



2026

City of Sails Syllabus

15th & 16th August

Hawkins Theatre,

13 Ray Small Drive, Papakura

2026 Day Schedule



15th
AUG

- **Combined Grade Championships** (Primary, Intermediate, and Open)
- **Single Age Group Sections** (Under 7 through to Under 17)
- **The timetable will run from youngest to oldest, starting at 9:00 am and finishing at approximately 10:00 pm.**

16th
AUG

- **Novice Sections** (9am start)
- **Adult A Sections**
- **Special Trophy Rounds**
- **Inchicore & Mullingar Cups** (Double age groups, top 3 placed)
- **Team Sections** (afternoon)

2026 Adjudicators



Charmaine May
ADCRG-BG
Sydney
Australia



Jeremy Heggie
ADCRG
Sydney
Australia



Karen Gordon-Clark
ADCRG
Melbourne
Australia



Entry Fees

A family discount of 10% will apply to families with three (3) or more dancers on solo entry total only.

Dancers can enter into a MAXIMUM of two solo grades provided they meet the TIDA of NZ grading syllabus. (See <https://www.irishdance.co.nz/rules/>)

Overseas Dancers – see the TIDA of NZ Grading Syllabus for details.
The equivalent to our Nationals is your State Championships

SECTION	DAY	COSTS	JUDGES	DETAILS
Primary, Intermediate, Open Championship	Saturday	\$90 per dancer	3 judges	Single age groups up to 17 years (or older if possible) Dancers will receive a copy of their results at the end of the event.
Adult B Championship	Saturday	\$90 per dancer	3 judges	Dancers will receive a copy of their results at the end of the event.
Novice & Adult A	Sunday	\$18 per dance	1 judge	(40 bars each) Reel 124 Slip Jig 124 Single Jig 124 Heavy Jig 96 Hornpipe 144 Choice of Traditional Set. Dancers can dance either a Single or Slip Jig, Trad Jig or Hornpipe. Novice age groups will be based on entries
Novice & Adult A City of Sails Special	Sunday	\$25 per dancer	1 judge	Light Jig (116) Dancers will receive a copy of their City of Sails Special result at the end of the event.
Mullingar & Inchicore Cups	Sunday	\$20 per Cup per dancer	1 judge	16 bars of Hard Shoe Step down the Line (Open Jig or Hornpipe) 16 bars of Soft Shoe Step down the Line (Open Reel or Slip Jig) Double age groups with Top 3 placed
Teams	Sunday	\$8 per dancer per team	1 judge	Under 9 9 to 13 Over 13 Adult Commission Books Only
Dance to the Music	TBC	To be confirmed	TBC	If time permits, this will offered after entries have closed with a separate email sent out to teachers.
Program		\$15 pre ordered, \$20 at the door	Venue Entry	Venue entry costs to be announced once entries close.

General Solo Dancing Rules

- **All grade & section conditions as per the approved 2025/2026 TIDA of NZ Grading Syllabus.**
- **Dancers are permitted to entry a maximum of 2 grades provided they are eligible as per the TIDA of NZ Grading Syllabus.**
- **Primary, Intermediate, Open & Adult B dancers will receive a copy of their results at the end of the event.**
- **Novice & Adult A dancers will receive a copy of their City of Sails Special results at the end of the event.**
- **A family discount of 10% will apply to families with three (3) or more dancers on solo entry total only.**

a. In all competitions, competitors must commence their dance in the first two rounds from the designated starting points. In the set dance round a competitor may choose his/her starting point.

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b. All competitors in the Intermediate and Open sections dance all 3 dances. (There will be no recall in any section)

c. All sections up to Under 12 will dance 3 at a time for their first round.

d. Dancers in the Under 7 Mixed Section will dance round 3 (Single Jig), 3 at a time. Dancers in the Under 8 and Under 9 Sections will dance round 3 (the traditional set dance), 2 at a time.

e. All solo sections Over 8 years will commence with the Heavy Round. Solo sections Under 8 years will commence with the Light Jig Round, then Single reel, then Single jig or Traditional set.

f. All sections will commence at the lowest number and continue numerically in all age groups. The draw for the start of rounds two and three will be printed in the program.

g. It is recommended that entrants in all the over 9-year sections perform an Open set dance, however a traditional set dance is permitted in the syllabus timing for that section.

h. After each dance, competitors are to return to the pre-registration/marshalling area.

i. When competitors register, they are to confirm the name of their Set Dance and the speed.

j. If a competitor arrives late and their section is under way, if they have not missed their position in the section and therefore are not out of numerical order they are permitted to dance. If, however, they have missed their position, they are not permitted to dance.

k. Dancers who begin to dance before or after the stipulated 8 bar introduction in any round will automatically receive a ZERO for that round from all adjudicators.

l. Where a dancer fails to complete his / her performance in any given round, that dancer is to be given ZERO marks by each adjudicator for that round.

m. Permitted Set Dances and Speeds are as per CLRG & TIDANZ.

**Except for the Mullingar & Inchicore Cups:

- Competitors must dance 8 bars on the right foot followed by 8 bars on the left foot. (this means if the soft shoe lead is 2 right feet, this step can not be danced).
- Competitors must commence their step from the designated line on the stage.
- Competitors who commence their step before or after the appropriate time will automatically receive ZERO marks for that step.
- BLACK OUT IS NOT REQUIRED for these sections.

General Team Dancing Rules

1. Schools may combine for Figure Dancing where one school has insufficient numbers to enter a section. In composed sections, if one school already has three teams entered in a section then they are not eligible to enter a combined team with any other school in that section. Pupils may wear the costume of one school or a combination of schools. Teams are to be listed under the names of the schools but combined e.g., Brown/Green.
2. Under-age competitors may dance in a higher age group, if necessary to complete a team, provided they are not entered in their own age group, in that dance. The reverse does not apply e.g., the dancer may dance up in a 9-13 years 6-Hand, but not dance in the under 9 6-Hand as well.
3. Commission Book - Figures to be danced by TOP COUPLE ONLY
4. Should a dancer of a figure dance be unable to take part at the time of the competition. A replacement may be permitted to dance. The teacher is responsible for notifying the City of Sails committee. An emergency is defined as an event which happens within seven days immediately preceding the first day of competition.
5. Adult Ceili section entrants must be dancers who are graded as Adult A or Adult B.

Commission Book Eight Hands

- In the case of The Three Tunes teams will perform the dance from the beginning up to and including the Hook and Chain irrespective of the figure drawn.
- In the case of the Sweets of May, teams will perform the dance from the beginning up to and including the seesaw irrespective of the figure drawn.
- In the case of the Gates of Derry teams will perform the dance from the beginning up to and including the Swing Around of the first repeat irrespective of the figure drawn.
- In the case of Lannigan's Ball teams will perform the full dance irrespective of the figure drawn.



2026

PAYMENT DETAILS:

Doyle Academy of Irish Dance

ANZ 01-0142-0134012-01

CLOSING DATE:

MONDAY 29TH JUNE 10pm (NZT)

EMAIL ENQUIRIES TO:

cityofsails@doyleacademy.co.nz

Conditions of Entry

- Entries will be accepted from teachers only.
- Each school will receive a personalised entry via google forms, with one payment per school.
- Bank details for direct deposit in NZ: ANZ Bank 01-0142-0134012-01 (Doyle Academy).
- International entries can pay via PayPal or International transfer to the above. Swift details will be provided by email. The entry form for overseas dancers will be posted on our website.
- Entries & payment will be accepted up until **Monday 29th June 10pm NZT**
- Late entries & payment will be accepted up until **Monday 13th July 10pm NZT** with an additional **fee of NZ\$25.00** per dancer.
- NZ Entries received from teachers or dancers not registered with TIDANZ, Inc. for 2026 will not be accepted.
- All Teachers must hold current registration with An Coimisiún Le Rincí Gaelacha for 2025/2026.
- In both solo dancing and team dancing, competitors' age will be taken from 1 January 2026.
- Where a competitor's birthday falls on 1st January 2026, they shall be regarded as under that age attained on that day.
- Dancers serving a three-month period of refrainment from competition under the Transfer Rules of An Coimisiún at the time of the Championship are not eligible to compete.