

GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATING IN IRISH DANCE COMPETITIONS

1. Dancers who choose to participate in Irish dance competitions are representatives of their Irish dance school. Dancers may only compete under the Teelin name with Maureen Gately's knowledge and permission. As Director of the school, it is Maureen's responsibility to decide if a dancer is prepared to perform in competition.
2. Good sportsmanship is required of every Teelin dancer. This includes wishing opponents good luck, congratulating winners, and gracefully accepting adjudicators' results.
3. Every Teelin dancer is part of the Teelin School team. Teelin dancers support their Teelin teammates, including peers in the same competition group. Any behavior contrary to this will lead to suspension from Teelin.
4. Teelin instructors are committed to training Teelin dancers for success. Instructors will push each dancer according to the dancer's ability and effort.
5. Dancers who compete must practice outside of class. Private lessons are not a substitute for independent practice. Preliminary and Open Champion dancers need to practice techniques and steps daily if they expect to win.
6. For championship level competitions (such as Regional Oireachtas, Nationals, Worlds, or any other Major), qualification for an event does not guarantee participation. As with every competition, it is Maureen's responsibility to decide if a dancer is sufficiently prepared for the event. For all major competitions, Maureen's decision regarding a dancer's preparedness directly correlates to the caliber of dance expected at the event.
7. Dancers (and parents) must read and adhere to the NAFC Dancing Competition Rules which are printed on every feis syllabus and are also available online. If any of these rules are not clear, it is the dancer's (and/or parent's) responsibility to ask a Teelin instructor for clarification.

These guidelines will help to facilitate a positive competition experience. Choosing to participate in Irish dance competitions denotes a commitment by the dancer AND by his/her instructors to the joy of Irish dance. Even when participating in solo dance competitions, instructors and students are a team united in this objective.

Not every school is right for every student. If you are considering a transfer from Teelin to another Irish dance school for ANY reason, talk to Maureen. The Irish Dancing Commission (CLRG) has strict rules regarding students who participate in competitions transferring from one Irish dance school to another. The Irish dancing world is a small world, and most people in it are here for the love of it. Transfers are smoothest when all parties involved communicate openly. Ultimately Maureen has every dancer's best interest at heart.

Thank you for being a positive reflection of Teelin School! We are proud of our students!



SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE