 2 teams total.	4-hand Under 9	4-hand Under 12	4-hand Under 15	4-hand 15 & Over
	12	13	14	15

COMPETITION ENTRY FEES:

\$5 Per Event, Per Dancer (ie \$5 for reel, \$5 for light jig, etc)

To enter your child in the feis, review the competition numbers and enter your child appropriately using the form on the back of this flyer. Every child in PreBeginner THRU Novice will get an award! **We expect ALL of our Pre-Beginners thru Novice to enter!** See Suzanne & Theresa if you have any questions. PLEASE SUBMIT THE ATTACHED ENTRY FORM (see reverse). Forms should be placed in the FEIS ENTRY box at the studio or mailed to Suzanne.

ENTRIES DUE (postmarked or received in studio) by February 27, 2010. Deposit entry forms in the BLUE SQUARE CLASS FEIS ENTRIES box on the desk at the studio. \$60 Family Maximum. Competitor Numbers will be available at the door on the day of the feis. Please make checks payable to Dunleavy Shaffer School of Irish dance and place in the FEIS envelope at class, or mail to Dunleavy Shaffer, 263 Washington St #7, Norwell MA 02061. Admission Tickets will be sold separately in advance and at the door.

Suzanne Dunleavy McDonough, Theresa Shaffer Wilkinson and Kingston Intermediate School School, Kingston MA, are not responsible for property loss or personal injury.

TENTATIVE STAGE SCHEDULE

NOTE Dancers should arrive by 12:00pm*
Doors open at 11:30

Feis Begins PROMPTLY 1:00pm

With Prelude at 12:45: "What NOT to do at a Feis"

Advanced Beginner

Pre-Beginners

Beginners

Novice

4-hand Reel Special

2:15PM: All-School Photo: all dancers onstage in costume!

2:25PM: AWARDS (all dancers receive a medal in each dance)

2:40pm INTERMISSION

Don't leave—class performances still to come!

3:00pm

SHOWCASE

(not in this order)

Oireachtas Choreography U15

Saturday Novice Class

Seniors/Medford Class Special

Tuesday PW/Prelim Class

World Qualifiers Special

Saturday PW

Monday Prelim/Open Special

Thursday Novice Class

Thursday PW/Prelim/Open Treble Reel

Oireachtas U7 Ceili

Saturday Prelim/Open



Suzanne Dunleavy McDonough TCRG &
Theresa Shaffer Wilkinson TCRG

presents the
**5th Annual
School Feis & Showcase**

Sunday February 28, 2010 1-4pm
Admission Tickets available in advance & at the door

Kingston Intermediate School
65 Second Brook Street, Kingston MA

Directions: From the North, take Rt 3 south to exit 9. Bear right at end of exit ramp, onto Rt 3A/Main St. Take left at Rt 80 / Brook St. Continue up hill, take slight left at Second Brook St. Intermediate School is the first building on your right.

We expect ALL Pre-Beginner, Beginner, Advanced Beginner & Novice dancers to participate in the competitions at the School Feis. Novice & UP will perform in the Showcase.

The purpose of this event is to display what your child has learned this year and prepare them to compete at local open events if interested. Competing at other local events is NOT required. We urge ALL dancers Pre-Beginner thru Novice to enter in the Class Feis competitions. See inside for details on how to enter.

New dancers will need to purchase a performance skirt & blouse

A decorative horizontal border at the bottom of the page, featuring a complex, interlocking Celtic knot design in a dark grey or black color. The knot is composed of multiple overlapping loops and lines, creating a rich, textured appearance.

FEIS ENTRY FORM

Dancer Name _____ D.O.B. _____ AGE AS OF 1/1/10 _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

COMPETITIONS NUMBERS _____ TOTAL FEE _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____