



Welcome to the

WESTERN CANADIAN OPEN

January 17th and 18th 2026

Viking Rentals Centre (Event Hall)

Okotoks AB

Saturday January 17th	Sunday January 18th
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grades Solos & Specials• Beg/Adv Beg Trophy (A)• Nov-PW Trophy (A)• Prelim/Open Championships (A)• First Feis and Tir Na Nog Special• Adult Grades & Championships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grades Trophies (B)• Championship Specials• Prelim/Open Championships (B)• Figures• Alberta Belt Champion• Championship Slip Jig Trophy• Boys Championship Trophy



WESTERN CANADIAN OPEN

Fáilte!

On behalf of the Feis Chairpersons, we are pleased to invite you back to the Western Canadian Open!

The Western Canadian Open is registered with An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha, the North American Irish Dance Teachers' Association, and the Western Canadian Irish Dance Teachers' Association.

The Western Canadian Open offers dancers many chances to compete, including:

- [Double Preliminary Championships](#)
- [Double Open Championships](#)
- [Second Chance Trophies Beg/Adv and Nov/PW](#)
- Figures
- Alberta Belt Set Dance Champion
- Championship Slip Jig Trophy
- Boys Championship Trophy

CHAIRPERSONS:

Ali Hampshire Bilcox, ADCRG

Ian Gott, TCRG

Cait Hampshire, TCRG

Elsbeth Hughton, TCRG





WESTERN CANADIAN OPEN

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration, Accommodation, Vendors, Advertising & Sponsorship

Registration

Entries are to be completed on FeisFWD at <https://app.feisfwd.com>

Closing date for entries is **December 22, 2025**

Late Entries and Cancellations

Entries after December 22nd are subject to \$25 late fee. No substitutions, cancellations, or changes will be accepted after the closing date except for updates in dancer status/level. There will be no refunds after the closing date.

Entry Fees

Family Admission Fee	\$50*
Solo Competitions	\$7.00 per dance per competitor
Figure Dancing	\$7.00 per competitor per team
Beg/Adv Beg Trophy A	\$15.00
Nov/PW Trophy A	\$15.00
Beg/Adv Beg Trophy B	\$15.00*
Nov/PW Trophy B	\$15.00*
Specials (Slip Jig, Treble Reel, Boys Championship)	\$17.00 per dance per competitor*
Tir Na Nog	\$10.00
Prelim and Open Championships A	\$50.00 per competitor
Prelim and Open Championships B	\$50.00 per competitor*
Family Maximum	\$155.00

**Not included in the family max*

Combination and splits

Competitions may be cancelled, combined, or split at the discretion of the feis organizers based on entry numbers in an effort to optimize dancer advancement. Details of any changes will be provided with as much notice as possible.





Accommodation

The competition will take place over the course of two days, with a detailed schedule provided closer to the competition date. The venue for the event is the Viking Rentals Centre (Event Hall) in Okotoks, a 20 minute drive south of Calgary. Participants and spectators will have access to ample parking, seating, and amenities throughout the event. Please see the following options for hotels close to the venue: Okotoks Best Western Plus (5 min drive)

- Courtyard Calgary South in Seton (15 min drive)
- Shawnessy Super 8 (20 min drive)
- Wingate by Wyndham Calgary South (20 min drive)

Vendors

Vendor tables are available for the feis for \$100 for the first table plus \$60 for each additional table. Table space is limited so please book as soon as possible. Please contact westerncanadianopen@gmail.com to reserve a table.

Advertising & Sponsorship

We have a variety of sponsorship and advertising options available:

- Gold Level Sponsorship- \$2500
- Silver Level Sponsorship- \$1500
- Bronze Level Sponsorship- \$500
- E-program Ad (full page)- \$100
- E-program Ad (half page)- \$50
- E-program Ad (quarter page)- \$25
- Social Media Advertising- \$100

For additional sponsorship and advertising opportunities, please contact westerncanadianopen@gmail.com for more information.





Schedule

Saturday January 17th	Sunday January 18th
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grades Solos & Specials• Beg/Adv Beg Trophy (A)• Nov-PW Trophy (A)• Prelim/Open Championships (A)• First Feis and Tir Na Nog Special• Adult Grades & Championships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grades Trophies (B)• Championship Specials• Prelim/Open Championships (B)• Figures• Alberta Belt Champion• Championship Slip Jig Trophy• Boys Championship Trophy

SPECIALS & ADDITIONAL COMPETITIONS

Championship Slip Jig Trophy

Eligible for all first place winners of the championship slip jig specials to perform one step down the line (16 bars).

Boys Championship Trophy

Eligible for all boys who in dance in championship level to perform one step of hard shoe and one step of soft shoe (16 bars each).

Tir Na Nog

The Tir Na Nog competition gives our youngest dancers (U6), non-competitive dancers a chance to perform onstage. All participants will receive an award.

ALBERTA BELT CHAMPION

The Alberta Belt is a champion of champions dance off eligible to all **first place winners in Open Championships** from either Saturday or Sunday. Dancers will perform one step down the line of soft shoe and hard shoe (16 bars each). An overall winner selected by the panel of adjudicators will be awarded the Alberta Belt Perpetual Award. The Alberta Belt Champion may be split into Junior and Senior categories should the number of participants permit.

PERPETUAL TROPHIES

Perpetual trophies will be awarded for all Championships, Reel, & Treble Jig Trophies competitions as well as for the Championship Slip Jig Trophy and Championship Boys Trophy. Perpetual Belts will be awarded for the Alberta Belt Set Dance Champion.





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FEIS RULES

1. Competitions are open to amateurs only. Only students of teachers registered in good standing with the WCIDTA, IDTANA, and An Coimisiun Le Rinci Gaelacha may compete.
2. Competitors ages will be determined as of January 1st, 2025.
3. Entry forms are to be checked and signed by the registering teacher.

4. Entry fees:

Family Admission Fee	\$50*
Solo Competitions	\$7.00 per dance per competitor
Figure Dancing	\$7.00 per competitor per team
Beg/Adv Beg Trophy A	\$15.00
Nov/PW Trophy A	\$15.00
Beg/Adv Beg Trophy B	\$15.00*
Nov/PW Trophy B	\$15.00*
Specials (Slip Jig, Treble Reel, Boys Championship)	\$17.00 per dance per competitor*
Tir Na Nog	\$10.00
Prelim and Open Championships A	\$50.00 per competitor
Prelim and Open Championships B	\$50.00 per competitor*
Family Maximum	\$155.00

5. Music shall be in accordance with regulation metronome speeds.

6. Categories:

First Feis – A dancer who has never previously competed in a registered feis.

Beginner – A dancer who has not qualified for Advanced Beginner in that dance.

Advanced Beginner – A dancer who has received qualifying place in that particular dance in the Beginner level but has not yet qualified to move on to Novice.

Novice - A dancer who has received a qualifying place in that particular dance in the Adv Beginner level, but has not yet qualified to move on to Prizewinner in that dance.

Prizewinner - A dancer who has received a qualifying place in that particular dance in the Novice level, but has not yet qualified to advance to Preliminary Championships.

First Feis Trophy - (Reel 32 bars) Open to dancers entered in their first feis, Dancers may not compete in any other Trophy competition.

Beginner/Advanced Beginner Trophy - (Reel 32 bars) Open to dancers who dance the majority of their dances in the Beginner or Advanced Beginner level in solos. A dancer must





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advance to Novice/Prizewinner Trophy if they receive two first place Trophies in this level, or if they advance in their solo levels.

Novice/Prizewinner Trophy - (Treble Jig, 32 bars, choice of 2 speeds) Open to dancers who dance the majority of their dances in the Novice or Prizewinner levels in solos. Also, open to dancers who have previously won two first place trophies in the Beginner/Advanced Beginner Trophy Competitions. Dancers in ALL age groups will dance the Treble Jig.

Preliminary Championships - Open to dancers who have won two first place trophies in the Novice/Prizewinner Trophy Competition, and who have not previously won three first place Preliminary Championships.

Open Championships – Open to dancers who have previously won three first place Preliminary Championships, or two Prelim Championships prior to August 31, 2024.

7. Competitors may only dance each dance once. Competitors entered in First Feis may repeat the Reel & Light Jig at the Beginner Level.

8. In Figure dancing, 50% of a team may be moved to a higher age group to complete a figure – unless the Feis Committee has granted special permission. All Ceili dances must be performed in accordance with the Official book "An Rince Foirne"

9. A competition may be cancelled or combined with a higher age group if there are less than 3 entries. If the entry is 40 or higher, the competition will be split.

10. Dancers should be in the hall 60 minutes before scheduled time of their competition.

11. All dancers must be in costume, complete with shoes and number to receive any award onstage.

12. Under no circumstances are the adjudicators or the musicians to be approached during the feis. The decision of the adjudicator is final.

13. No steel taps or bubble heels allowed. Shoes may be subject to inspection by adjudicators. Costumes must be in accordance with the IDTANA and An Coimisiun guidelines.

14. The Western Canadian Open – Alberta Belt, The named Chairpersons, W.C.I.D.T.A., the venue, or any organization affiliated with same will not be held responsible for personal injury, property loss or damage during an event.

15. Protest against a breach of rules will be considered if made in writing and signed by the objector. The objection must also, be accompanied with a \$25.00 fee and reach the feis committee before prizes are presented. If the complaint is justified, the \$25.00 fee will be refunded.

16. Competitors may only compete in a Trophy competition OR a Championship, but not both. Specials (Treble Reel, Slip Jig) do not apply in this case.

17. Any form of unauthorized photography which has the capability to capture a dancer's image whilst in motion, using electronic or manual means ie: mobile phone, standard camera, video camcorder, commercial film, with or without enhancement, is expressly forbidden in competition.

18. The Feis Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry.





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19. Dancers shall advance in each individual solo dance as follows:

Number of dancers who danced in a Competition	Placing(s) that move dancers to the next level
< 5	No placing advances
5 – 9	1 st place moves up
10 - 19	1 st , 2 nd , and 3 rd , moves up
19 – 29	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , moves up
30 or more	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , and 5 th , move up

20. Dancers shall advance in trophy competitions and Championships as follows:

- A dancer who wins two first place trophies in the Beginner/Advanced Beginner Trophy advances to the Novice/Prizewinner Trophy, or:
- A dancer who advances to Novice or Prizewinner for the majority of their solo levels (hard shoes in particular) +automatically advances to the Novice/prizewinner Trophy.
- A dancer who wins two first places Novice/Prizewinner Trophy competitions advances to Preliminary Championships.
- A dancer who wins three first place Preliminary Championship competitions advances to Open Championships
- Should a dancer win a third Preliminary Championship on the first day of competition, they are eligible to move to Open Championship on the second day of competition. If they choose to withdraw from a pre-registered second Preliminary Championship, they are not eligible for a refund from that competition, but may transfer that registration fee to the Open Championship competition.

21. All feis committees must award a minimum of 30% of competitors in Preliminary and Open Championships.

22. Shiny plastic number cards should not be used.

All other Feis rules as per An Coimisiun Le Rinci Gaelacha, the I.D.T.A.N.A. and the W.C.I.D.T.A.





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COMPETITION NUMBERS

Grades

First Feis	U6	U7	U8	U10	U12	12&O
Reel	3	5	7	11	15	17
Light Jig	4	6	8	12	16	18

Beginner	U6	U7	U8	U10	U12	12&O
Reel	107	114	121	135	149	156
Light Jig	108	115	122	136	150	157
Single Jig	109	116	123	137	151	158
Slip Jig	110	117	124	138	152	159
Treble Jig	111	118	125	139	153	160
Hornpipe	112	119	126	140	154	161
Traditional Set	113	120	127	141	155	162

Adv Beginner	U8	U10	U12	12&O
Reel	221	235	249	256
Light Jig	222	236	250	257
Single Jig	223	237	251	258
Slip Jig	224	238	252	259
Treble Jig	225	239	253	260
Hornpipe	226	240	254	261
Traditional Set	227	241	255	262

Novice	U9	U10	U12	113	U14	14&O
Reel	328	335	349	356	363	370
Light Jig	329	336	350	357	364	371
Single Jig	330	337	351	358	365	372
Slip Jig	331	338	352	359	366	373
Treble Jig	332	339	353	360	367	374
Hornpipe	333	340	354	361	368	375
Traditional Set	334	341	355	362	369	376





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Prizewinner	U9	U10	U12	113	U14	14&O
Reel	428	435	449	456	463	470
Light Jig	429	436	450	457	464	471
Single Jig	430	437	451	458	465	472
Slip Jig	431	438	452	459	466	473
Treble Jig	432	439	453	460	467	474
Hornpipe	433	440	454	461	468	475
Traditional Set	434	441	455	462	469	476

First Feis Trophy	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U12	12&O
(Reel, 32 bars)							
Girls First Feis	900	902	904	906	908	910	912
Boys First Feis	901	903	905	907	909	911	913

Beg/Adv Beg Trophy	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	12&O
(Reel, 32 bars)								
Beg/Adv Beg A (Sat)	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937
Beg/Adv Beg B (Sun)	930B	931B	932B	933B	934B	935B	936B	937B

Nov/Prizewinner Trophy	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	13&O
(Treble Jig OR Hornpipe, 32 bars)								
Beg/Adv Beg A (Sat)	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953
Beg/Adv Beg B (Sun)		947B	948B	949B	950B	951B	952B	953B





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Championship

OPTION B- 48 bars of Reel OR 40 bars of Slip Jig, AND 48 bars or Treble Jig OR 40 bars of Hornpipe, AND one Non-Traditional Set Dance except for U8/U9 age groups who will dance a Traditional Set Dance. U10 age groups may choose to dance a Non-traditional Set Dance or a Traditional Set Dance. Individual awards will be given for each dance in lieu of solos.

Preliminary Champ	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	16&O			
Preliminary A (Sat)	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710			
Preliminary B (Sun)	702B	703B	704B	705B	706B	707B	708B	709B	710B			

Open Champ	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U20	20&O
Open Champ A (Sat)	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	733	734
Open Champ B (Sun)	722B	723B	724B	725B	726B	727B	728B	729B	730B	731B	733B	734B

Specials

Slip Jig Special	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	18&O
Beg/Adv Beg	1008	1009	1010	1011	1012	1013*						
Nov/PW		1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1024**					
Championship			1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037	1038	1039
Treble Reel Special		U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	18&O
Beg/Adv Beg		1109	1110	1111	1112	1113*						
Nov/PW			1120	1121	1022	1023	1022**					
Championship			1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1135	1136	1137	1138	1139

*12&O

**13&O

Boys Championship Trophy

All Ages

All Prelim/Open Boys

1165





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Figures

Beg-Prizewinner	U7	U9	U11	U13	U16	16&O
2-Hand Reel	f-800	f-805	f-810	f-815	f-820	f-825
3-Hand Reel	f-801	f-806	f-811	f-816	f-821	f-826
4-Hand	f-802	f-807	f-812	f-817	f-822	f-827
6-Hand	f-803	f-808	f-813	f-818	f-823	f-828
8-Hand	f-804	f-809	f-814	f-819	f-824	f-829

Championship	U7	U9	U11	U13	U16	16&O	Adult
2-Hand Reel	f-850	f-855	f-860	f-865	f-870	f-875	780
3-Hand Reel	f-851	f-856	f-861	f-866	f-871	f-876	781
4-Hand	f-852	f-857	f-862	f-867	f-872	f-877	782
6-Hand	f-853	f-858	f-863	f-868	f-873	f-878	783
8-Hand	f-854	f-859	f-864	f-869	f-874	f-879	784

Choreography	U13	13&O
Junior	f-890	
Senior		f-891

Adult Competitions

Adult Solos	Beginner	Novice	Prizewinner	Championship
Reel	740	747	754	
Light Jig	741	748	755	
Single Jig	742	749	756	
Slip Jig	743	750	757	
Treble Jig	744	751	758	
Hornpipe	745	752	759	
Traditional Set	746	753	760	
Treble Reel Special			1147	
Adult Championship				770
Advanced Adult Championship				780





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THANK YOU!

On behalf of the Feis Chairpersons and Feis Committee, we look forward to seeing you in January 2026! Please contact us with any questions you may have, we are happy to help.

Email: westerncanadianopen@gmail.com

Please follow us on Instagram for more information and updates:
[@westerncanadianopenofficial](https://www.instagram.com/westerncanadianopenofficial)

