

## WCRO Freestyle Competition 2024

1. These Rules and Directives must be read in conjunction with the General Rules and other relevant sections of this syllabus.
2. Introduced in 2023 at the World Championships, this category provides a way for dancers to stimulate creativity and expression in Irish dance, without restrictions to arm or head movements.
3. This is a solo competition, open to dancers who participate at the 2024 Oireachtas (in championship solo or team events) born in 2009 or earlier.
4. Dancers may choose soft shoe or hard shoe, and must perform a 90-second routine, in a manner suitable for a general audience, on a stage no larger than 28' x 24'.
5. The core style of the routine must be Irish dance. Participants are challenged to explore the blending of traditional Irish dancing with progressive upper body and head movements, to create a unique interpretation of Irish dancing in a manner which broadens our art form. Articulation and execution of footwork, timing, and rhythm are of the utmost importance, and the performance should portray a character/theme through dance and mime.
6. A selection of between 3-5 finalists will be chosen by the cast members of "*Riverdance the Show*" and those routines will be performed live at the Oireachtas on the final evening. Those who are selected must replicate the routine submitted in the video.
7. The music chosen must be from our sponsor, *FeisApp*. Choreography should reflect the character/theme of the performance, and be specifically Irish i.e., Reels, Light Jigs, Slip Jigs, Single Jigs, Double Jigs, Hornpipes, Irish marches, Irish slow airs, or set dance music. A cappella (no music) is also acceptable.
8. Costuming must be suitable for a general audience, with modesty in mind. The costume used for the live performance may differ from the audition video however, the organizing committee will not allow costumes they deem as inappropriate to perform on stage.
9. Small/basic props may be utilized, provided they enhance the performance. Props must be portable and of a kind that can be placed and removed easily and quickly. The use of "smoke", "straw", "confetti", "liquid" and other messy items will not be permitted. This rule will be strictly enforced.

10. Interested participants are required to record a video of their performance (filmed in landscape mode) and upload it to YouTube (ensure the upload is marked as unlisted), then e-mail the link, along with name, age, dance school and song title/artist, to [wcidtafreestylecomp@gmail.com](mailto:wcidtafreestylecomp@gmail.com) no later than Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2024 at 9pm (MDT). The fee for this event will be \$40 per competitor. Videos not meeting these guidelines will not be accepted for consideration.

11. Dancers must not say their name, their dance school, or have any kind of identifying information in the actual videos. Videos that don't comply will be disqualified. Identifying information such as dancer name, age, school and music choice must be sent in the accompanying email with the link to the unlisted YouTube page.

12. Every effort will be made to decide and notify successful applications as soon as possible. The date for the live competition is Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

13. Videos will be adjudicated under the following headings:

a. Musicality (20 marks)

b. Creativity (20 marks)

c. Dance Performance and Style (30 marks)

d. Articulation and Execution (30 marks)

14. There will be one competition with two awards; one each for the top male and the top female dancer. The final competition will be adjudicated by one or all of the 2024 Oireachtas adjudication panels.

15. A commemorative token will be presented to all finalists appearing on stage for this event.

16. Please be advised this competition has no direct association or merit towards the Freestyle Competition at the CLRG World Championships 2025. It is entirely separate and will not qualify a dancer for the similar event at the CLRG World Championships.