

Leabhar Rialacha Scór

SCOR RULE BOOK



Meitheamh 2016



The acceptance of the ‘ethos’, ‘rules’ and ‘recommendations’ contained herein and the interpretation of same by the committees charged with organising the various stages, shall be precondition to entry to Scór.

An Coiste Náisiúnta Scór

RÁITEAS CUSPÓRA SCÓR

Is mian le Scór a bheith dílis do mhianta Chumann Lúthchleas Gael agus tacaíocht bheo a thabhairt do rincí, ceol agus amhránaíocht thraidisiúnta na hÉireann agus do na gnéithe eile a bhaineann lenár gcultúr dúchasach. Déantar sin trí chomórtais éagsúla ar ard-chaighdeán a reachtáil ag leibhéal ógánaigh agus dhaoine fásta, comórtais a spreagfadh páirtíocht, uileghabhálacht agus as a mbainfeadh siad siúd a bheadh páirteach iontu lánásamh. Úsáidfear an Ghaeilge chun cur leis na himeachtaí sin agus maisiú a dhéanamh orthu. Cothóidh sé eolas ar na hidéil náisiúnta agus dúil iontu trína chuid clubanna, sa bhaile agus i gcéin, a chabhróidh chun misneach a mhúscailt sa phobal.

SCÓR MISSION STATEMENT

Scór seeks to advance the aspiration of the GAA to actively promote and support traditional Irish dancing, music, song and other aspects of Irish culture, through a range of competitions at youth and adult levels, designed to encourage participation, enjoyment, inclusion and excellence. The Irish language shall be used to compliment and enhance these activities. It shall foster an awareness and love of the national ideals and assist in promoting a community spirit through its clubs at home and abroad.

CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL

The Gaelic Athletic Association is a National Organisation which has as its basic aim the strengthening of the National Identity in a 32 County Ireland through the preservation and promotion of Gaelic Games and pastimes.

The Association shall promote and control the National games of Hurling, Gaelic Football, Handball and Rounders, and such other games as may be sanctioned and approved by Annual Congress.

The Association shall actively support the Irish language, traditional Irish dancing, music, song and other aspects of Irish culture. It shall foster an awareness and love of the national ideals in the people of Ireland, and assist in promoting community spirit through its clubs.

WHAT IS SCÓR ?

Scór is a GAA competition that combines all the colour and rivalry of Gaelic Games with the social/fun element of Ireland's traditional past-times. The competition was established by the GAA in 1969 with the aim of promoting Ireland's traditional past-times and culture while offering club members the chance to meet up, have fun and represent their club during the winter months while Hurling, Football, Handball, Camogie, Ladies Football and Rounders had ceased.

There are 8 events/disciplines in Scór that cover all aspects of Irish culture, Figure/Céilí Dancing, Solo Singing, Recitation/Storytelling, Ballad Group, Léiriú Stáitse, Instrumental Music, Set Dancing and Table Quiz. The competition is divided into two age levels, Scór na nÓg for people under 17 years and Scór Sinsir for those over 17 years of age.

- Tráth na gCeasteanna Boird / Table Quiz will be held separately from the other stage competitions.

SCÓR NA NÓG AGUS SCÓR SINSIR

Important Notice to Divisional and County Committees:

Each County is required to organise Scór na nÓg (U17) and Scór Sinsir Competitions as directed by Congress.

In accordance with Rial 3.21 (viii) of An Treoraí Oifigiúil 2013, a County Committee shall appoint a Cultural Committee which shall be responsible for (a) the Irish Language (b) Scór and (c) other Cultural Activities.

In accordance with Rial 3.33 (vii) of An Treoraí Oifigiúil 2013, a Provincial Council shall appoint a Cultural Committee which shall be responsible for (a) the Irish Language, (b) Scór and (c) other Cultural Activities.

Each County Board is expected to set up a SPECIAL COMMITTEE to promote, organise and run Scór Competitions.

Each County and Divisional Committee shall appoint a Scór Rúnaí and every Club shall have a Scór Rúnaí registered with the County Committee.

All Clubs and Divisions shall elect a Scór Officer at their A.G.M.

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AN COISTE NÁISIÚNTA SCÓR

An Coiste Náisiúnta Scór is the National Organising Committee of Scór. Its members are appointed for a three year period by Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael and report to Ard-Chomhairle. The remit of the Coiste is:

- Promotion of Scór
- Review and Implementation of Rialacha Scór
- Review and Improvement of Scór Competitions
- Arrange for the National Finals of Scór Competitions
- Report to Ard-Chomhairle.

List and order of Competitions:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Rince Foirne | Céilí or Figure Dancing |
| 2. Amhránaíocht Aonair | Solo Singing |
| 3. Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht | Recitation/Storytelling |
| 4. Bailéad Ghrúpa | Ballad Group |

SOS (Not to exceed 15 minutes)

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 5. Léiriú Stáitse | Stage Presentation |
| 6. Ceol Uirlise | Instrumental Music |
| 7. Rince Seit | Set Dancing |

Competitions shall be run off in the order given with the interval coming after Bailéad Ghrúpa.

SCÓR NA NÓG

For Competitors Under 17 years on:

1 Eanáir 2017 – 2016/2017 Competition

1 Eanáir 2018 – 2017/2018 Competition

1 Eanáir 2019 – 2018/2019 Competition

BABHTA A hAON / STAGE ONE

Club Competitions:

To be run off among the club's own members, and winners go forward to Divisional or District Board Stage where deemed necessary or otherwise to:

BABHTA A DÓ / STAGE TWO

County Final:

To be completed at least two (2) weeks prior to the Provincial Competition, with the winners to go forward to:

BABHTA A TRÍ / STAGE THREE

Provincial Championship:

To be completed one calendar month in advance of the All-Ireland finals, with the winners going forward to:

BABHTA A CEATHAIR / STAGE FOUR

The date and venue for the All-Ireland Finals of Scór na nÓg shall be as decided by Coiste Náisiúnta Scór. Dates of Provincial Finals of Scór na nÓg shall be as agreed between the relevant Provincial Committees and Coiste Náisiúnta Scór.

Any exceptions to the above must be agreed with An Coiste Náisiúnta Scór.

SCÓR SINSIR

For Competitors over 17 years on:

1 Eanáir 2017 – 2016/2017 Competition

1 Eanáir 2018 – 2017/2018 Competition

1 Eanáir 2019 – 2018/2019 Competition

BABHTA A hAON / STAGE ONE

Club Competitions:

To be run off from among the club's own members, and winners go forward to Divisional or District Board Stage where deemed necessary or otherwise to:

BABHTA A DÓ / STAGE TWO

County Final:

To be completed at least two (2) weeks prior to the Provincial Competition, with the winners to go forward to:

BABHTA A TRÍ / STAGE THREE

Provincial Championship:

To be completed **one calendar month** in advance of the All-Ireland finals, with the winners going forward to:

BABHTA A CEATHAIR / STAGE FOUR

All Ireland Finals.

The date and venue for the All-Ireland Finals of Scór Sinsir shall be as decided by Coiste Náisiúnta Scór. Dates of Provincial Finals of Scór Sinsir shall be as agreed between the relevant Provincial Committees and Coiste Náisiúnta Scór.

Any exceptions to the above must be agreed with An Coiste Náisiúnta Scór.

RIALACHA

Eligibility

It is deemed that all competitors and clubs have full knowledge of the rules and regulations of Scór.

Where a competitor has a dual eligibility in accordance with the current edition of An Treoraí Oifigiúil he/she must exercise his/her option prior to the commencement of that year's competitions e.g. a competitor who is eligible to represent his/her Third Level College as well as his/her home club may only represent one club.

1. (a) Competitors must be registered members of their club in accordance with the current edition of An Treoraí Oifigiúil.
 (b) Competitors from Camogie, Ladies Football, Handball and Rounders Clubs must be registered and bona fide members of their own clubs in accordance with their official membership guidelines.
2. Clubs competing in Scór competitions must submit the GAA/Associate Body Membership number of all of their competitors to the County Scór Secretary when entering. These numbers must accompany county entrants at Provincial level and Provincial winners at All-Ireland level.
3. Competitors may only compete for one club, their own club.
4. A club need enter only one group or competitor as the case may be in any of the specific Scór disciplines.
5. The entry fee for Scór Sinsir and Scór na nÓg at Divisional/County level shall be at the discretion of each Divisional or County Scór Committee.
6. In accordance with the amateur ethos of the Association:
 - a) Fulltime professional performers are not eligible to take part in competitions relative to their profession.
 - b) People whose livelihood is the teaching of music, dancing or elocution are not allowed to participate in competitions in which they specialise.

Penalty for Breach of this Rule - Disqualification

FEAR A'TÍ / BEAN A'TÍ

7. An Fear a'Tí / Bean a'Tí shall use as much Irish as possible.
8. If competitors are not ready when their turn comes they are eliminated and the Fear a'Tí / Bean a'Tí continues with the next competitor(s). This rule to apply except in the case of exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Organising Committee.
9. The Fear a'Tí / Bean a'Tí must introduce all acts from the stage. Competitors may not introduce their acts except in Recitation / Storytelling where the competitor may announce the name of the recitation/story and the author.

Scór Programmes

10. A draw shall take place for the running order, competitors shall then be numbered on the programme and take part in the order in which they are listed.
11. The following to be included in all programmes:
 - Rialacha 9 and 28
 - Treorlínte 4, 5 and 6

Adjudicators

12. An adjudicator shall be someone with recognised expertise in the discipline through performance or teaching and is/has been involved in practising their art.
13. One adjudicator qualified in the discipline will be appointed to adjudicate each competition at all levels.
14. Go mbeadh caighdeán ábharthacht Gaeilge ag moltóirí nuair atá achtanna Gaeilge á mholtóireacht ag comórtais Scór agus cruthúnas de seo sna moltaí atá á scríobh síos ar an leathanach léirmheasa. Tá sé seo ábharthacht do na comórtais Amhránaíocht Aonair, Bailéad Ghrúpa. Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht agus Léiriú Stáitse amháin. (That adjudicators have the appropriate level of Irish when adjudicating acts/performances as Gaeilge at Scór competitions with their competence in Irish reflected in the comments written down on the adjudicators' comment sheets. This shall apply to the Solo Singing, Ballad Singing and Recitation/Storytelling competition(s). This to take effect after the first round in county competitions.

15. At the All Ireland, the adjudicator will be from a different county than the competitors in the competition.
16. Different adjudicators shall be used at Provincial Level in consecutive years.
17. Coistí Contae agus Cúige shall compile and forward a short list of adjudicators each year to the Coiste Náisiúnta for circulation.
18. Completed Adjudication sheets and comments will be made available to Club Secretaries in relation to Divisional or District Board Stage, County Final and Provincial and All-Ireland stages.
19. Any adjudication marks that need to be changed because of genuine error should carry the initials of that person making the change. This should only be the adjudicator who awarded the marks.
20. Competitors taking part in Scór competitions shall not adjudicate in any discipline at that competition on that day/night.
21. An adjudicator who adjudicates a particular discipline at Provincial level other than within their own Province in Scór na nÓg, shall not adjudicate in the same discipline in the All-Ireland Final of Scór na nÓg in the same year. Similarly, the same shall apply to Scór Sinsir.
22. Responsibility for time-keeping of competitions and performances, (i.e. Amhránaíocht Aonair, Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht, Léiriú Stáitse) shall be the responsibility of the Organising Committee at that particular level; infringements shall be advised to the relevant adjudicator(s) who shall make the necessary deductions before handing in their score card.
23. Competitors and others shall not be entitled to question adjudicators. Adjudicators shall not discuss performances or their decisions with competitors or others.

Nóta: Guidelines to adjudicators and competitors to help consistency and clarification of rules and recommendations are set out on a separate leaflet.

TIMEKEEPING

1. In Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht and Léiriú Stáitse a bell will be rung to indicate to competitors that the maximum time allowed in the competition has been reached and that they will incur time penalty points if they continue.

ALL-IRELAND FINALS

1. The All-Ireland Final programme shall be printed in Irish and English. Provincial Secretaries shall provide the names in Irish and English to the Programme Editor one calendar month prior to the finals for printing.
2. At All-Ireland Finals of Scór, the Fear a'Tí or Bean a'Tí shall be appointed by Coiste Náisiúnta Scór.
3. The National Scór Committee shall appoint adjudicators for both Scór na nÓg and Scór Sinsir Finals.

GENERAL

1. The language of Scór shall be Irish and English only.
2. Where winners are unable to go forward to the next round the Organising Committee shall nominate the next highest placed available competitor(s) to take their place.
3. A copy of the completed relevant score card and competitors personal remarks sheet shall be available to the Club Rúnaí, if requested within seven days, from the Secretary of the Organising Committee.
4. All medals awarded to Scór winners should have the official Scór centre crest.
5. Competitors in all competitions must report backstage immediately when called to do so by the Fear/Bean a'Tí.
6. At no level of the Competition should Scór be held in the Lounge Bar of a Hotel, Licensed Premises or Public House while there is an open bar in operation.

7. The final decision on these Rules rests with the Organising Committee at each stage. See Agóidí - page 12.
8.
 - a) Live musical accompaniment shall be provided by the Organising Committee at Provincial Final and All-Ireland Final levels for Rince Foirne and Rince Seit, and must be used by all groups of dancers.
 - b) Where an Organising Committee at an earlier level decides to provide the musical accompaniment it shall be used by all groups. If accompaniment is not provided then dance groups must provide their own accompaniment.
 - c) A live musical accompaniment should be limited to a maximum of four (4) persons playing instruments using the in-house amplifications system only.

Penalty. Failure to comply shall result in the disqualification of competitors.

Nóta: The date and venue for the All-Ireland Finals of Scór na nÓg and Scór Sinsir shall be as decided by Coiste Náisiúnta Scór. Dates of Provincial Finals of Scór na nÓg and Scór Sinsir shall be as agreed between the relevant Provincial Committees and Coiste Náisiúnta Scór.

TREOIRLÍNTE

Guidelines

1. Oifigigh na Gaeilge should promote a scheme for the wider use of the Irish Language at Scór functions.
2. Competitors will be referred to as representing their Club and County in the latter stages of the Competition.
3. In Scór programmes the names of all personnel in groups shall be included in both Irish and English.
4. Competitions will be run off as listed in the programme.
5. Competitors wishing to rehearse must do so outside the main hall.
6. Clubs shall be responsible for the conduct of their teams and supporters at Scór na nÓg and Scór Sinsir at all stages of the competitions.
7. The raffle prize for either Scór na nÓg or Scór Sinsir must not be alcoholic drink.

SCÓR

MARKING CARDS





Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

RINCE FOIRNE / CÉILÍ DANCING

AINM	Timing 35 Marc	Steps of Dance 35 Marc	Carriage 20 Marc	General Effect & Style 10 Marc	Adjudicators Total	Penalty	Total 100 Marc
(1)							
(2)							
(3)							
(4)							
(5)							
(6)							
(7)							
(8)							
(9)							
(10)							

Buaiteoir: _____

Síniú an Mholtóra: _____

Dáta: _____



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

AMHRÁNAIOCHT AONAIR / SOLO SINGING

AINM	Tonal Quality & Intonation 30 Marc	Diction 20 Marc	Phrasing 20 Marc	Interpretation / Expression / Individuality 15 Marc	Delivery of Song & General Impression 15 Marc	Adjudicators Total	Penalty	Total 100 Marc
(1)								
(2)								
(3)								
(4)								
(5)								
(6)								
(7)								
(8)								
(9)								
(10)								

Buaiteoir: _____

Síniú an Mholtóra: _____

Dáta: _____



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael AITHRISÉIREACHT / SCÉALAÍOCHT / RECITATION / STORYTELLING

AINM	Dramatic Presence 40 Marc	Elocution/ Clarity 25 Marc	Confidence / Sincerity 25 Marc	Choice / Suitability 10 Marc	Adjudicators Total	Time Penalty	Total 100 Marc
(1)							
(2)							
(3)							
(4)							
(5)							
(6)							
(7)							
(8)							
(9)							
(10)							

Buaiteoir: _____
Síníú an Mholtóra: _____

Dáta: _____



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

BAILÉAD GHRÚPA / BALLAD GROUP

Club _____

AMHRÁN / SONGS	Tonal Quality & Diction 15 Marc	Interpretation 10 Marc	Phrasing & Delivery 15 Marc	Overall Impression 10 Marc	TOTAL 50 Marc
(1)					
(2)					
IOMLÁN / TOTAL					

Buaiteoir: _____

Síniú an Mholtóra: _____

Dáta: _____



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

LÉIRIÚ STÁITSE / STAGE PRESENTATION

AINM	Presentation & Acting 40 Marc	Originality/ Script & Production 35 Marc	Entertainment Value 25 Marc	Adjudicators Total	Time Penalty	Hand Prop Penalty	Total 100 Marc
(1)							
(2)							
(3)							
(4)							
(5)							
(6)							
(7)							
(8)							
(9)							
(10)							

Buaiteoir: _____

Síniú an Mholtóra: _____

Dáta: _____



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

CEOL UIRLISE / INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

AINM	Overall Musicianship 50 Marc	Phrasing / Interpretation 15 Marc	Style / Presentation 15 Marc	Balance & Teamwork 10 Marc	Overall Impression 10 Marc	TOTAL 100 Marc
(1)						
(2)						
(3)						
(4)						
(5)						
(6)						
(7)						
(8)						
(9)						
(10)						

Buaiteoir: _____

Dáta: _____

Síniú an Mholtóra: _____



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

RINCE SEIT / SET DANCING

AINM	Standard of Footwork 35 Marc	Timing 25 Marc	Carriage / Teamwork 20 Marc	Traditional Style Overall Effect 20 Marc	Penalty	Total 100 Marc
(1)						
(2)						
(3)						
(4)						
(5)						
(6)						
(7)						
(8)						
(9)						
(10)						

Buaiteoir: _____
Síniú an Mholtóra: _____

Dáta: _____



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

TRÁTH NA gCEISTEANNA / TABLE QUIZ

FOIREANN	RD 1 GAELIC & LADIES FOOTBALL	RD 2 HURLING & CAMOGIE	RD 3 GENERAL GAA ROUND	RD 4 IRISH HISTORY	RD 5 WORLD HISTORY & WORLD GEOGRAPHY	RD 6 IRISH GEOGRAPHY	RD 7 IRISH CURRENT AFFAIRS	RD 8 WORLD CURRENT AFFAIRS	RD 9 IRISH CULTURE	RD 10 GENERAL KNOWLEDGE	TOTAL MARKS
(25)											
(26)											
(27)											
(28)											
(29)											
(30)											
(31)											
(32)											

Buaiteoir: _____

Síniú Maistir na gCeisteanna: _____

Dáta: _____

AGÓIDÍ

Objections

Objections are governed by the relevant rules of the current Treoraí Oifigiúil with the specific provisions for Scór as below.

1. “Competition Control Committee” etc. should read the “Organising Committee of Scór” at that level.
2. Objections shall be lodged by the Secretary of the relevant unit with the Secretary of the Organising Committee of Scór at that particular level.
3. An objection shall be lodged within 3 days of the notified starting time of Scór on that particular occasion, quoting the relevant rules from An Treoraí Oifigiúil and Leabhar Rialacha Scór.
4. An objection shall be accompanied by a fee of €50/£40, returnable if the objection is successful.
5. Three (3) eligible members of the Organising Committee shall constitute a quorum for a hearing. Riail 7.3 (u) and (aa) of An Treoraí Oifigiúil 2013 (as may be subsequently amended) shall apply where relevant.
6. A decision shall be notified as soon as possible and before the next stage by the relevant committee.
7. There shall be no objection on the basis of an Adjudicator’s decision nor the imposition of penalty points in any competition.
8. Any appeal arising shall be to the Appeals/Hearings Committee at County/Provincial/National level.
9. There shall be no objection or appeal against the Adjudicators appointed by the relevant Organising Committee.

COMÓRTAS UIMHIR 1

RINCE FOIRNE

1. Each group shall consist of not less than four and not more than eight dancers.
2. (a) Live musical accompaniment shall be provided by the Organising Committee at Provincial Final and All Ireland Final levels, and must be used by all groups of dancers.
 - (b) Where an Organising Committee at an earlier level decides to provide the musical accompaniment it shall be used by all groups. If accompaniment is not provided, then dance groups must provide their own accompaniment.
 - (c) A live musical accompaniment should be limited to a maximum of four (4) persons playing instruments using the in-house amplifications system only.

Penalty: Failure to comply shall result in disqualification of competitors.

3. One dance to be contributed by each group.
4. A “dance on” (maximum of 16 bars of music danced/marched) and a “dance off” (maximum of 16 bars of music danced/marched) shall be allowed in the Céilí Dancing Competition.

Penalty for Breach of 16 Bars for “dance on” – 10 marks and for “dance off” – 10 marks. No marks shall be awarded for dance on or dance off.

5. Duration of the dance. Each team shall dance the lead-around, one body only and shall stop after one figure of the dance, where dances are composed in such a structure, and shall be according to Ár Rinnidhe Fóirne Leabhair 1, 2 and 3.

Nóta: Lannigan’s Ball may be danced as an eight-hand dance, St. Patrick’s Day, Lead around, body, 1st figure (tops), body, 1st figure (sides).

6. Dances must be chosen from all 4-hand, 6-hand and 8-hand dances as listed in Ár Rinnidhe Fóirne, Leabhair 1, 2 and 3.

7. It is recommended that dancers be simply dressed and wear club colours. Dancing groups shall not be allowed dance in schools of dancing costumes and the wearing of dancing wigs is also forbidden.

Penalty: Disqualification.

8. A timber stage shall be provided at all levels.
9. Only dancers and musical accompanists are permitted on the stage.
10. If during a stage performance, a dancer sustains an injury or falls on stage, the performance shall be suspended and if the injured person(s) is/are unable to continue, substitute(s) shall be permitted and the group will be allowed dance again at the end of the respective competition. However, the group will carry any error penalty forward to the second performance.

Nóta: In the above event an additional medal for that level of the competition will be awarded to the substitute dancer.

COMÓRTAS UIMHIR 2

AMHRÁNAÍOCHT AONAIR

1. **The song being sung must be of the history of Ireland, its people, places and folklore or of the history, people, places and folklore of the country of birth/origin of the competitor.**
2. **Provided a competitor sings a song as defined above, adjudication will be on the standard of singing, not on the selection of the song.**
3. Each competitor shall sing one song.
4. A competitor may only accompany themselves with a single instrument, but a Piano or Keyboard is not allowed.
5. One contribution of not more than six minutes duration from each competitor.

Penalty: Failure to comply with time period shall mean a penalty of one mark for the first ten seconds (or part thereof) over time, with an additional mark per five seconds (or part thereof) thereafter.

COMÓRTAS UIMHIR 3

AITHRISÉOIREACHT / SCÉALAÍOCHT

1. Recitations, Monologues, poems and stories relating to Ireland, its history, local folklore, people and places, or in the Irish Language shall be acceptable for this competition as will Recitations, Monologues, poems and stories relating to history, local folklore, people and places of the country of birth/origin of the competitor. Humour and originality are permitted.
2. One contribution of not more than six minutes duration from each competitor.

Penalty. Failure to comply with time period shall mean a penalty of one mark for the first ten seconds (or part thereof) over time, with an additional mark per five seconds (or part thereof) thereafter.

3. A competitor may announce the name and author of their piece.
4. Where a competitor introduces his/her recitation/story this shall be included as part of the presentation in counting the time allowed.
5. Competitors are allowed to dress up if they so wish.
6. Backing or accompaniment is allowed off stage.
7. **Racism, sectarianism, sexual offensiveness, vulgarity (by actions or words) or any other behaviour deemed offensive shall disqualify.**
 - **Penalty:** Disqualification.
 - **Disqualification is initially the responsibility of the adjudicators but ultimately that of the relevant Organising Committee.**
 - **Where an act that is clearly in breach of the above guidelines is allowed to progress to a higher stage the club/district/county or province responsible may be precluded from entering in the competition for a period of one year i.e. the following year.**

COMÓRTAS UIMHIR 4

BAILÉAD GHRÚPA

1. Ballads must be of the History of Ireland, its people, places and folklore, or the history, people, places, folklore of the country of birth/origin of the competitor.
2. Groups must sing two contrasting ballads, the contrast to be in tempo.
3. **Ballad Singing**
 - (i) A “ballad” is a song that tells a story. Therefore, the overall emphasis is that groups communicate the meaning and sentiment of their songs to the audience in an engaging and sincere fashion.
 - (ii) Groups shall focus on creating song arrangements that reflect and reinforce the stories their ballads are telling.
 - (iii) Musical devices such as harmonisation, part-singing, dynamics etc., may be used for effect but shall not dominate performances.
4. Groups must comprise of at least three and not more than five members.
5. The number in the group playing instruments be limited to three per song.

Penalty: Automatic Disqualification

Groups are not required to have instruments.

6. Groups are encouraged to sing at least one ballad as Gaeilge.

COMÓRTAS UIMHIR 5

LÉIRIÚ STÁITSE (STAGE PRESENTATION)

1. Léiriú Stáitse, which depicts a stage presentation with a theme based on an aspect of Irish life, culture or folklore. It would be a dramatic presentation in serious or comic form and clubs could include music, song or dance in the presentation. The quality of the music, song or dance would not be an issue in the adjudication.

Competitors are informed that the marking will be based on the theme and production rather than on the quality of any singing or music that is included.

2. The production should not under any circumstances belittle our country or its people nor be derogatory or belittling to other nationalities.

Racism, sectarianism, sexual offensiveness, vulgarity (by actions or words) or any other behaviour deemed offensive shall disqualify.

- **Penalty:** Disqualification.
 - **Disqualification is initially the responsibility of the adjudicators but ultimately that of the relevant Organising Committee. Where an act that is clearly in breach of the above guidelines is allowed to progress to a higher stage the club/district/county or province responsible may be precluded from entering in the competition for a period of one year i.e. the following year.**
3. The act may be performed by groups of at least three (3) and not more than eight (8) people.
 - Two non-participating mentors only, permitted side stage.
 4. **Props:**
 - a) **Hand held props only.** Defined as an object carried on stage by hand by one performer.
 - b) **One item of electrical/battery operated equipment** other than the amplification provided shall be allowed.
 5. Each contribution must take not more than 10 minutes including setting-up and removal of props.

Procedure.

A clear stage will be shown and the Fear/Bean a'Tí will announce "time starts now". Lights may be dimmed/curtain closed to allow props to be placed on stage. At the end of the act a clear stage is announced and shown again.

Penalties:

1. **Time Penalty: Failure to comply with time period shall mean a penalty of one mark for the first ten seconds (or part thereof) over time, with an additional mark per five seconds (or part thereof) thereafter.**
2. **Props Penalty: 20 marks deduction for breach of Rule regarding Hand held and Electrical props.**

6. In Scór na nÓg competitions the representation of drunkenness onstage shall not be permitted.

COMÓRTAS UIMHIR 6

CEOL UIRLISE

1. This competition is for Irish traditional music.
2. The competition is for groups of at least two and not more than five people.
3. In Scór na nÓg each group shall play only two (2) tunes, each to be of different character. In Scór Sinsir each group shall play three (3) tunes made up of one single tune and a selection of two (2) tunes similar in character but different in character to first tune played.

Nóta: The penalty for breach of this Rule shall be Disqualification.

4. An electrified instrument, mains or battery operated, is not permitted with the exception of Rule 5. Penalty – Disqualification.
5. A battery-operated keyboard is allowed provided it is set in piano mode and used accordingly. **Pre-programming shall incur automatic Disqualification.**
6. It is not permissible to have a conductor nor accompaniment by anyone outside the group .
Penalty: Disqualification.
7. A piano is not allowed.
8. Electrified mains or battery operated instruments are not permitted.

COMÓRTAS UIMHIR 7

RINCE SEIT

1. Each group shall consist of not more than eight dancers and not less than four.
2. (a) Live musical accompaniment shall be provided by the Organising Committee at Provincial Final and All Ireland Final levels, and must be used by all groups of dancers.
 - (b) Where an Organising Committee at an earlier level decides to provide the musical accompaniment it shall be used by all groups otherwise dance groups must provide their own accompaniment. If accompaniment is not provided then dance groups must provide their own accompaniment.
 - (c) A live musical accompaniment should be limited to a maximum of four (4) persons playing instruments using the in-house amplifications system only.
3. A “dance on / march on” will be allowed in the Set Dancing Competition. This will be confined to a maximum of 16 bars of music danced/ marched.

Penalty for Breach of 16 Bars – 10 marks.

A dance off / march off will be allowed in the Set Dancing Competition.

This will be confined to a maximum of 16 bars of music danced/ marched.

Penalty for Breach of 16 Bars – 10 marks

No marks shall be awarded for a “dance on” / march off”.

4. Groups may only dance two parts of a traditional set.
5. Groups may dance set dances traditional to their own areas if they so wish.
6. Adjudication will be on the standard of dancing and not the selection of the set.

7. Simplicity in dress, preferably in club colours, is recommended. Dancing groups shall not be allowed to dance in schools of dancing costumes and the wearing of dancing wigs is also forbidden.

Penalty – Disqualification.

8. A timber floor shall be provided at all levels.
9. **Only dancers and musical accompanists are permitted on the stage.**
10. If, during a stage performance, a dancer sustains an injury or falls on stage, the performance shall be suspended and if the injured person(s) is/are unable to continue, substitute(s) shall be permitted and the group will be allowed dance again at the end of the respective competition. However, the group will carry any error penalty to the second performance.

Nóta:

- (1) What is required for the purpose of this competition is that the competing team (a set comprising of eight persons or a half-set comprising of four persons) will dance any two figures of a traditional country set dance. It is to be noted that the Céilí dances listed in Leabhair 1, 2 and 3 of “Ár Rinncidhe Fóirne” do not fall into this category of “Set Dancing” and are therefore not acceptable for the purpose of the Set Dancing Competition
- (2) In the above event an additional medal for that level of the competition will be awarded to the substitute dancer.

COMÓRTAS UIMHIR 8

TRÁTH NA gCEISTEANNA BOIRD

Eligibility and Progression

1. This competition is for club teams of four (4) members.
2. County winners advance to All Ireland Finals.

Staging and Selection of Questions

3. Teams shall be seated at a table.
4. The Máistir na gCeisteanna shall have one set of questions for all teams.

Format

5. 10 Rounds of 8 Questions.

The Questions

6. Questions to be “inclusive” with 6 reasonable questions and 2 of Higher Standard in each round.
7. Each round of questions to include a “ceist as Gaeilge”.

Rounds.

Rounds of questions will be under the following headings and in the order chosen by Máistir na gCeisteanna:

8. 1) Gaelic and Ladies Football
- 2) Hurling and Camogie
- 3) General GAA Round
- 4) Irish History
- 5) World History and World Geography
- 6) Irish Geography
- 7) Irish Current Affairs
- 8) World Current Affairs
- 9) Irish Culture
- 10) General Knowledge.

9. Questions on Current Affairs shall relate to a period of one year prior to the date of the Tráth na gCeisteanna Boird.
10. GAA questions shall be confined to a period of 20 years prior to the date of the Tráth na gCeisteanna Boird.
11. The questions used shall be the responsibility of the Organising Committee.
12. Questions shall be of the type which will have a definite answer.
13. No part-questions shall be asked and no half marks shall be awarded.
14. At All Ireland Scór Finals the top three (3) teams in this competition will be awarded medals (gold, silver and bronze).
15. **Tiebreak.** In the event of a tie an additional round of questions, one from each category, shall be asked. In the case of a further tie, the Máistir na gCeisteanna shall continue to ask single questions until the top three positions are decided

ANSWERS

16. Unless specified by the Máistir na gCeisteanna, a surname shall suffice for an answer requiring a person's name as the answer. However should a contestant offer an answer with an incorrect given/first name the answer shall be deemed incorrect.

The answers to questions "as Gaeilge" must be "as Gaeilge" unless specified otherwise by the Máistir na gCeisteanna.

GENERAL

17. The decision of the Máistir na gCeisteanna in the case of all answers given by the contestants shall be final.

