

2017 COLUMBIA-PACIFIC SCOTTISH FIDDLE WORKSHOP, COMPETITION & RALLY



Portland Highland Games
Saturday - July 15, 2017
Gresham, OR

Mt. Hood Community College Gym, Dance Studio
Enter online: www.phga.org April 1 - June 30, 2017

The Portland Highland Games, in association with Scottish Fiddling Revival, Ltd. (Scottish FIRE), is proud to offer to any fiddler or violinist:

Judge, Workshop Leader: TBA

Scottish Fiddle Workshop 8:30 a.m.

Scottish Fiddle Competition 10:30 a.m.

The Workshop and Competition are two separate events; one is not required for the other.

Junior Class: fiddlers under age 18 as of 7/15/17

Novice Class: anyone new to Scottish style fiddling

Open Class: open to anyone

Prizes to winners in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

Cash prizes to Open Class competitors:

1st place - \$100

2nd place - \$50

3rd place - \$25

Fiddlers' Rally & Celtic Harp Circle 2:00 p.m.

Free with gate admission! Center of the Gym. Open to all Scottish fiddlers! Join the fun!

Questions? Contact Tricia Fairman pjfairman@gmail.com; 216-469-6963

Columbia-Pacific Scottish Fiddle Competition

Official Rules

This competition is sanctioned by Scottish FIRE, the national Scottish Fiddling Organization, and is conducted according to these rules.

Requirements of the Competition

Novice class competitors will play three tunes, either an air, followed by a pause, then, without pausing, a strathspey and a reel; or, a march, a strathspey and a reel without stopping. Novice competitors may also choose to play an air, march, strathspey and reel.

Open and Junior class competitors will play an air, followed by a pause, then without pausing between tunes, a march, a strathspey and a reel.

This is a competition in solo fiddle performance. Fiddlers will perform without any other accompanying instruments (guitar, piano, etc.).

Although it is not required, Scottish attire is strongly encouraged, i.e., for men: tartan kilt, jacket, vest or trews (trousers), and for women: tartan skirt, kilted skirt and/or sash for ladies. Thrift stores often have used kilts. Some kilts are available from the Steward with advance notice.

Definitions of Classes of Competitors

Open: any fiddler may compete in this class.

Junior: open to any fiddler under the age of 18 on day of competition.

Novice: any fiddler new to the art of Scottish fiddling, no age restriction.

When a novice competitor has won first place in three Novice class competitions, that competitor will be required to enter in the Open class.

The use of written music is optional in any class; however, it is customary to play from memory. Competitors may enter any one class for which they are qualified. The Judge will assign the competitor to the appropriate class if there is a question about which class is appropriate. The Judge may assign the competitors either before or after they play.

Musical Categories

The main criterion for the acceptability of any particular tune in any category is how the tune is played, not how it was originally written. Transpositions from the original key and original tunes in the Scottish style are both permitted. Specifically permitted in each category are:

1. **Air:** Any slow air, pastoral, slow Strathspey, lament or any other tune played as an air.
 2. **March:** Any march (pipe march or other) whether 2/4, 4/4 or 6/8, or any other tune played as a march.
 3. **Strathspey:** Any dance strathspey or other tune played as a strathspey.
 4. **Reel:** Any reel, Scots measure, hornpipe or other tune played as a reel.
- NOTE: Waltzes, jigs (6/8 and 9/8) and hornpipes played in the original manner will not be allowed as substitutions for any of the categories above.

Judging

All competitors shall be judged against the criteria in Performance Standards below. In the event the Judge is unable to decide the ranking of contestants from the first performance, a play-off will be required. The competitors concerned will each play a strathspey and a reel without pausing between tunes. The competitor may choose to play any strathspey/reel set. Following the competition, each competitor will be provided with a copy of the Judge's score sheet and comments.

Performance Standards

For the opening air and the march/strathspey/reel sequence, the following factors will be considered and weighted as follows:

Timing 30 points:

- Tempo, continuity of music, rhythm. The tempo and rhythm must be appropriate both to the tune chosen and to the style of execution. While some variations may be appropriate for proper interpretation, the overall context and structure of the tune should not be lost to specific techniques of execution or expression.

Execution, 30 points:

- Command of the instrument, both fingering and bowing, the technical skill in the playing or ornamentation, in correct intonation, and in the mastery of effects.

Expression/Interpretation, 40 points:

- The quality of the performance that appeals to the listener's feelings, reflecting the performer's judgement and ability in capturing and conveying the sentiment of the composer or the traditional associations of the tune. In the march/strathspey/reel sequence, the following factors will be considered as part of expression:

Transitions

- March to strathspey and strathspey to reel. Does the transition suit the tunes and provide an effective bridge for the listener in terms of melodic flow, tonal and rhythmic punctuation?

Overall coherence and effect

- Extent to which the tunes played stand together as a coherent musical statement.

In all aspects, performance in the traditional Scottish style will be the significant element in distinguishing otherwise technically comparable performances.

The Judge will not penalize any competitor because of disagreement with the categorization of any particular tune, as long as the tune is played in the appropriate manner for the category.

Eligibility for National Scottish Fiddling Competition

First place winners of Junior and Open regional competitions are qualified to compete in the national Scottish fiddling competition later in the year. The Judge may promote 2nd place winners to the national competition. Membership in Scottish Fiddling Revival Ltd., or Scottish FIRE, is required to compete on the national level. Information about Scottish FIRE and the national fiddling competition can be found at www.scottishfiddling.org

Please note the following restrictions on the day of the games:

1. No alcohol may be brought into the games.
2. Alcoholic beverages are available for purchase for those ages 21 and over (must present proof of age – no exceptions).
3. No animals are allowed at, or on the field, the day of the games with the exception of Service Dogs.
4. No RV or overnight parking allowed on the Mt. Hood Community College Campus.

5. Mt. Hood Community College is a tobacco-free zone.



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