



Comórtaisí FleadhFest 2021 To all competitors

A chara,

Congratulations on being selected as a competition finalist for FleadhFest 2021. As you are aware the finals of the competition are scheduled to take place in Sligo from 6th – 8th August. As you can imagine the Covid-19 situation in Ireland is ever changing and to ensure that the competitions can proceed in Sligo it was necessary to edit the timetable. We endeavoured to ensure that the competitions remained on the same day as previously timetabled.

Due to the current restrictions and HSE advice on indoor gatherings, it has been necessary to move all venues outdoors. There are now just 4 venues. Venue 1 to 3 will be located on the grounds of the Mercy College, Chapel Hill, Sligo. The competitions scheduled for this venue will be facilitated in covered outdoor spaces.

Venue 4 will be situated on the Gig Rig at the Peace Park, The Lungy, Sligo and it is hoped it will be streamed on TG4 player. It was our initial intention to stream Venue 1 to 3 but this is no longer feasible due to the change of venue. We appreciate that this may be a disappointment to many but our priority is the safety of competitors, adjudicators, volunteers and the public.

Before Arriving:

- Any competitor who has yet to confirm their attendance or non-attendance should e-mail competitions@comhaltas.ie immediately. This is necessary so the volunteers in Sligo are aware of the numbers attending at each venue.
- On Wednesday August 4th the Covid Declaration Form will be available from <https://www.fleadhfest.ie/competitions/competitor-information/>. Competitors are required to complete this form prior to the competition weekend.
- Non completion of this form will result in access to venues being denied.
- Accompanying musicians for accompaniment, Bodhrán & Drums must also complete the covid declaration to be admitted.
- Any person travelling from overseas or who has been overseas recently should ensure they follow the latest government guidance in regards to travel, isolation, quarantining and testing. Latest updates can be viewed at: <https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/75d92-covid-19-travel-advice/>

- The attendance arrangements for the competitions are very prescribed, are detailed and will be complied with strictly to ensure safety and the observance of public health restrictions and best practice. You are encouraged to take some time to become familiar with the arrangements described here and from time to time posted on the website
- A competitor may be accompanied by **one other person only**. The person accompanying a competitor will be required to also submit a Covid Declaration Form and which must be received in advance. Nobody other than the competitor and one accompanying person will be permitted to enter onto the site and only then if Covid Declaration Forms in respect of both (competitor and accompanying person) has been submitted and received.
- If you arrive at your assigned site (Peace Park or Mercy College) in a vehicle containing more than the competitor and the one accompanying person the vehicle will not be permitted enter the site
- Those arriving in a vehicle, and with the necessary documentation in order, will be directed to a parking area assigned to competitors for the particular competition in which they are qualified to participate.
- Competitors should register, return to their vehicle, and await a call to come forward to compete.
- It is intended that not more than 3 competitors will be present in the competition venue at any time
- A person accompanying a competitor will not be permitted to enter the competition venue but may stand outside at a distance to view and observe.
- When finished performing the competitor should return to their vehicle/or when not using a vehicle to an outside location on the site observing all COVID protocols.

On Arrival:

- All competitors are asked to register 30 minutes prior to their competition time.
- It is important that competitors do not arrive at the registration desk prior to this time to avoid congregation.
- There will be a registration desk at both the Mercy College and at the Peace Park.
- After registration competitors should return to their vehicles and await a call to come forward.
- Only the 3 competitors in each competition will be allowed to enter the competition area due to social distancing guidelines. The accompanist required for Accompaniment, Bodhrán and Drum competitions will also be provided with seating in the venue per Covid 19 restrictions.

All competitors are requested to read and follow the above instructions carefully and refer to the relevant websites for full and updated information. As the Covid-19 situation evolves further guidance may be issued nearer to the date. Best wishes to all competitors.

Le meas,

The FleadhFest Competition Team