

158th Annual SCOTTISH GATHERING & GAMES presented by the Caledonian Club of San Francisco

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, August 30-September 1, 2024

All registration times will be determined by the number of entries.
AM sessions not to begin before 8:00AM. PM sessions not to begin before 12:30 PM.
Schedules will be distributed to competitors and their teachers.

Competition registration #UWS-0618

Late Fees Apply June 30, 2024 - All Entries Increase \$20. On July 31, 2024 - All Entries Increase \$50.

Entries received after June 30th, 2024 will not be included in the Games program.

JUDGING PANEL

Katie Gardner O'Hare — AB, CAN

Fiona Lee — BC, CAN

TBA

PIPERS

Rob Johnston - BC, CAN

TBA

ORGANIZERS

[Kyla Groeschel](#) & [Jessica McElhaney](#)

LOCATIONS

- NEW! FRI Choreography Competition: San Ramon Marriott Ballroom · 2600 Bishop Dr San Ramon, CA 94583
- SAT & SUN: Alameda County Fairgrounds Building R · 4501 Pleasanton Ave Pleasanton, CA 94566

Friday Events (NEW)

@ the San Ramon Marriott

PM

- Solo Choreography Competition
- Duet Choreography Competition

Saturday Events

@ Alameda County
Fairgrounds

AM

- Western United States Open Championship
 - Master Class Cut Steps Highland Competition
- PM
- Pre-Premier Competition
 - Premier Nationals Competition

Sunday Events

@ Alameda County
Fairgrounds

AM

- Pre-Championship
 - Pre-Premier Competition
- PM
- Caledonian Club of San Francisco Premiership

Friday PM Choreography Competition

- Pre-Premier Solo
- Pre-Premier Duet
- Premier Solo
- Premier Duet

Limited to 25 entries total, across all categories. If entries are full, a waitlist will be created. Please contact the organizers if any of the options are listed as "Sold Out" and you(r dancer/s) wish to enter. For duet entries, please contact the organizers with partner info. Only one member of the duet needs to register.

CHOREOGRAPHY COMPETITION RULES

1. Music must be predominantly Scottish or Celtic in style and may include vocal or percussion selections.
2. Content should consist primarily of movements from Highland, National, Hornpipe and Jig books.
3. Costumes must follow the theme and content of the dance
4. Props may be used but no live animals shall be permitted.
5. Age groups to be set after entries are received. Pre-Premier may be split further if entries allow.
6. Time limit 2:00 minutes including entering and exiting the stage and set-up of any props. Performances that exceed this time will be disqualified.
7. Competitors must supply their own music. Live music may be used. Pre-recorded music is due to organizers by email on August 1, 2024. Please bring a back-up copy of pre-recorded music on the day, on a phone.
8. Only one member of duets must register.

Western United States Open Championship

Recognized by the RSOBHD

Highland Fling, Sword Dance, Seann Triubhas, and Reel of Tulloch
2024 RSOBHD Championship Steps Must Be Danced

7 & Under 12
12 & Under 14
14 & Under 16
16 & Under 18
18 & Under 21
21 & Over

Premier Master Class Cut Steps Highland Competition

Highland Fling (4), Sword Dance (2&1), Seann Triubhas (3&1), 1/2 Tulloch

Protected Age Groups:

25 & Under 30
30 & Under 40
40 & Under 50
50 & Over

Dancers age 25 and over may opt to enter the Championship or the Cut Steps Competition, but not both, as they will be run concurrently. If entries warrant, age groups will be split further but will not be combined as long as there is one entry in each group.

Special Awards / Events

- [City of Dundee Shield](#)
- [Elizabeth Scott Memorial Trophy](#)
- [Premier Best Dressed Competition](#)

Saturday PM Pre-Premier Competition

Primary- 16 Pas de Basques, Pas de Basques & High Cuts, Highland Fling (4), Sword Dance (2&1)

Beginner- Scottish Lilt (4), Flora MacDonald, Half Tulloch

Novice- Scottish Lilt (4), Flora MacDonald, Half Tulloch

Intermediate- Irish Jig (3&1), Scottish Lilt (4), Flora MacDonald (4), Sailors' Hornpipe (4)

Special Awards / Events

- Trophy Fling for Beginner and Novice Groups
 - Age groups to be determined after entries are received
 - This dance does not count toward the aggregate trophy.

Saturday PM Premier National Dance Competition

Premier 15 & Under- Flora MacDonald (4), Scotch Measure (4), Irish Jig (3&1)

Premier 16 & Over- Blue Bonnets (4), Village Maid (4), Irish Jig (3&1)

Sunday AM Pre-Championship Competition

Open to Premier dancers, all ages, who have never won a Championship or Pre-Championship. Age groups to be determined by entries received. No set steps.

Highland Fling (4)

Sword Dance (2&1)

Seann Triubhas (3&1)

Half Reel of Tulloch

Sunday AM Pre-Premier Competition

Primary- 16 Pas de Basques, Pas de Basques and High Cuts, Highland Fling (4), Sword Dance (2&1)

Beginner- Highland Fling (4), Sword Dance (2&1), Seann Triubhas (3&1)

Novice- Highland Fling (4), Sword Dance (2&1), Seann Triubhas (3&1)

Intermediate- Highland Fling (6), Seann Triubhas (3&1), Barracks Johnnie (4), Highland Laddie (4)

Special Awards / Events

- [Noreen Harmon Memorial Trophy](#) for Most Promising Beginner Dancer

Sunday PM Premiership Competition

Recognized by the RSOBHD

Scottish Lilt, Earl of Errol, Highland Laddie, Sailors' Hornpipe
2024 RSOBHD Premiership Steps Must Be Danced

(Proposed) Age Groups-

7 & Under 12

12 & Under 16

16 & Under 21

21 & Over

Special Awards / Events

- [Leonard M. Campbell Memorial Trophy](#) for most successful Northern California Premier dancer

HIGHLAND DANCING SCHOLARSHIPS and AWARDS

Medals will be awarded to all Pre-Premier and Premier Under 16 years classes where cash prizes are not awarded. Championship trophies, aggregate trophies, and special trophies will be awarded in accordance with RSOBHD rules.

Championship Scholarships - per dance

7 & Under 12 — 1st \$20 · 2nd \$15 · 3rd \$10 · 4th \$5 · 5th \$5 · 6th \$5

12 & Under 14 — 1st \$25 · 2nd \$20 · 3rd \$15 · 4th \$10 · 5th \$10 · 6th \$5

14 & Under 16 — 1st \$30 · 2nd \$25 · 3rd \$20 · 4th \$15 · 5th \$10 · 6th \$5

16 & Under 21 — 1st \$40 · 2nd \$30 · 3rd \$20 · 4th \$15 · 5th \$10 · 6th \$10

21 & Over — 1st \$50 · 2nd \$40 · 3rd \$30 · 4th \$20 · 5th \$15 · 6th \$10

Premier 16 & Over Scholarships - per dance Saturday and Sunday PM

16 & Under 21 — 1st \$40 · 2nd \$30 · 3rd \$20 · 4th \$15 · 5th \$10 · 6th \$10

21 & Over — 1st \$50 · 2nd \$40 · 3rd \$30 · 4th \$20 · 5th \$15 · 6th \$10

CCSF Chief's Highland Laddie Challenge

7 & Under 15 — 1st \$100 · 2nd \$50

16 & Over — 1st \$100 · 2nd \$50

GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

1. The competition is sanctioned by, and conducted under rules and regulations of, the Royal Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing (RSOBHD).
2. The Caledonian Club of San Francisco (CCSF) and the organizing committee reserve the following rights: to cancel or combine any event; to reject any entry; to require competitors in case of a tie, to again compete to break the tie.
3. All dancers must perform steps from the Official Textbook of the RSOBHD.
4. Dancers may be disqualified for communicating with the Judges or Piper, or for being coached by a spectator or teacher while competing.
5. The earliest entry dances last; latest entry dances first.
6. Age groups for all events (other than stipulated) will be decided after receipt of entries.

7. All competitors must be registered for 2024 and have their current RSOBHD registration cards with them in order to collect awards.
8. Dancers must be in complete highland dress to participate in the awards ceremonies.
9. Pre-Championships must have at least six entrants taking part on the day for the Pre-Championships to be held. If insufficient entries are received, event will proceed as a regular competition.
10. Any competitor not present when their event is called may forfeit their entry in that event.
11. The Caledonian Club of San Francisco will not be responsible for lost articles or accidents to spectators or competitors.
12. Judges' decision is final.
13. Entry fees are non-refundable.
14. Dancers must fill in for Reels if asked. Dancers filling in must complete the dance.
15. Any change in category after completion of this entry form must be immediately communicated to the competition organizer.
16. Dancers age 25 & Over may enter either the Western US Open Championship, or the Premier Cut Steps Highland Competition, but not both.
17. The Premier Cut Steps Highland Competition will be judged by three judges and results posted as such.
18. The Pre-Championship is open to Premier dancers of all ages who have never won a Championship or Pre-Championship.
19. Aggregate trophy or plaque awarded in every age class each day, except Primary (per RSOBHD).
20. Dancer numbers will be distributed on the day at registration.
21. Five dollars per dancer will be collected and donated to ScotDance USA West.

CHAMPIONSHIP/PREMIERSHIP RULES

1. The Western United States Open Championships are sanctioned by and conducted under the rules and regulations of the Royal Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing (RSOBHD).
2. The Caledonian Club of San Francisco Premierships are sanctioned by and conducted under the rules and regulations of the RSOBHD.
3. The earliest entry dances last; latest entry dances first.
4. Set steps of the current year must be danced.
5. Age for all events is determined as of the day of the event.

SPECIAL AWARDS & EVENTS

- The City of Dundee Shield will be awarded to the winner of a dance off between competitors who have won a first place in the Premier 7 & Under 12, 12 & Under 14, or 14 & Under 16 age groups in the Highland Fling, Sword Dance, or Seann Triubhas. The dance will be drawn from one of these dances and will be cut steps.
- The Dorothy Christie Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the Premier age 16 & Over competitor with the highest aggregate points for both days, not including the Pre-Championship.
- NEW! The Dorothy Christie Memorial Trophy winner will be asked to perform at the Sunday night informal ceilidh at the host hotel. If the winner is unable to perform, the runner-up may be asked. If none of the above are available, a dancer of the organizers' choice may be asked. The dance will be dancer's choice, and choreography is highly preferred. The ceilidh performance will come with at \$250 stipend.
- The Elizabeth Scott Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the California Premier dancer, under age 16, with the highest aggregate points in the Fling, Sword, and Seann Triubhas.
- The Norine Harmon Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the Most Promising Beginner dancer. Judges' selection.
- The Leonard M. Campbell Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the Premier dancer residing in, or taking lessons from a teacher in Northern California, with the highest aggregate points. Northern California is defined as the state's [northernmost 48 counties](#).
- Best Dressed Fundraiser - Participants must wear Highland dress as prescribed by the RSOBHD Dress Code and will be judged based on how closely they conform to the standards set forth therein. Each dancer is judged individually. Participants should expect to have both the front and back of their costumes viewed. This event does not count towards the aggregate trophy. Judges' decision is final. This event to take place immediately prior to the Championship Saturday morning.
- CCSF CHIEF'S HIGHLAND LADDIE CHALLENGE -The Highland Laddie Challenge will consist of a 4-step Highland Laddie with set steps as follows:
 - Premier 15 & Under: 1st, 4th *or* 4th Alternative, 5th *or* 5th Alternative, 6th Alternative

- Premier 16 & Over: 1st, 4th, 5th or 5th Alternative, 6th

The top two winners of the dance -off in each age group will go on to compete in the final which will take place on the Main Stage of the Grandstands during the Closing Ceremonies, to honor the Chief of the Caledonian Club of San Francisco. The dancers will use the music played by the Massed Bands, who will play Highland Laddie twice through without an introduction. Dancers will use the drum roll as an introduction. Please see the following video as an example:

<https://youtu.be/6l0sKmn1zFU?t=12>

This dance does not count towards the aggregate trophy.