

Assessments sessions in Highland are assessed against the current UKAdance Highland Dancing syllabus dated August 2018. Please make sure you have the correct syllabus and that you have read, understood and implemented the notes in this Teachers' Guide.

DRESS CODE

Recommended for tests:

For health and safety reasons, safe and suitable footwear and clothing must be worn. Further safety precautions (i.e. wearing of jewellery and adornments) must be considered. Hair should be off the face and tied up where necessary. Candidates and teachers must respond to recommendations made by the examiner.

HIGHLAND: Kilt or kilted skirt to the knees, with white blouse/white shirt/white polo shirt. Appropriate dance shoes must be worn.

NATIONAL: Kilt/tartan skirt/school skirt/trews, with white blouse/white shirt/white polo shirt/white school shirt. Appropriate dance shoes.

HORNPIPE: Black, navy or white trousers, with white t-shirt/white polo shirt with appropriate dance shoes.

IRISH JIG: Girls: Practice skirt, white t-shirt/polo shirt, jig shoes or highland pumps. Boys: knee length trousers, knee socks, white shirt, jig shoes or highland pumps

THE RSOBHD RECOMMENDED DRESS CODE WILL ALSO BE ACCEPTABLE

MUSIC

Dances must be performed to the accompaniment of recorded Highland bagpipe music.

EXAMINATION CONDITIONS

Only the examiner, teacher, candidates performing and music controller are allowed in the examination room. The music controller must remain seated and out of view of the candidate.

Prior to the commencement of the assessment session, the examiner is required to carry out a risk assessment of the venue.

Candidates must be identified clearly to the examiner. Candidates should enter the assessment room in alphabetical order and may also be numbered.

Flat swords may be used up to Silver Bar. From Gold upwards, raised double hilt swords must be used.



ADMINISTRATION

Please ensure that you are using the current pricelist which can be found on the website.

An assessment session application **MUST** be completed online **AT LEAST 6 WEEKS BEFORE THE PROPOSED DATE**. Under no circumstances should the session be arranged by any other method (i.e. examiner contact).

Smaller A5 reports (AR1) must be used for Uni-Ted, all awards before Bronze and Theory assessments. The larger A4 reports (HR2) should be used for all assessments Bronze and above. For Uni-Ted it must be stated whether it is for the 6 or 12 series, also stating the colour. Forms can be downloaded from the website. Assessment sessions must be taken in strict rotation.

Candidates who have taken assessments with other recognised bodies may, at the Teacher’s discretion, continue from that level with the UKA.

Assessment sessions for Uni-Ted, Gold Bear, Top Ted, Princess, Pirate and Dance Around the World are awarded **Pass** only.

Assessment sessions for Intros, Pre-Bronze, One Dance, Starter Star, Beginners Fling, Beginners Sword and theory tests are awarded:- **Pass Commended Highly Commended**

Assessment sessions for Bronze & above are awarded:

Pass Pass Plus Commended Highly Commended Honours Distinction

Video assessments are acceptable for all assessments **except Regulated Grades**.

TIME TABLE

The duration of the assessment is calculated based on three to four candidates in the examination room and reflects the time to complete the whole test, including the completion of the examiners report. There should be no more than four candidates at any one time. Candidates perform together in groups of three or four, with the exception of the theory grades, which is examined with only one candidate in the room at any one time.

Highland	Approx. Time	Nationals	Approx. Time
Uni-Ted	10 minutes	Uni-Ted	10 minutes
Introductory	10 minutes	Introductory	10 minutes
Pre-Bronze	10 minutes	Pre-Bronze	10 minutes
Beginners Fling/Sword	10 minutes	N/A	
Bronze/Bronze Bar	15 minutes	Bronze/Bronze Bar	15 minutes
Silver/Silver Bar	20 minutes	Silver/Silver Bar	20 minutes
Gold upwards	30 minutes	Gold upwards	30 minutes
		Thistles	30 minutes

Professional Teaching qualifications – a completed application form, payment, digital portfolio and video evidence (dance demonstration) must be sent to UKAdance. Once received UKAdance will assign an examiner and an agreed date for the one to one will be arranged no earlier than 14 days after the required application, payment, portfolio and demonstration are received.



SCOTTISH NATIONALS

Introductory Tests

There are eight introductory tests prior to Bronze level. The first of these will be a Master Plaque Intro, where they receive their Master Plaque with a suitable centre for the dance taken. They will subsequently receive a Thistle Plaque and a centre to mount onto their Master Plaque. Teacher may choose two or three steps from any dance, various movements or the complete dance. It can be danced with or without music.

E.g. Flora: first and fifth steps or introduction, four hop-brush-beat-beat movements, pas-de-basque hop-brush-beat-beat RF LF and repeat, eight shuffles slow etc.

The teacher may substitute current Premiership Dances/Steps in any assessment.

Bronze Level

Teacher to choose **two** dances from the eight Scottish National Dances

e.g. Flora MacDonald and Scottish Lilt, Barracks and Hielan Laddie, Village Maid and Flora MacDonald. You may do as many Bronze tests as you wish choosing any combination.

Bronze steps to be danced (4 steps)

Plaque for two medals included.

Silver Level

Teacher to choose **two** dances from the eight Scottish National Dances

e.g. Flora MacDonald, Scottish Lilt and Barracks Johnnie or Hielan Laddie, Village Maid and Blue Bonnets. May do as many Silver tests as you wish choosing any combination.

Silver steps to be danced (4 steps)

Plaque for two or three medals included.

Gold Level

Teacher to choose **two** dances from the eight Scottish National Dances

e.g. Flora MacDonald, Scottish Lilt, Barracks Johnnie, and Hielan Laddie or Earl of Errol, Scotch Measure, Village Maid and Blue Bonnets. You may do as many Gold tests as you wish, choosing any combination.

Gold steps to be danced (4 steps)

Plaque for two, three or four medals included.

1st Gold Thistle Level

Teacher to choose **two** dances from the eight Scottish National Dances

e.g. Flora MacDonald, Village Maid, Scottish Lilt and Blue Bonnets or Scotch Measure, Barracks Johnnie, Hielan Laddie and Earl of Errol. May do as many 1st Gold Thistle tests as you wish choosing any combination.

1st Gold Thistle steps to be danced (6 steps)

One Thistle Award included.

2nd Gold Thistle Level

As 1st Gold Thistle using teachers choice of steps.

One Thistle Award included.

3rd Gold Thistle Level

As 1st Gold Thistle using teachers choice of steps.

One Thistle Award included.

NOTE: For each of the Thistle awards, different dances and steps should be performed. Over these three assessments, all steps and methods should be covered.