

Breanta De Roscabra
1984

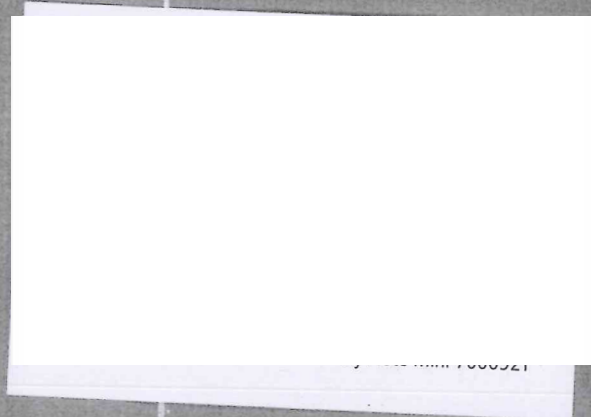


Comhdhail Muinteoiri

agus

Molteoiri na Rinnce Gaelach

CONSTITUTION AND RULES



**CHOMDHAIL MUINTEOIRI AGUS MOLTEOIRI NA
RINNCE GAELACH
CONSTITUTION AND RULES
GENERAL**

1. The Name of the Organisation shall be "Comhdhail Muinteoiri agus Molteoiri na Rinnce Gaelach" and it shall be referred to hereinafter as "An Comhdail."
 2. The following words and expressions shall, for the purposes of this Constitution and Rules, have the meaning in this Section attributed to them.
 - (1) Words importing the singular number shall include plural and words importing the plural number shall include the singular.
 - (2) Words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender.
 - (3) "Member" shall mean an individual who, having the required qualifications has applied for, and has been duly admitted in accordance with the Constitution and Rules of An Comhdail, to membership thereof.
 - (4) "Member in good standing" shall mean a member for the time being complying with the Constitution and Rules of An Comhdail.
 - (5) "Required Qualifications" shall mean a teacher and/or Adjudicator of Irish Dancing and holder of "
 - (a) Teastais De Comhdhala Na Rinnce Gaelach (or an equivalent Teastais from An Coimisiun na Rinnce Gaelach) — the qualification in both cases hereinafter referred to T.C.R.G.
- Or
- (b) Ard Diploma Na Comhdhail na Rinnce Gaelach
- Or
- Ard Diploma An Coimisiun Na Rinnce Gaelach (in both cases abbreviated to A.D.C.R.G.).
- (6) "The Executive Committee" shall mean the body of that name hereinafter provided for and hereinafter referred to as "The Executive".

3. The objects of An Comhdhail shall be:-
 - (1) To promote, foster and stimulate the growth and expansion and education and development of the Art and Practice of Irish Dancing and to that end to set down and adopt Rules Standards and norms for the preservation of the purity of the said Art and Practice and as guide lines for the development and evolution thereof in continuity and further to that end to devise and organise methods, programmes and events embodying competition, exhibition and example thereunto conducive.
 - (2) To foster and inculcate particularly among the youth of both sexes, pride in and appreciation of the grace and vibrant joy which characterise the art and practice of Irish Dancing.
 - (3) To protect and promote the interests of Teachers and Adjudicators of the art and practice of Irish Dancing and to pursue of the expansion and amelioration of their conditions of work.
4. The organs of An Comhdhail shall be:-
 - (i) The Annual Convention hereinafter referred to as "The Convention".
 - (ii) The Executive Committee hereinafter referred to as the Executive"
 - (iii) Branches.

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION

5. The Convention shall be the Supreme Governing Body of An Comhdhail.
 - (i) Each succeeding Convention shall be held at a place and time to be designated by the Immediate Convention and all members shall have a right to attend.
 - (ii) The Convention alone shall be competent to amend the Constitution and Rules.

- (iii) The Convention shall each year adopt policies in accordance with the Constitution and Rules and in accordance with standing orders.
- (iv) The Convention alone shall be competent to amend its own standing orders.
- (v) The outgoing Chairman shall preside over the deliberations of the Convention and in his/her absence the Chair shall be taken by the outgoing Vice-Chairman and in the absence of the outgoing Vice-Chairman shall be decided by majority vote of the convention.
- (vi) Only members of good standing shall be eligible to vote at the convention.
- (vii) The Convention shall consist of all members present of An Comhdhail.
- (viii) Only members registered as such with An Comhdhail may attend the Convention.

6.

EXECUTIVE

- (i) The mandate of the Executive shall run from the end of the convention immediately following the election of its members to the end of the next succeeding convention.
 - (ii) Thirty per cent of the membership of the executive shall constitute a Quorum for all purposes.
 - (iii) At its first meeting the Executive shall as its first business elect by simple majority vote a chairperson who shall occupy that office throughout the mandate of the Executive. In the event of a tie the chairperson shall be the person whose name is drawn from a hat on obtaining the names of the tying candidates.
- 7 The next business of the Executive shall be the election of a Vice-chairperson who shall be designated in the same manner as the Chairperson and who shall also occupy that office throughout the mandate of the Executive.

- 8. (i) The Executive shall meet on not fewer than three occasions during its - mandate and its meetings shall be presided over by the Chairperson or in his/her absence the Vice-chairperson or in his/her absence a Chairperson shall be elected to conduct the meeting.
 - (ii) Meetings of the Executive shall be conducted in accordance with Standing Orders approved and adopted by Convention.
 - (iii) The Executive may in a majority of 70% of the members present and voting amend its Standing Orders provided however that such amendment or amendments shall be on the Agenda of the next succeeding Convention for approval. All acts and performed by the Executive pursuant to any such amendment shall from the date of adoption by the Executive of such amendment until the next succeeding Convention be deemed to be valid acts until the decision of the Convention regarding such amendments be known.
- 9
9. The Executive shall be responsible for the organisation of The Convention and in that behalf shall send to each member notice of the date and venue of the Convention not later than one month prior to the said date. Such notice shall be accompanied by the Agenda for the Convention, a copy of the Auditors Account of An Comhdhail and a copy of the Annual Report of the Executive to the Convention.
- 10. Decisions of the Executive shall be taken by a simple majority vote and in the event of a tie the Chairperson shall have a casting vote.
 - 11. The Executive shall have the right and power to recall the Convention and to deliberate on urgent business according with Standing Orders of Convention.
 - 12. It shall be the duty of the Executive to execute and carry into effect the policies of the convention and to administer the affairs of An Comhdhail.
 - 13. The Duties of the Executive shall be to carry out the orders and directions of the Convention and to manage superintend and direct the affairs of the An Comhdhail.

- to carry out and enforce observance of its constitution and Rules and to administer all funds under its control: to make representations and to carry on negotiations with an Employer or any kindred authority or organisation controlling or having any interest in Irish Dancing in Ireland or Elsewhere.
14. The Executive shall consist of Delegates elected by each Branch of An Comhdhail, the number of delegates which a branch may elect to be in accordance with the Scale provided herein.
15. The next business of the Executive shall be the election of the President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, P.R.O. Registrar in that Order each of whom will be designated in the same manner as the Chairperson and who shall also occupy the office to which he or she has been elected through the mandate of the Executive.
16. The Executive shall provide and hold qualifying examinations, in respect of the following:
 A. Teachers of Irish Dancing.
 B. Adjudicators of Competitions of Irish Dancing.
17. The Executive shall promote and hold competitions in Irish Dancing and provide prizes and awards for same and promote and register competitions provisional and All-Ireland Championships.
18. The Executive shall meet once each month during its mandate and its meeting shall be presided over by the Chairperson or his/Her absence the Vice-chairman or in the absence of both as aforesaid a Chairperson to conduct the meeting shall be elected by simple majority from a Quorum present.
19. During the Mandate the Executive meeting shall rotate on not less than four occasions so that there shall be not less than One Executive Meeting in each province. The venue in each such Province to be decided by simple majority vote of the Executive.
20. A subsidy in respect of travelling and accommodation expenses shall be paid by the Executive to each delegate who shall be required to travel more than 50 miles to any Executive Meeting.
21. The names of each delegate elected to the Executive by their Branch shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Executive not less than fourteen days before the Convention.
22. In the event that a member of the Executive shall be absent from three consecutive meetings of the Executive without furnishing reasonable explanations in writing to the Executive and considered by the Executive as sufficient then such member shall cease to be a member of the Executive and the Executive shall be impower to declare his/her seat vacant and in that event the Executive shall through its secretary request the Branch through its Secretary and of which the non-attending Executive member delegate is a member to convene a Branch Meeting for the purpose of electing a new delegate to the Executive who shall be elected by a simple majority of Branch Members present for such meeting. The non-attending Executive delegate shall not be eligible for nomination for the vacancy created as aforesaid and furthermore the said non-attending delegate shall not be eligible to go forward for election as a delegate in the next following year only.
23. All Delegates shall attend the Convention for the purpose of electing officers for the next succeeding Executive. In the event that the delegate shall fail to attend at the Convention for the purpose aforesaid then provided there shall be a Quorum of Members of a Branch present at the Convention such Branch shall elect by a simple majority vote a delegate to act as deputy to Vote on the election of Officers to the Executive but such Delegate shall not be eligible to Act as Delegate on the Executive for the next succeeding year.
24. The Executive shall be responsible for the election of Adjudicators at all Ireland Championships.
25. Where no Standing Orders shall exist to cover a matter of discretion then the Executive shall have the power to decide same by a simple majority Vote which decision shall be required to be ratified at the next following Convention.
26. (1) Each Branch shall consist of Members of An Comhdhail residing within a defined area and complying with the Constitution and Rules.
 (2) Each Branch shall meet as often as the proper carrying out

BRANCHES

of its affairs shall demand but in any event not less frequently than four times in any one year.

(3) It shall be the purpose and business of each branch to foster and encourage and promote at local level the art and practice of Irish Dancing and to protect, defend and improve the rights and conditions of its members.

(4) It shall be the right and entitlement of each branch to forward to the Executive within the time limits prescribed by the Executive motions adopted at branch level with Branch Standing Rules for debate by Convention.

(5) Each Branch shall submit an annual Report to the Executive not later than two months prior to the Convention each year. Failing to do so within time limits shall entail forfeiture by the Branch of its right and entitlement to table motions for the convention of that year.

(6) Each Branch shall function in accordance with the Standing Orders approved by the Convention.

(7) All members of non reporting Branches shall for the purpose of the Convention be deemed not to be "Members in Good Standing" and shall be deprived of the right to vote.

X 27. In the Event of a tie in the election of a Branch Delegate or in the election of a Branch Member to an Officer position in a Branch the name of the persons tying shall necessitate a re-election for the position.

28 All notices of Motion proposed by a Branch shall be furnished by the Secretary of the particular Branch to the Secretary of An Comhdhail not less than 42 days prior to the date fixed for the Convention.

29 30% of the membership of a Branch present shall constitute a Quorum for all purposes.

30. The Mandate of a Branch shall run from the end of the Annual General Meeting immediately following the elections of its members to the end of the next succeeding Annual General Meeting.

X 31. (a) At the Annual General meeting the business to be transacted shall be the election by simple majority votes of a Branch Delegate to the Convention who shall occupy that office until the end of the next succeeding Annual General

Meeting. The business to be transacted shall be the election by simple majority votes of a Branch Delegate to the Convention who shall occupy that office until the end of the next succeeding Annual General Meeting in the event of a tie the delegates be the person whose name is drawn from a hat on obtaining the names of the tying candidates.

(b) The First business of the New Annual General Meeting shall be the election of the Branch Committee to comprise of a Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer Registrar and P.R.O. in that order each of whom shall be designated in the same manner as in the election of a Chair person to the Executive as hereinbefore provided and each shall continue in Office until the end of the next succeeding Annual General Meeting.

32. In the event that a member of a branch shall be absent from three consecutive Branch Meetings without furnishing reasonable explanations in writing to the Branch Committee and considered by the Branch Sufficient then such member shall forfeit the right to vote at the next succeeding Annual General Meeting of that Branch.

33. Fees payable to a Branch by a Branch Member shall be paid by all Branch Members whether or not they Attend Branch Meetings and shall be paid within the time limits which may be set down from time to time by the Branch.

34. Any questions or complaints within the branch shall in the first instance be dealt with by the Branch at an ordinary meeting of the Branch deciding any such matters by simple majority vote subject to the right of appeal on the part of the agreed Branch Member to the Executive on Appeal within 21 days of the decision at Ordinary Branch subject to final appeal at the next succeeding convention

35. A Branch shall consist of not less than three and not more than thirty members. *Deleted*

36. Only members in attendance at Branch A.G.M. shall be eligible to be nominated for election to Branch positions.

37. The number of Delegates which a Branch may appoint to the Executive Committee shall be in accordance with the following scale:-

BRANCH MEMBERS:-

10 or under - number of Delegates - 1

11 - 20 number of Delegates 2.

And so on with additional Delegate with each additional member or part thereof. A Delegate must be a member of a branch which the member is appointed to represent.

DISCIPLINARY RULES

38. Every member must be fully paid up to a member of Good Standing and any member in arrears for a period of more than 30 days after fees shall fall due shall cease to be a member of Good Standing. In particular a member who shall be in arrears for a period as aforesaid shall not be eligible to vote at the Convention.

40. Any member who shall fail to comply with the Constitution and the Rules of An Comhdhail shall cease to be a member of Good Standing and any member so found by the Executive by two thirds of the Vote to be in breach of the Constitution and Rules shall receive a *Written warning by registered post* at the last known address of that member and such a written warning shall be deemed to be received by that member in the ordinary course of posting. Any member who shall be deemed to have received three more warnings as aforesaid within any period of 12 months shall be deemed to be in continuing breach of the provisions of the Constitution and Rules and at the decision of the Convention be suspended from Membership for a period of ; - before any such decision is taken a person affected shall be afforded an opportunity to state his/her case to the Convention.

41. In particular any member shall receive a written warning in the following instances:-

- (a) When pupils shall be wrongly entered by a member in respect of a particular age or grade of a competition.
- (b) Where a member at a Feis or Feile publically or privately shall challenge the decision of any Adjudicator and when called upon by a member of the Executive to desist such a challenge as aforesaid and shall fail to do so in which event the member of the Executive as aforesaid shall notify the Executive in **writing** of the fact not later than 10 days thereafter.

42. Any member of An Comhdhail found by the Executive deciding by simple majority vote to be in breach of the Constitution Rules shall receive a written warning by registered post.

43. Continuing breach of the provisions and Constitution and Rules by a member warned as hereinbefore provided shall at the decision of the Executive be punishable by suspension of membership for a period of not more than one year or by expulsion.

44. In all cases suspension or expulsion shall take effect from the end of the current calendar year next following the decision of the Executive in accordance with Standing Order of the Executive not earlier than six months after the coming into effect the expulsion or suspension decision and the Executive may at its discretion re-instate such applicant forthwith.

45. In all cases a member has the right of appeal at the next following Convention and must serve notice of appeal in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Convention. The decision of the Convention on the appeal shall be taken by simple majority vote of all members present and voting and shall be final.

FEES

46. All registration fees may be revised annually at the Convention and shall be payable on or before 30th September next following the Convention.

47. All other fees may be revised annually at the Convention.

RESIGNATION

48. A member of An Comhdhail may resign by notifying the Secretary of the Executive by registered post of his or her intention.

49. Resignation shall be effective from the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary in the normal course of post.