



Comhairle na Mumhan CE CEOL AN GHEIMHRIDH 2025/26

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Comhaltas

County/Provincial Level Competitions in:

Music – Amhránaíocht – Singing – Scéalaíocht – Storytelling

1Z	Wind	Z (Faoi 11)	6Y	Scéalaíocht	Y (11-14)
1Y	Wind	Y (11-14)	7Z	Storytelling	Z (Faoi 11)
2Z	Reed	Z (Faoi 11)	7Y	Storytelling	Y (11-14)
2Y	Reed	Y (11-14)	9Z	Duets	Z (Faoi 11)
3Z	String	Z (Faoi 11)	9Y	Duets	Y (11-14)
3Y	String	Y (11-14)	10Z	Quartette	Z (Faoi 11)
4Z	Amhránaíocht	Z (Faoi 11)	10Y	Quartette	Y (11-14)
4Y	Amhránaíocht	Y (11-14)	11X	Céilí Band	X (Faoi 14)
5Z	Singing	Z (Faoi 11)	17Z	Polka/Slide Playing	Z (Faoi 11)
5Y	Singing	Y (11-14)	17Y	Polka/Slide Playing	Y (11-14)
6Z	Scéalaíocht	Z (Faoi 11)			



Dancing Competitions 2025/26

A Munster final will only be held for dancing competitions where there are sufficient number of qualifiers at County level.

12Z	Set Dancing Mixed	Z (Faoi 11)
12Y	Set Dancing Mixed	Y (11-14)
13Z	Set Dancing Girls	Z (Faoi 11)
13Y	Set Dancing Girls	Y (11-14)
14X	Polka/Jig set Mixed	X (Faoi 14)
15Z	8 Hand Céilí	Z (Faoi 11)
15Y	8 Hand Céilí	Y (11-14)
16Z	4 Hand Céilí	Z (Faoi 11)
16Y	4 Hand Céilí	Y (11-14)



Competition Guidelines

MUSIC, SINGING, STORYTELLING COMPETITIONS:

Ceol/ Music: 2 contrasting pieces from Clár na gComórtas listing of tunes. In the event of a recall, competitor shall perform one new piece of their own choice.

Duets & Quartette's: Instrument Detail to be shown on entry form to County. Duet shall comprise of two melody instruments. Quartette shall comprise of four melody instruments.

Polka/Slide playing (on any instrument): Competitors to perform one polka and one slide from the Munster tradition. In the event of recall, competitor shall perform one new polka or slide of their own choice.

U14 Céilí Bands: Two contrasting tunes, from Clár na gComórtas listing. (Minimum Six, Maximum Ten Performers). The number of musicians playing in the Band at the qualifying round shown on the Co. Results form, may not be increased for the Munster Finals. (Céilí Bands are responsible for bringing their own electric keyboard as a piano will not be provided)

Singing/Amhránaíocht: (4) Amhránaíocht ar an Sean-Nós (5) Traditional songs in English.

2 songs – one fast and one slow in each competition (note, a song from the competitor's own county may earn a bonus of 5 marks at the adjudicator's discretion) – no list of songs required

Scéalaíocht & Storytelling: Minimum of 4 minutes to a maximum of 8 minutes.(as per Fleadh Rules)

Dancing Competitions (County Level only)

(12) **Traditional Set: Mixed Teams** (4 boys & 4 Girls) – 2 parts of any Munster Set

(13) **Ladies Set (all girls):** 2 parts of any Munster Set (Munster Sets ONLY allowed)

(14) **Munster POLKA /JIG SETS – Mixed U 14 Set** (min of 2 boys, max of 4 boys). The two parts will be chosen from a choice of Jig/Slide/Polka from the same Munster set.

(15) **8 Hand Céilí Dance**

(16) **4 Hand Céilí Dance**

Rince Céilí requirements:- Body, one figure, & Body of Céilí Dance (as per Ár Rincí Chéilí 2014)

Céilí Dancing Teams: may comprise of any combination: Any number of boys up to a maximum of four in 8 Hand Dance and the remainder made up of girls. (This is different to Fleadh Cheoil Competitions).

Competitors should note that the objective of the competition is to provide a platform and an outlet for Branch members involved in Céilí and Set dancing. The emphasis should be on the traditional approach to dancing in costume and footwear.

Music for Set/Céilí Dancing Competitions: All Céilí teams must dance to the music provided for Céilí competitions. Musician also to be available for set dancing teams, if required, or Set teams may also bring their own musician All set musicians must wear a wristband.

Dancing Up to 11/14 age-group

8 Hand Céilí and Set Dancing: In the Under 14 grade each team may include two dancers from the Under 11 years competing team. Where no under 11 teams competes, the under 14 team may be comprised of 50% under and 50% over 11 years.

Ceol an Gheimhridh Age Groups

There will be two age groups: Under 11 & 11/14

January 1st of the year in which the competition commences will be regarded as the qualifying date in respect of age limit. (i.e. **January 1st 2025 for this year's competition**).

This is the equivalent of January 1st 2026 for next year Fleadh Cheoil. e.g a competitor who will be Under 12 in Fleadh Cheoil 2026 will compete in Under 11 in Ceol an Gheimhridh (taken as of January 1st 2025).

- Quartettes: Under 11 & 11-14. In Duets & Quartettes, an under 11 competitor may opt for a higher age group but may compete in one age group only for that competition.



Eligibility

Competitors are confined to registered members of **one Branch**. All teams (duets, quartettes, céilí bands and dancing teams) must be comprised of registered members of the same branch. Competitors are not eligible to compete at Co. Level unless registered CCÉ Members with Co. Board, for **2025-2026** at the time of submitting entries. Competitors may only be a member of **one branch only** and can only compete **ONCE** in any competition.

All-Ireland Fleadh Qualifiers in Solo Competitions

Please note: solo qualifiers to Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2025 from Fleadh na Mumhan 2025 are ineligible to compete in Ceol an Gheimhridh on the solo category in which they competed in Fleadh na hÉireann. This rule applies to solo competitors in Strings, Wind, Reed, Singing, Amhránaíocht, Storytelling and Scéalaíocht only.

Clarifications:

- A competitor who qualified from Fleadh na Mumhan 2025 on solo fiddle or fiddle slow airs is *ineligible* to play fiddle in the strings competition in Ceol an Gheimhridh 2025/2026. This competitor is also ineligible to enter the Strings competition on a different String instrument such as banjo, mandolin or harp. The same guidelines apply to Reed and Wind Instruments.
- A solo qualifier to Fleadh na hÉireann in Rogha Ghleas is ineligible to enter in the category of instrument in which they competed in Fleadh na hÉireann (e.g a viola player may not compete in the strings competition in Ceol an Gheimhridh)
- If a competitor qualified to Fleadh na hÉireann in English Singing but did not qualify in Amhránaíocht – they are eligible to enter Amhránaíocht in Ceol an Gheimhridh as Irish Singing is a different competition. The same applies to competitors in Storytelling and Scéalaíocht competitions.

Slide & Polka Competition

As the Slide and Polka competition is a special competition which aims to promote the playing of slides and polkas in the province, this competition is open to **all instruments** including solo qualifiers from Fleadh na Mumhan 2025.



Qualifiers to Munster Final

- 1st and 2nd go forward from County to Provincial Final. No Recommendations allowed.
- **For 2025/26 – all set dancing and céilí dancing competitions will be held at County level but a Munster final will only be held for dancing competition where there are sufficient entries to hold a Munster final..**
- Competitors representing a County must perform and qualify within the county prior to the Provincial competition. 'Nominations' are not permissible.
- All Dancing teams, Quartettes, Duets & Céilí Bands are requested to compete in the order as shown in Clár

Substitution

- Substitution is allowed as follows: substitutes must be registered members of the relevant branch and registered with Comhairle na Mumhan at the date of the Munster competition
- Quartettes & 4 hands Céilí dance: ONE substitute allowed.
- Sets & 8 Hand Céilí dance: TWO substitutes allowed.
- Céilí Bands: TWO substitutes allowed provided minimum of 8 members, otherwise ONE substitute.

NO SUBSTITUTION IN OTHER COMPETITIONS.

Finance: There is no entry fee per competition. All competitors will pay an admission fee at all competition venues

Objection: Any objection on the grounds of non-compliance with the rules should be lodged in writing with the secretary of the organising unit within 3 days of the competition.



Munster Final – Sunday, February 15th 2026

In the event of there being sufficient entries to hold a Munster dancing final this will be held on Saturday, Feb 14th 2026.

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