



RSOBHD-REGISTERED DANCER REMINDERS FOR COMPETITIONS

As the Canadian Dancer Registration Agent for the RSOBHD, ScotDance Canada would like to make sure all Canadian dancers are aware of RSOBHD rules applicable when competing in events that may not be run by the rules of the RSOBHD. This includes competitions within or outside of Canada.

RSOBHD rules:

PREMIER DANCERS:

- RSOBHD-registered Premier dancers taking part in non-RSOBHD competitions which include Pre-Premier events, and/or providing incorrect information on an application form, will incur a six month penalty. During this period they will not be eligible to compete at any RSOBHD-registered competitions.
- The category levels offered at a competition do not need to match RSOBHD category levels, (Primary/Beginner/Novice/Intermediate); the issue is, if ANY category levels are offered along with an Open category at a non-RSOBHD event, RSOBHD-registered Premiers are ineligible to compete at these events.

PRE-PREMIER DANCERS:

- RSOBHD-registered Pre-Premier dancers dancing outside of RSOBHD-registered Pre-Premier competitions and/or providing incorrect information on an application form, will incur a six month penalty. During this period, they will not be accepted as eligible to enter any RSOBHD-registered competition.
- This rule is in the interest of the dancers to ensure fair competition and has the complete backing of the competition organisers registered with the RSOBHD.

OTHER NON-RSOBHD COMPETITIONS (Jazz, tap, modern, etc.):

- Pre-Premier and Premier RSOBHD-registered dancers may compete at competitions offering other styles of dance.
- If an entry form lists "Highland Dance" as a dance style, Pre-Premier RSOBHD-registered dancers may NOT compete in this category.
- Premier RSOBHD-registered dancers may ONLY compete in a "Highland Dance" style if there are NO other category levels listed on the entry form (category level names do not need to match RSOBHD category levels – see "**Premier Dancers**" category stipulation above).
- RSOBHD-registered Pre-Premier and Premier dancers may dance a "Highland-style" choreography or a RSOBHD Highland/National dance in a different dance style category offered on the entry form. For example, RSOBHD-registered Pre-Premier and Premier dancers may dance a RSOBHD Highland/National dance in a "National" or "Celtic" dance style event.

COMPETITIONS IN THE UK:

- The RSOBHD has provided a link to the competitions listed on SOHDA's website [2025 Competitions | SOHDA](#). Any event marked as **"OPEN ONLY"** means RSOBHD-registered Premier dancers can compete at these events (along with SOHDA Open dancers).
- RSOBHD-registered Pre-Premier dancers cannot dance at any of the events on this list.
- RSOBHD-registered dancers should be aware of Highland Games in Scotland referred to as "Kindred Games". These Games offer "Local Beginners", "Local Novice", etc., and are NOT RSOBHD-registered events. RSOBHD-registered Pre-Premier dancers cannot compete at these Games. Examples would be Lonach, Aboyne, Ballater and Braemar.
- **NOTE: RSOBHD-registered competitions in the UK will have a Registration Number on the entry form. This will either be one letter and one number, or two letters and one number e.g. A7, BM6.**

PROFESSIONALS/PARENTS:

- Review entry form rules prior to entering a competition.
- If the entry form does not provide a rule stating that all dancing events are governed by the rules and regulations of the Royal Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing (RSOBHD) or similar wording referencing RSOBHD rules and includes a RSOBHD Registration number (various countries of the RSOBHD use different registration numbers), then this would indicate that the competition is organized by a non-RSOBHD organization.