



RYAN NEWS REEL

RYAN-KILCOYNE SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING

SEPTEMBER 2009

www.ryanirishdance.com

Welcome! Welcome back to all of our dancers and a warm "Hello" to our new students! For news and information, be sure to visit our website at www.ryanirishdance.com, and please refer to our monthly newsletter for up-to-date information. The newsletter will be available on the "News Updates" page at www.ryanirishdance.com on or about the first of every month. The newsletter will also be sent via e-mail to all registered families.

Tuition & Classes: The tuition rates and class selections for 2009-2010 will be provided upon the registration of your dancer(s). Note that tuition is due in three installments; payments are due by September 30th, December 1st, and March 1st.

Class Locations: Monday classes are held at SS Philip & James Parish, 107 North Ship Road, Exton, PA 19342 and at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 303 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014. Wednesday classes are held at the American Legion, 41 Linden Avenue, Newton, PA 18940. Thursday classes are held at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 654 Hatboro Road, Richboro, PA 18954. St. Vincent de Paul Church is also the location of most Saturday practices held throughout the year. For directions, visit the "Classes" page at www.ryanirishdance.com.

The Ryan-Kilcoyne School of Irish Dancing 15th Annual Feis Saturday, October 10th, 2009, Maple Point Middle School, Langhorne, PA

- Please register for the Ryan-Kilcoyne School of Irish Dancing 15th Annual Feis, scheduled for Saturday, October 10th, 2009 at the Maple Point Middle School in Langhorne, PA. The syllabus is available at www.ryanirishdance.com on the "Our Feis" page. Registration this year is via FeisWeb (<http://www.feisweb.com/>). There is a link to FeisWeb on the "Our Feis" page for your convenience. The entry closing date is September 18, 2009. If you are unsure about using FeisWeb or you are not sure what dance(s) to sign your dancer up for, please do not hesitate to contact Lisa at lpevrard@comcast.net or Kathy Franklin at kfranklin50@comcast.net to assist you with your entry.
- All Ryan-Kilcoyne families are required to have a parent and/or guardian volunteer four hours of their time for their dancers to be able to participate in the feis. It sounds like a lot of time, but it is a fun time, and it goes by quickly! We do need a tremendous amount of help to pull this off! Volunteer information forms will be provided at class if you did not already receive the form via e-mail. The volunteer information form is also available at www.ryanirishdance.com on the "Our Feis" page. Please complete the form and hand it in at class or submit it via e-mail to Lisa at lpevrard@comcast.net.

FYI Definitions -

- **Feis** (pronounced fesh) is an Irish dance competition. Feis is the Irish word for festival. The competitions are categorized by age group and skill level. The competitive levels are: Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Novice, Prizewinner, Preliminary Championship, and Open Championship. The plural of feis is *feisianna*.
- **Syllabus** is a listing of the competitions in a feis by age, gender, and skill level, as well as the rules of the feis, fees, and where to send entries.
- **Oireachtas** (pronounced oh-ROCK-tus) is a large feis, organized by regions. Dancers placing highly qualify for the World Championships (Oireachtas na Cruinne). There are solo and team competitions. Our school will participate in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Championship held at the Philadelphia Marriot on Friday, November 27th — Sunday, November 29th this year.

Dance Attire: Dancers should wear comfortable clothing to class (i.e., shorts and t-shirts). Beginners should wear socks and a light sneaker to start. At dance-outs/parades/competitions, Beginner and Advanced Beginner girls may wear a black skirt and white blouse. The next level of costume would be the black velvet school dress with green satin lining and white crocheted collar and cuffs. This is recommended for the Novice/Prizewinner level dancer. Boys may wear a solid color shirt and black trousers.

Items for Sale:

- If you are in the market for a solo dress, please check out the "Items for Sale" page at www.ryanirishdance.com. There are a number of solo dresses available within the school. If you would like to post a dress on the page, please contact Lisa at lpevrard@comcast.net.
- If you are interested in purchasing a used black velvet school dress, please contact Irene Johnston at YardleyJohnstons@aol.com or post a message on the school message board requesting a school dress and size requirements. There are many school dresses currently for sale within the school.
- If you are in need of dance shoes, please check out the used shoe bag which is currently housed at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Richboro, PA. Christina will work out a schedule to get the used shoe bag to every class location once per month.

Saturday Oireachtas Practice – Saturday Oireachtas practices for September, October, and November will be at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Richboro, PA unless otherwise noted on the News Updates page at www.ryanirishdance.com. Figures/Ceili will be from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and will cost \$10 per week. Solos will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and will cost \$20 per week; this price includes the figures class. The solo class is for Preliminary/Open Championship dancers, any dancers about to move into Preliminary Championships from the Prizewinner category, and for those dancers competing in solos at the November Oireachtas. If you are not sure if you are competing in solos at the Oireachtas, please consult with Christina.

The Saturday Oireachtas Practice Schedule is as follows:

September 12 th	October 3 rd	November 7 th
September 19 th	October 17 th	November 14 th
September 26 th	October 24 st	November 21 st
	October 31 st	

Please check the message board and the "News Updates" page for any last minute schedule changes.

Upcoming Feis Dates 2009-2010 – A list of the Mid-Atlantic Region feiseanna for the 2009-2010 season can be found at the NAFC site www.northamericanfeiscommission.org. Another excellent source of information is the *Local Feis Information* page, provided by the Peter Smith School, at www.petersmithschool.com/finfo.htm. Remember to submit your entry as early as possible, since many reach capacity well before the entry deadline. There are also several New England Region and Southern Region competitions that are well worth the drive. Check these regions out on the NAFC site, as well.

Competition Reminders:

- No solo costumes are allowed in Beginner and Advanced Beginner Grades; skirt and blouse or school costume only.
- The use of make-up is not permitted for any dancer in the first two grades (Beginner and Advanced Beginner) up to and including the Under 12 age group.
- At the June 2007 IDTANA Mid-Atlantic Region meeting, the following motion was passed: *Effective January 2, 2008, a dancer must receive three (3) first places in Preliminary Championships to move to Open Championships. This would replace the existing rule that a dancer must receive two (2) first places.*