



OTTAWA HIGHLAND DANCING ASSOCIATION SUMMER OPEN COMPETITION

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026

C-ON-CO-26-2622

*Sanctioned by, and run under, the rules of the
Royal Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing*

COMPETITION INFORMATION

Online registration is available at www.ohda.ca

- **On the day of the competition, if you are feeling unwell, experiencing COVID or ANY flu-like symptoms, please stay home.**
- **This competition may be cancelled at any time up to and including on or during the day of competition.**

LOCATION:

OUTDOORS at St. Pius X High School, 1481 Fisher Ave, Ottawa, ON K2C 1X4

Weather permitting, we intend to hold this event outdoors within the school boundary. Should weather not allow for an outdoor event, the competition will be held within the school.

JUDGE:

Chelsea Verbeek, ON

TIMES:

7:45 am

Doors open

8:00 am

Registration for Primary, Beginner and Novice

8:30 am

Competition to start with the *Highland Fling*

10:00am

Registration for Primary *only competing in Pas de Bas and/or Pas de Bas & HC*

11:00am

Registration for Premier dancers entered to dance a solo choreography*

*to be danced after completion of the morning competition but before the morning awards

12:15pm

Registration for Intermediate and Premier

Afternoon competition to start with the Fling (not before 12:45pm)

SUMMARY OF EVENTS: Sunday, June 14, 2026	
Primary	Highland Fling (4), Sword (2&1), Pas de Bas (16), Pas de Bas & High Cuts (x4)
Beginner & Novice	Highland Fling (4), Sword (2&1), Seann Triubhas (3&1), 1/2 Tulloch (4)
Intermediate & Premier	Highland Fling (4), Seann Triubhas (3&1), Strathspey & 1/2 Tulloch (2&4), Sailor's Hornpipe (4)
Premier ONLY	Solo Choreography (maximum 20 entries will be accepted)

ENTRY DEADLINE: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 *(max. 125 dancers)*

Entries submitted online after June 3rd may be accepted, with a late fee, at the discretion of the Games Committee.

NO mail or phone entries accepted. Email ohda.registrar@gmail.com for further information.

NO REFUNDS OR CREDITS.

DANCE FEES <i>(Fees include SDCCS \$1.00 fee per dancer)</i>	
Primary	\$25.00
Beginner & Novice	\$30.00
Intermediate & Premier	\$35.00
Premier ONLY – Solo Choreography	\$10.00
NON-MEMBER FEE – This fee must be paid if you are not a 2025-26 OHDA member (one fee per family)	\$20.00
Admin Cost	\$3.25
Late Fee (For entries received after June 3, 2026)	\$20.00

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All dancers must present a valid 2026 ScotDance Canada registration card, **or proof that one has been applied for**, at the registration desk on the day of the competition. Any Beginner, Novice or Intermediate dancer that forgets their card, or is not in possession of their card for any reason (including during the application process), must pay a \$10 penalty and have any awards withheld until such time as the dancer presents their valid card, unless noted by the SDO Registrar.

Dancers/parents are responsible for submitting applications to the SDO Registrar in a timely fashion.

GENERAL RULES

The OHDA will not be responsible for loss of property or injury no matter how caused. The philosophies and applicable rules of the RSOBHD will govern the conduct of all competitions. Age is determined as of the day of competition. **Judges' decision is final.** Dancers must dance in own category and age group. Steps as indicated by numbers in brackets outlined above. Age groups will be formed at the discretion of the Games Committee, based on entries received. Age groups of fewer than 8 dancers will be avoided where possible. Competitors will dance in reverse order of receipt of entries: "First to enter, last to dance". Swords will be placed for competitors.

OHDA policy regarding filling in the for the Reel (from the Games Committee):

Dancers are required to fill in for the Reel where necessary. It is our expectation that all dancers will do so. Citing the meaning of Sportsmanship, we encourage dancers to display Sportsmanship at our dance competitions.

Sportsmanship: an understanding of and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity, and general goodwill toward a competitor. It is an affirmation that a dancer is disciplined enough to have perspective, maintain poise, and do what is best for their fellow dancers.

The OHDA feels very strongly about exhibiting sportsmanship behaviour when asked to fill in and expects assistance to ensure that all dancers have a level playing field when competing in the Reel.

Cloth numbers must be returned at the conclusion of the competition, or a \$10 fee will be incurred. Any dancer who decides not to compete after having registered should notify the Registrar in advance.

PLEASE NOTE: As per the ScotDance Canada "Child and Youth Abuse Prevention Program" policy, dancers will not be permitted to change in public areas, nor will dancers be permitted to be in the competition area only wearing bra tops or sports bras with dickies. Dancers must wear their jackets/vests, hoodies, studio jackets or tank tops over any bra-type top used for dancing whenever they are outside the designated change area. We ask all dancers and parents of dancers for their cooperation in this regard and to please use the designated change areas when changing.

SOLO CHOREOGRAPHY:

Premier Dancers **ONLY** and those dancers must also be competing in the regular premier competition that day. A planned entrance and exit are encouraged but **entire performance not to exceed 1.5 minutes.** Teacher assistance is permitted. Categories will be divided by age.

Dancers must use movements from Highland and National dances, Jig, or Hornpipe with allowances for individual interpretation and variation. A limited influence from other dance forms such as Jazz, Tap, Ballet or Stepdance may be incorporated. Costuming, music, and props (if used) must have a CELTIC flavour. Footwear is limited to highland slippers, soft ballet slippers, jazz shoes or bare feet. The judge's decision is final and correspondence or discussion with the judge is not permitted.

Solo music must be emailed to OHDA.Choreography.Music@gmail.com by Sunday, June 7, 2026. Failure to submit music by this deadline may result in a forfeiture of entry. The music must be provided in an mp3 file format. **Please bring your music to the competition on a USB drive for an emergency back-up.**

As per RSOBHD rules, age groups must have a minimum of 6 competitors on the day of competition in order to be eligible for an overall perpetual trophy. If there are fewer than 6 competitors in any individual dance, then points gained in that dance will not be included in the total aggregate points for the overall perpetual trophy. If it has been decided to hold a 'dance off' for an overall award, then all eligible competitors may compete regardless of the number of competitors within their individual group.

SUNDAY OPEN COMPETITION AWARDS

All dances will, where appropriate, be scrutineered and prizes awarded to a maximum of 6 places with appropriate dance points as follows: *1st - 137, 2nd - 91, 3rd - 71, 4th - 53, 5th - 37, 6th - 23*. Most categories will receive medals for 1st–6th, with cash awards being given in place of medals to any Premier group that includes dancers who are 18yrs of age and older, to a maximum of 4 age groups. Cash awards will be as follows: *1st - \$35, 2nd - \$30, 3rd - \$25, 4th - \$20, 5th - \$15, 6th - \$15*. Dancers receiving cash awards may purchase medals, commensurate with their placing(s), at the cost of \$5.00 each.

TROPHIES:

Keeper trophies will be awarded to the winner & runner up in each age group of Beginner, Novice, Intermediate and Premier age group.

Keeper trophies will be awarded to the winner in each Premier Solo Choreography group.

For Beginner, Novice & Intermediate, an overall keeper & perpetual trophy will be awarded in each category to the dancer with the highest total points over all events. *No trophies for Primary as per RSOBHD ruling.*

A keeper & perpetual trophy will be awarded to the **Most Promising Dancer** in each of the Beginner, Novice and Intermediate categories. The **Junior and Senior Dancer of the Day** and, if entries warrant, **Platinum Dancer of the Day**, trophies will be awarded to the Premier dancers with the highest total points over all events (*choreography excluded*) and all respective Premier age groups. **The Laura Bablitz** keeper and perpetual trophy: Awarded to the Premier dancer for the best Hornpipe (determined by a dance-off of first place winners of the Hornpipe). If a dancer does not return a perpetual trophy awarded in the previous year, any subsequent awards will be withheld until the previous year's trophy is returned to the OHDA.

If you have any perpetual trophies from the June 9, 2024 competition (*the OHDA did not hold a June 2025 competition*), please contact our Trophy Convenor, Patricia O'Connell, at ohdatrophyconvenor@gmail.com to make arrangements to have those returned on or before the Sunday, June 14th competition.

Please note: The OHDA expects that all perpetual trophies will be returned in good condition for the same competition the following year. The trophy convenor will contact each perpetual trophy winner in advance of next year's competition to remind them to return the award(s).