

WORLD IRISH DANCE ASSOCIATION
GUIDELINES FOR TCRG/TMRF CANDIDATES

Candidates are expected to KNOW dances required for each part of the exam to be undertaken.

This includes correct terminology and dance language (names of movements, steps, etc)

Candidates are expected to present themselves and their knowledge in a confident manner. They will be expected to give instructions in a clear and concise manner while being approachable and pleasant to volunteer dancers and others present. It is always nice to hear a candidate say “thank you” to volunteers who have helped them.

Candidates should be familiar with WIDA rules on the material/steps allowed in each grade when undertaking TCRG.

During the Practical part of the TCRG examination Examiners may create a Scenario and ask you to teach within this. For instance, the examiners may ask you to imagine this dancer is a Beginner/Primary dancer or is someone who has never been to a class before. (The volunteers have been told this will happen).

Whatever the “scenario” you should

Introduce yourself to your dancers

Tell them which dance, step or movement you are going to teach and demonstrate the full step.

- Make sure the step is grade-appropriate
- Break down step into sections to suit the dancer as you teach.
- Watch the dancers being taught and
- Correct mistakes, posture, turnout, arms, trebling, timing, foot positions, etc. as appropriate.
- Use “exercises” if you feel this would help dancer with a new movement.

For TMRF, candidates should approach the teaching section as if you were preparing a team for competition.

- Introduce yourself to dancers
- Tell them which dance you will teach, timing of the dance, how many people are in the dance. In other words, talk to them as you would to your own pupils.
- Demonstrate steps required for the dance.

In addition to teaching the correct movement of the dance, the “team” should also be taught

- How to hold hands properly
- Height of arms
- Keep head/eyes focused (no turning to check where others are)
- Keep body stiff
- Rules – Lady on the Gentleman’s Right hand side, setting up the team properly in relation to musician, etc.
- Counts – e.g. hands up/down on certain numbers (Lead round/chain etc)

It may be appropriate to “walk” through the movement first, counting bars as you go. Then ask them to “dance” it.

Watch dancers – making sure they are doing all of above and correct them if they are not.

Don’t rush through - Examiners want to see your “teaching” skills, not the dancers’ ability to learn/perform. Examiners may ask you to move on or slow down as they feel is appropriate. This is usual.

PLEASE REMEMBER !

The Examiners want you to pass this examination. They are there to help you. Listen to what they ask you to do. If you don’t understand, then say so. They will be happy to repeat or rephrase the question for you.