



PIPING & DANCING ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND



Piping and Dancing Association of New Zealand Inc



2026

**NEW ZEALAND
HIGHLAND & NATIONAL DANCING
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

SCHEDULE

JUNIOR: Thursday 9th - Friday 10th July

SENIOR: Friday 10th - Sunday 12th July

ASB Theatre Blenheim, Te Waiharakeke

NEW ZEALAND 18 YEARS & OVER CHAMPIONSHIPS

NEW ZEALAND UNDER 18 CHAMPIONSHIPS

NEW ZEALAND UNDER 16 CHAMPIONSHIPS

MARLBOROUGH/NELSON CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Proudly hosted by:

Marlborough Highland Dance & Piping & Dancing Assn of New Zealand



NZ Highland & National Dancing Championships 2026

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MARLBOROUGH NELSON CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

ADJUDICATORS

JUNIORS

Jeanie Borsboom	MNZAHND (Hons)	Christchurch
Rachel McDowell	MNZAHND	Auckland
Raewyn Weggery	MNZAHND	Palmerston North
Shiobhan Smith	MNZAHND	Dunedin

SENIORS

Kate Rowe	MNZAHND (Hons)	Wellington
Rachel McDowell	MNZAHND	Auckland
Raewyn Weggery	MNZAHND	Palmerston North
Shiobhan Smith	MNZAHND	Dunedin
Fiona Cording	MNZAHND	Auckland

EMERGENCY

June Wright	MNZAHND (Hons)	Auckland
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PIPERS

Neil Baxter
Leighton Terry
Ruaridh MacLean

[**Click here to enter**](#) For more information please visit our [**NZ Champs 2026 Website**](#)

Entries close Wednesday 1st April

Entry Fee payment to MARLBOROUGH HIGHLAND DANCING SOCIETY INCORPORATED
12-3167-0262401-50



Follow Facebook for information
New Zealand Highland and National Dancing Championships 2026

Conducted under the Rules of the Piping and Dancing Association of New Zealand Inc

18 YEARS AND OVER NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

			1st		2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	ENTRY FEE
1	HIGHLAND FLING	Daisy Horrell Tray	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$15	
2	SWORD DANCE	Muriel Waugh Tray	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$15	
3	SEANN TRIUBHAS	Jeanie Paton Tray	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$15	
4	HIGHLAND REEL	Doreen Casey Tray	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$15	
5	REEL O'TULLOCH	Emma Brown Tray	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$15	
6	IRISH JIG (SINGLE TIME)	June Coughlan Tray	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$15	
7	IRISH JIG (DOUBLE TIME)	Colleen Parker Tray	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$15	
8	IRISH HORNPIPE	Adeline Hobbs Tray	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$15	
9	IRISH REEL	Orma Smith Tray	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$15	
10	SAILORS HORNPIPE	Edna Wooller Tray	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$15	

1 to 10: Sashes 1st-10th each event- Sashes Overall Ranking 1st-10th- Various Points Trophies- refer to Awards/Trophies page

UNDER 18 YEARS NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

			1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	ENTRY FEE	
11	HIGHLAND FLING		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
12	SWORD DANCE		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
13	SEANN TRIUBHAS		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
14	HIGHLAND REEL		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
15	REEL O'TULLOCH		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
16	IRISH JIG (SINGLE TIME)		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
17	IRISH JIG (DOUBLE TIME)		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
18	IRISH HORNPIPE		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
19	IRISH REEL		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
20	SAILORS HORNPIPE		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	

11-20: Sashes 1st-10th each event- Sashes Overall Ranking 1st-10th- Various Points Trophies- refer to Awards/Trophies page

UNDER 16 YEARS NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

			1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	ENTRY FEE	
21	HIGHLAND FLING		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
22	SWORD DANCE		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
23	SEANN TRIUBHAS		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
24	HIGHLAND REEL		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
25	REEL O'TULLOCH		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
26	IRISH JIG (SINGLE TIME)		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
27	IRISH JIG (DOUBLE TIME)		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
28	IRISH HORNPIPE		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
29	IRISH REEL		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	
30	SAILORS HORNPIPE		\$150	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$15	

21-30: Sashes 1st-10th each event- Sashes Overall Ranking 1st-10th- Various Points Trophies- refer to Awards/Trophies page

12 & UNDER 14 YEAR MARLBOROUGH/NELSON CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

31-38: Sashes 1st-6th overall points- Most points & Runner-Up most points Trophy

13 YEARS ONLY / 12 YEARS ONLY

10 & UNDER 12 YEAR MARLBOROUGH/NELSON CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

41-47: Sashes 1st-6th overall points- Most points & Runner-Up most points Trophy

11 YEARS ONLY / 10 YEARS ONLY

8 & UNDER 10 YEAR MARLBOROUGH MARLBOROUGH/NELSON CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	ENTRY FEE
50	HIGHLAND FLING	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$8
51	SWORD DANCE	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$8
52	IRISH JIG (SINGLE TIME)	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$8
53	SAILORS HORNPIPE	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$8
50-53: Sashes 1st-6th overall points- Most points & Runner-Up most points Trophy								

9 YEARS ONLY / 8 YEARS ONLY

		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	ENTRY FEE
54	9 YEARS OLD HIGHLAND FLING	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	\$8
55	9 YEARS OLD IRISH JIG	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	\$8
56	8 YEARS OLD HIGHLAND FLING	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	\$8
57	8 YEARS OLD IRISH JIG	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	\$8

UNDER 8 YEAR MARLBOROUGH MARLBOROUGH/NELSON CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	ENTRY FEE
58	HIGHLAND FLING	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$7
59	SWORD DANCE	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$7
60	IRISH JIG (SINGLE TIME)	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$7
61	SAILORS HORNPIPE	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$7
58-61: Sashes 1st-6th overall points- Most points & Runner-Up most points Trophy								

7 YEARS ONLY

		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	ENTRY FEE
62	7 YEARS OLD HIGHLAND FLING	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	\$7
63	7 YEARS OLD IRISH JIG	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	Banner	\$7

6 YEARS & UNDER YEAR MARLBOROUGH/NELSON CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	ENTRY FEE
64	HIGHLAND FLING	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$7
65	SWORD DANCE	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$7
66	IRISH JIG (SINGLE TIME)	Sash/Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	Medal	\$7
64-66: Sashes 1st-6th overall points- Most points & Runner-Up most points Trophy								

EVENT INFORMATION

- Junior Registration Packs will be available for collection from the venue from 4-5pm Wednesday 8th July, or Thursday 9th July before the Junior Competition commences.
- Senior Registration Packs will be available for collection from the venue from Thursday 9th July until the Senior Competition commences.
- Senior Competitors are welcome to try the stage at the conclusion of the Junior events on Thursday 9th July
- A Celebration Ceilidh will be held in the evening on Sunday 12th July. Details will follow after close of entries.
- A fantastic range of 2026 New Zealand Championships Merchandise is available for your 2026 souvenir. This is pre-order only, and is collected at the venue with your Registration Pack. Details for ordering will follow.

ADDITIONAL TROPHIES AND AWARDS

NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES- UNDER 18 YEARS

Most Points Events 1 - 3	May Wilson Challenge Cup
Most Points Events 4, 5 & 9	Mr & Mrs I D Cameron Challenge Cup
Most Points Events 6, 7, 8 & 10	Bob Shepherd Challenge Cup
Most Points Events 1 - 5	Franklin Caledonian Society Challenge Cup
Most Points Events 6 - 9	Enid Weir Challenge Cup
Most Points Events 1 - 10	NZ Academy Challenge Trophy & SOHDA Scotland Challenge Cup
Runner Up Most Points Events 1 - 10	Brian North Challenge Cup

Sherilyn Hall Trophy

Highest Ranked Dancer competing in the 18 Years & Over NZ Championship class for the first time. It is a requirement of this trophy that eligible dancers compete in all 10 events. (If this is you, tick applicable box on Entry Form)

Gaylene Wilson Challenge Medallion

Competitor showing best deportment and interpretation of all dances 18 Years and Over

Craig Peterson (QSM) Memorial Tray

Highest Ranked Male Dancer in the 18 and Over NZ Championships

NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES - UNDER 18 YEARS

Most Points Events 11-20	MacKinnon Family Trust Challenge Trophy
Runner Up Most Points Events 11-20	Heretaunga Thistle Club Trophy
Most Points Highland Events 11-15	Colin & Phyll Topp (QSM) Tray

NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES - UNDER 16 YEARS

Most Points Events 21-30 Runner Up	C.D.C. Architects Tray
Most Points Events 21-30 Most Points	Marlborough/Nelson PDANZ Challenge Trophy
Highland Events 21-25	Colin & Phyll Topp (QSM) Tray

The Clan Donald Trust for the Gaelic Performing Arts

Highest Ranked Female and Highest Ranked Male in the 18 Years & Over age group \$1,000 each.

Highest Ranked Female and Highest Ranked Male in the Under 18 Years age group \$500 each

Highest Ranked Female and Highest Ranked Male in the Under 16 Years age group \$250 each.

MARLBOROUGH HIGHLAND DANCING TROPHIES

Most Points Open (18&O) Runner Up Most Points Open (18&O)	Simmons Cup Catherine Harman Trophy
Most Points Under 18 Years Runner Up Most Points Under 18 Years	Rachael Preston Cup Simpson Sisters Cup
Most Points Under 16 Years Runner Up Most Points Under 16 Years	Clement Trophy Soper Sisters Cup
Most Points 12 & under 14 Years Runner Up Most Points 12 & under 14 Years	Booth Sisters Trophy Jocelyn Douthett Studio Cup
Most Points 10 & under 12 Years Runner Up Most Points 10 & under 12 Years	Helen Brown Cup Rachel Cooper Trophy
Most Points 8 & under 10 Years Runner Up Most Points 8 & under 10 Years	Sutherland Trophy Beth Newman Cup
Most Points Under 8 Years Runner Up Most Points Under 8 Years	Vibert Tray Agnew Sisters Cup
Most Points 6 Years and Under Runner Up Most Points 6 Years and Under	Marlborough Highland Dance Cup Marlborough Highland Dance Cup

RULES AND CONDITIONS

- All events will be conducted under the rules of the Piping & Dancing Association of New Zealand Inc
- Entry is via an online entry form, and payment is to be made by internet banking.
- In order for entry to be confirmed, payment must be received by the closing date.
- Competitors compete at their own risk and Marlborough Highland Dancing (MHD) accepts no responsibility for accidents, mishaps, theft or misplacement of personal property.
- There will be no refunds if competitors do not compete. However, entry fees will be refunded if the competition is cancelled due to Government restrictions. All other costs incurred by participants (eg, travel, accommodation, etc.) will be at participants' own risk.
- Current PDANZ Registration is compulsory.
- The administration fee of \$50 per dancer, a maximum of \$100 per family, is compulsory. This fee includes venue hire, admission, piper's fee, and miscellaneous running costs.
- MHD reserves the right to alter the order of events if circumstances require this.
- All junior events shall receive awards for VHC, HC and C, at the discretion of the adjudicator. Events may be danced together at the discretion of the MHD Committee.
- All presentations will be scheduled at the MHD Committee's discretion.
- Any person found damaging the theatre property will be liable for full restitution, and if they are a competitor, they will forfeit their right to compete.
- All New Zealand Championship events will be randomly generated and pre-drawn by the Piping & Dancing Executive Committee. Entrants will dance in the order listed in the programme.
- All other events, including reels, will be pre-drawn by the Competition Secretary. Entrants will dance in the order listed in the programme.
- New Zealand Championship competitors must advise their chaperone if they intend to withdraw from an event.
- All non-New Zealand Championship points prizes will be computed based on Method B as per bylaw 13, and in the event of a tie, aggregate marks will be used.
- Ranking points for all New Zealand Championship events will be computed as per rule 28.1.2 and 28.1.3
- For non-NZ Championship events, a solo dance will be substituted if there aren't sufficient entries in Reel classes.
- If you elect not to grant Piping & Dancing NZ Inc/MHD the right to use your image, it is your responsibility to remove yourself from situations where photos are likely to be taken, such as at presentation times.
- MHD does not guarantee that your image will not be published as part of a larger group or performance photograph, and by participating in the competition or event, you automatically waive your rights in respect of such images.
- All Championship Presentations will be photographed and live-streamed via the Piping and Dancing Association of NZ Inc Facebook page, or other suitable broadcasting platform. Other presentations may be live-streamed and photographed by a representative of MHD. The taking of photos and videos of any performance is strictly prohibited unless prior consent has been granted by MHD.
- Competitors must report to the Board Steward / Stage Manager immediately when called upon and be ready to dance, or the right to compete in the event may be withdrawn.
- Prizes are stated in the Schedule for each event.
- Piper's fees are included in the entry fee.
- Anybody with Covid, influenza, measles or other contagious illnesses is asked to respect the health and safety of others and not attend the venue.
- The Junior Competition is intended to take place on Thursday, 9th, and finish at lunchtime on Friday, 10th of July. This is subject to the number of entries, and timings may be altered.
- The Senior Championship Competition is intended to take place from Friday, early afternoon, and will conclude on Sunday, the 12th, late afternoon. This is subject to the number of entries, and timings may be altered.
- The Senior Opening Ceremony will take place on Friday, July 10th, at approximately 1 pm. MHD reserves the right to alter this time after entries close.
- The MC will announce all competitors required for presentations, and a numerical list will be posted in the foyer.
- Complaints procedure: Any protests, concerns or complaints must be notified to Kate Deane in the first instance, for referral to the Complaints Committee.
- Trophies must be returned cleaned and engraved one month before the competition to - Krystal Palmer: 23a Henry Street, Blenheim 7201
- Need help with entries? We're happy to assist – email 26nzhighlandchamps+entries@gmail.com