

MIDWEST REGIONAL FLEADH 2016

GENERAL NOTES

COMPETITION GUIDE BY INSTRUMENT

AGE CATEGORIES

SYLLABUS

GENERAL NOTES ON THE MIDWEST FLEADH

- **The Fleadh atmosphere is like a big party.** The goal is to have fun through meeting and hearing other great young musicians. Choose your tunes and songs early and practice now (memorized with variations at least a month ahead of time) so that you can relax and enjoy yourself in Cincinnati!
- **All competitions are open to public.** We encourage all family members to go along and listen to competitions on Friday and Saturday, whether you know someone who is competing or not.
- **All families, instructors and students will attend the Saturday night group competitions** (Ceili Band and Grúpa Cheoil). It's like a concert with a great lively atmosphere – a really fun part of the weekend you won't want to miss.
- **CIM supports students preparing for the fleadh through private lessons.** Weekly lessons are likely necessary if you would like to compete in solo and/or group competitions.
- **Fleadh registration deadlines and categories are rigid**, so please make sure you register for the correct competitions. Contact Norah or Brian with questions.

COMPETITION GUIDE BY INSTRUMENT

(These are the competitions available to you based on what you play.)

Fiddle, Whistle, Uilleann Pipes, Flute (wooden or silver)*

- Grúpa Ceoil
- Ceili Band
- Duos (partner should ideally play a different instrument)
- Trios (Ideally 3 different instruments.)
- Instrument Solo
- Instrument Solo Slow Air

*Flute players with a flute in a strange key? See miscellaneous instruments category.

Harp (wire or nylon string)

- Grúpa Ceoil
- Duos* (Partner should ideally play a different instrument.)
- Trios* (Ideally 3 different instruments.)
- Harp Solo (melody)
- Harp Solo Slow Air
- Accompaniment (Chords only. Need a melody player to play with you. Only you are judged.)

*Duo and Trio: Harpist must play the melody 100% of the time. Chording also ok.

Tenor Banjo, Button Accordion, Concertina, Mandolin, Piano Accordion, Melodion, Mouth Organ (harmonica)

- Grúpa Ceoil
- Ceili Band
- Duos (partner should ideally play a different instrument)
- Trios (Ideally 3 different instruments.)
- Instrument Solo

Piano

- Ceili Band
- Duos* (partner should ideally play a different instrument)
- Trios* (Ideally 3 different instruments.)
- Piano Solo** (melody)
- Accompaniment (Chords only. Need a melody player to play with you. Only you are judged.)

*Duo and Trio: you play melody 100% of the time. Some chording okay.

**NOTE: the "Piano" competition is for playing melody not accompaniment!

Bodhran

- Grúpa Ceoil
- Bodhrán (Need a melody player to play with you. Only you are judged.)

Guitar, Bouzouki

- Grúpa Ceoil
- Duos* (partner should ideally play a different instrument)
- Trios* (Ideally 3 different instruments.)
- Miscellaneous Solo (melody. Flat-picked.)
- Accompaniment (Chords only. Need a melody player to play with you. Only you are judged.)

*Duo and Trio: you play melody 100% of the time. Some chording okay.

Whistling (with your mouth), Liling

- Solo competition

Cello, Viola, Melodica, Saxophone, Piccolo, Flute in Unusual Key, ...

- Grúpa Ceoil
- Miscellaneous Solo (melody)

Song

- Men's English Language Solo
- Women's English Language Solo
- Men's Irish Language Solo
- Women's Irish Language Solo
- Newly-Composed Song in English
- Newly-Composed Song in Irish

All Instruments

- Newly Composed Tunes

GENERAL COMPETITION GUIDELINES

- **Grúpa Ceoil** and **Ceili Band** require months of preparation. If you are interested, please consider joining a CIM ensemble that will work toward that goal.
- If you are in multiple solo competitions, plan on some overlap between your scheduled competition times. This is normal and adjudicators are happy to accommodate as long as you talk to them first thing on Saturday morning. In our experience so far, the fleadh scheduling is not rigid.

AGE CATEGORIES

Grade A	Under 12 on Jan 1, 2016
Grade B	12, 13 or 14 on Jan 1, 2016
Grade C	15, 16 or 17 on Jan 1, 2016
Grade D	18 or older on Jan 1, 2016
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<i>Grade E</i>	<i>Any Age</i>
<i>Grade F</i>	<i>Under 18 on Jan 1, 2016</i>

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- For **Duos, Trios, Grúpa Ceoil** and **Ceili Band**, you can compete in your age category **and** a higher category if you use a different instrument in each category. For example, an 14-year-old musician could compete in the under-18 ceili band on flute and play piano in the under-15 ceili band competition.

SYLLABUS

NOTE: We encourage our students to **use different tunes for each competition.**

Solo, Duo, Trio, Accompaniment, Bodhran, Liltng and Whistling

Tune Types Allowed:

Air (slow or lively)	Set Dance
Reel	Mazurka
Polka	Planxty
Hornpipe	Fling
March	Barn Dance
Jig (double, single, slip)	Schottische
Slide	Clan March

NOTE!! For solos, duos and trios, it is critical that you include a reel and a jig played up to speed (fast) in your tune choices.

Grade "A" – 2 tunes of different types

Grade "B" – 2 tunes of different types

Grade "C" – 3 tunes of different types

Grade "D" – 4 tunes of different types AND for Fiddle, Whistle, Concert Flute & Uilleann Pipes: one must be Slow Air

Slow Air Competitions:

Fiddle, Uilleann Pipes, Concert Flute, Whistle, Harp

How Slow Air Works:

Each Competitor submits a list of airs to adjudicator & play as follows:

Grade "a" – 1 Air from a list of 2 submitted (adjudicator's choice) :

Grade "b" – 2 Airs from a list of 4 submitted (adjudicator selects the 1st, competitor selects the 2nd, from those remaining on list)

Grade "c" _ 2 Airs from a list of 6 submitted. Then same as "b".

Grade "d" _ 3 Airs from a list of 8 submitted (adjudicator selects the 1st and 2nd, competitor selects the 3rd, from those remaining on list)

Note on Airl: Only Slow Airl based strictly on the traditional airl and not on modern arrangements, shall be accepted. No penalty shall be levied on a competitor in the Slow Airl Competition, if he/she plays the airl through, only once.

Singing

Irish Singing–Ladies, Irish Singing–Men, English Singing–Ladies, English Singing–Men

What You Sing

Grade “a” - 2 Songs of his / her choice – one slow and one lively

Grade “b” and “c” - 2 Songs from a list of 4 submitted (2 slow and 2 lively). First song will be selected by the adjudicator and the second, contrasting song, by the competitor.

Grade “d” – 2 Songs from a list of 6 submitted (4 slow and 2 lively). First song will be selected by the adjudicator and the second, contrasting song, by the competitor.

In all lists of songs, the lively songs must be clearly indicated.

Newly Composed Traditional Songs in Irish and in English (Grade “e” only)

Newly Composed Songs in Irish, Newly Composed Songs in English

How it works

In Newly Composed Songs (in either language) one song, not previously entered at any Fleadh Cheoil prior to the current year, is required. The song shall be entered under the name of the composer, who shall be resident for a period of not less than the previous 6 months prior to the date of the qualifying Fleadh in the relevant County / Region and may if required, enlist the services of a singer resident inside or outside the county / region. Words of song must be submitted in writing, with Entry Form