

Assessments sessions in Highland are assessed against the current UKAdance Highland Dancing syllabus dated February 2022. 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:** Traditional Female Dress Code: Practice skirt, white t-shirt/polo shirt, jig shoes or highland pumps. Traditional Male Dress Code: knee length trousers, knee socks, white shirt, jig shoes or highland pumps and Shillelagh

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, for example numbers may be worn.

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.

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).

Application form and payment for teaching qualification examinations must be received at least 14 days beforehand.

Smaller A5 reports (AR1) must be used for Uni-Ted, and all awards before Bronze. 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 from Bronze are awarded grade evaluation only as follows:

**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.

<b>Highland</b>	<b>Approx. Time</b>	<b>Nationals</b>	<b>Approx. Time</b>
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



## **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 grade**

### **Bronze Level**

Teacher to choose two dances from the eight Scottish National Dances

e.g. Flora and Lilt, Barracks and Laddie, Maid and Flora. 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 or three dances from the eight Scottish National Dances

e.g. Flora, Lilt and Barracks or Laddie, Maid and 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 to four dances from the eight Scottish National Dances

e.g. Flora, Lilt, Barracks and Laddie or Earl, Measure, Maid and Bonnets. 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.

### **MAJESTIC (after Gold standard)**

To perform four dances from Scottish National Dances (4 steps each)

### **1st Gold Thistle Level**

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

e.g. Flora, Maid, Lilt and Bonnets or Measure, Barracks, Laddie and Earl. 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, Teacher's choice of steps. May use alternative methods/steps.

One Thistle Award included.

### **3rd Gold Thistle Level**

As 1st Gold Thistle, Teacher's choice of steps. May use male/alternative methods/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.**