

SCOTTISH OFFICIAL BOARD OF HIGHLAND DANCING

2018 Scottish National Dance Premierships Observations for Irish Jig (22/06/17)

During the dance the body is turned to the right or to the left and is bent forward or sideways as required to suit the steps. The head is also used in harmony with the arms and body movements.

- The Jig rhythms are not being clearly shown.
- Breaks should be executed with 10 clear & clean sounds remembering that shuffles do not finish at the rear.
- Care should be taken with the finishing position of breaks
- Any method of any break is acceptable
- Any method of any introduction is acceptable

ARMS:

- When arms are raised they should be curved as in Highland Arm Positions – the wrists should be held firmly with the fists clenched.
- When using 3rd Arm Position the arms should not be used in an up and down punching movement.
- When shaking fist in front of face the other arm should be either extended to rear with bent elbow **OR** raised above the head **OR** behind the back. It is not correct to shake both fists in front of face at the same time.
- Care should be taken to adhere to recognized arm actions and that Females do not use arms that are specifically for Males
- When using the Shillelagh it should be noted that it should be twirled two revolutions to the Bar.

INTRODUCTION:

- It is not correct to execute Bars 1 – 4 Facing Right Diagonal Front.

FIRST STEP (CIRCLE):

- The circle should be executed with a forward not backward circle.
- There should be a 90 degree turn out the working foot during Heel Click Movement and raised to 4th Aerial Position without stretching the foot.

SECOND STEP (SHUFFLING):

- Shuffles should commence from the front and should be executed to 4th Intermediate Aerial Position Low and not 2nd Position.

FOURTH STEP (THE CHASE OR DE'IL ON THE RUN):

- Danced in a circle and not on the spot.
- The Grind should be executed in 4th Intermediate Position, on the balls of the feet and not with feet flat.
- During the Grind - If using the method of striking the calf of the leg it should be noted that this should be the base of the calf and not high on the leg.

EIGHTH STEP (CROSS & CLIP-HEELS):

- During Bar 2 and repeats of Bar 2 the working foot should cross in front of the supporting foot and executed with a Spring prior to Clip-Heel Movement.

ELEVENTH STEP (2ND DIAGONAL TRAVEL):

- Springs can be executed with or without extension to forward 2nd Aerial or 4th Intermediate Aerial position, and can be danced with or without a circular roll movement.
- Grind can be executed in 5th Rear **OR** 4th Opp. 5th Rear.
- Break finishes in 5th Rear Position with **NO** extension.

FINISHING STEP - (TOE TAP):

- All hops, toe taps and beats should be executed with clear and clean sounds

