

**APPLICATION FOR THE JUDGES' TEST
PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS**

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Province/State _____

Country _____

Post Code _____

Telephone No _____

E-mail Address _____

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____

Please list membership category in Highland Branch of an Examining Body who are members of the SOBHD, and current membership number.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Do you compete at present? Yes/ No
On passing the test would you continue to compete? Yes/ No

I agree to abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing as from time to time amended. In particular, on passing the Judges' Test I agree to maintain and update my knowledge of SOBHD technique and rules governing competitions and championships authorised by the SOBHD. I agree to my name being held on the SOBHD database.

I agree that I will not adjudicate my own students or students of relatives in championships or other competitions. I will not adjudicate at any event where my students or students of relatives are competing. I agree that the definition of relative is where I have knowledge of any competitor or teacher of a competitor being a first cousin and above or legal guardian.

Signed _____

Date _____

Fee £ _____

PAY IN STERLING. CHEQUE OR BANK DRAFT

CANCELLATION FEES. 50% OF FEE FROM THREE MONTHS, FULL FEE WITHIN ONE MONTH.

INFORMATION FOR THE CANDIDATE

Candidates should answer all parts of the question. Candidates are requested to bring their own pen. Pencils, notebooks and text books are not permitted. In their own interest, candidates should ensure their writing is legible. Highland pumps and suitable attire should be worn for Part 2.

**THE FOLLOWING NOTES ARE INTENDED AS
AN AID TO SITTING THE EXAMINATION**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR PART 1 OF THE
EXAMINATION**

1. Read the questions carefully and make sure that answers are given for each part of the question.
2. The question number should be written in the margin.
3. Keep answers as brief as possible and only include information that is actually requested.
4. When a description of a full Bar is requested, include the counting, positions of the working foot, head, arms and body direction.
5. If asked to describe a Bar in the Sword Dance, state spaces in relation to the Sword.
6. Marking system
e.g. 0.5 mark – 1 answer required
1.0 mark – 2 answers required
1.5 marks – 3 answers required

Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing

JUDGES' TEST APPLICATION FORM



International Headquarters
Heritage House
32 Grange Loan
EDINBURGH
EH9 2NR
Scotland

GUIDELINES FOR S.O.B.H.D. ADJUDICATORS EXAMINATION

CANDIDATE'S QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates on applying to take the test must be 21 years of age or over and a fully paid up member of the Highland Branch of an Examining Body which is represented on the Board. A successful candidate must continue to be a fully paid up member of the Highland Branch of an Examining Body which is represented on the Board while he/she remains on the Judges' Panel.

Applicants to take the test, having qualified as a judge in tests administered by subsidiary boards in Australia and South Africa, may use this qualification for the SOBHD test.

TEST ARRANGEMENTS

Tests are held annually at a suitable venue in Scotland during August and at other venues, when requested, throughout the world, provided there are sufficient candidates.

DETAILS OF THE TEST

Part 1 will consist of the written paper

This paper will test the candidate's knowledge of the technique of the Highland dances, Sailor's hornpipe, Irish Jig and Scottish National dances. The candidate's knowledge of the Rules and Regulations governing Championships and Competitions and the practice of judging such events will be included in this paper.

Time allowed for part 1 is 2.75 hours.

The marks allocated for each question will be recorded on the question paper.

Example questions and answers:

1. Highland Fling – 4th step Rocking

Q. What foot position(s) are used for Rocking?

A. 3rd or 5th, 3rd rear – 1.5 marks

Examples of answers given

3rd or 5th – 1 mark

3rd or 3rd rear – 1 mark

3rd - 0.5 mark

2. Sean Truibhas – 2nd step Side Travel

Q. Which part(s) of the working foot is used during the Side Travel?

A. Ball – 0.5 marks

Examples of answers given

½ point – 0 marks

Counts – 0 marks

3. Sailor's Hornpipe – Introduction

Q. When dancing the alternate Introduction which Break(s) can be danced?

A. Break A with or without Shakes – 1 mark

Examples of answers given

Break A or B – 0.5 marks

Shake Breaks – 0 marks

4. Irish Jig – 11th step Second Diagonal Travel

Q. In Bar 5, which Grind(s) is used and in which position(s)?

A. 3 beat Grind in 4th Rear position – 1 mark

Examples of answers given

4 beat Grind in 5th position or 4th opposite 5th – 0 marks

A in 5th or 4th Opposite 5th – 0 marks

5. Must the 2nd step in the Sean Truibhas follow the 1st step?

A. No – 0.5 mark

Examples of answers given

The book states invariably so the answer is yes – 0 marks

If being danced the 2nd step must follow the 1st step – 0 marks

6. Should the judge take marks off a dancer if his/her kilt is too short?

A. No – 0.5 mark

Examples of answers given

Yes – 0 marks

Depends on how short it is – 0 marks

7. Is it acceptable to dance a variety of steps taken from more than one National book in any one dance?

A. Yes – 0.5 marks

Examples of answers given

No, should be consistent i.e. Take all steps from same book or association – 0 marks

No, this should be avoided – 0 marks

Part 2

Oral

This section of the examination is in no way intended to be a dancing teachers' examination but merely to prove that the candidate is able to demonstrate movements and count in beats and bars. Each candidate will select sealed envelopes and pass these to the Examiner. The envelopes may contain questions on Highland, Sailor's Hornpipe, Irish Jig and all National Dances. The questions on the National dances are based on the BATD, SDTA and UKA national books. The time allowed for this section of the examination is approximately 30 minutes per candidate.

Part 3

Judging of a mock competition

Candidates are required to judge dances namely:

Highland Fling (6 steps)

Sword Dance (2 slow & 1 quick)

Sean Truibhas (3 slow & 1 quick)

Strathspey & highland Reel (2 & 2)

Reel of Tulloch (half)

Set steps will not be used but all dancers will be of a Premier or Intermediate standard.

In each dance the candidate will be required to give:

A) Constructive technical criticisms on each dancer.

B) Candidates to state why penalties have been deducted and/or reasons for disqualification.

C) A percentage mark for each dancer.

D) 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th placing in each dance.

A two minute period will be allowed after each set of dancers for candidates written assessments to be completed on official evaluation forms provided for each dance.

SYSTEM OF MARKING

To successfully pass the examination the candidate must sit all three parts of the examination and pass the written paper (85%) and gain an overall pass mark of 85%.

Candidates will be advised, in writing, by the Administrator of the Board, the result of the examination. Candidates who fail the test will be informed of their percentage in each 'failed' section. No correspondence will be entered into regarding the result of the examination.