

**APPLICATION FOR THE JUDGE'S TEST  
PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_

Province/State \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

Please list membership category in Highland Branch of an Examining Body who are members of the SOBHD, and current membership number.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Do you compete at present? Yes/ No  
On passing the test would you continue to compete? Yes/ No

I agree to abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing as from time to time amended. In particular, on passing the Judge's Test I agree to maintain and update my knowledge of SOBHD technique and rules governing competitions and championships authorized by the SOBHD. I agree to my name being held on the SOBHD database.

I agree that I will not adjudicate my own students or students of relatives in championships or other competitions. I will not adjudicate at any event where my students or students of relatives are competing. I agree that the definition of relative is where I have knowledge of any competitor or teacher of a competitor being a first cousin and above or legal guardian.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Fee £ \_\_\_\_\_

**PAY IN STERLING, CHEQUE OR BANK DRAFT**

**CANCELLATION FEES, 50% OF FEE FROM THREE MONTHS, FULL FEE WITHIN ONE MONTH**

**INFORMATION FOR THE CANDIDATE**

Candidates should answer all parts of the question. Candidates are requested to bring their own pen. Pencils, notebooks and text books are not permitted. In their own interest, candidates should ensure their writing is legible. Highland pumps and suitable attire should be worn for Part 3.

**THE FOLLOWING NOTES ARE INTENDED  
AS AN AID TO SITTING THE EXAMINATION**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR PART 1 OF THE  
EXAMINATION**

1. Read the questions carefully and make sure that answers are given for each part of the question.
2. The question number should be written in the margin.
3. Keep answers as brief as possible and only include information that is actually requested.
4. When a description of a full Bar is requested, include the counting, positions of the working foot, head, arms and body direction.
5. If asked to describe a Bar in the Sword Dance, state spaces in relation to the sword.
6. Marking system  
e.g. 0.5 mark - 1 answer required  
1.0 mark - 2 answers required  
1.5 marks - 3 answers required

# Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing

## JUDGE'S TEST APPLICATION FORM



**World Governing Body  
of Highland Dancing**

**International Headquarters  
Heritage House  
32 Grange Loan  
EDINBURGH  
EH9 2NR  
Scotland**

# GUIDELINES FOR S.O.B.H.D. ADJUDICATORS EXAMINATION

## CANDIDATE'S QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates on applying to take the test must be 21 years of age or over and a fully paid up member of the Highland Branch of an Examining Body which is represented on the Board. A successful candidate must continue to be a fully paid up member of the Highland Branch of an Examining Body which is represented on the Board while he/she remains on the Judges' Panel.

Applicants to take the test, having qualified as a judge in tests administered by subsidiary boards in Australia and South Africa, may use this qualification for the SOBHD test.

## TEST ARRANGEMENTS

Tests are held annually at a suitable venue in Scotland during August and at other venues, when requested, throughout the world, provided there are sufficient candidates

## DETAILS OF THE TEST

### Part 1 will consist of two written papers

Paper 1 will test the candidate's knowledge of the technique of the Highland and National dances, Sailor's Hornpipe and Irish Jig.

Time allowed for part 1 is 2.75 hours.

Example questions and answers:

1. Highland Fling – 4th step Rocking

Q. What foot position(s) are used for Rocking?

A. 3rd or 5th, 3rd rear – 1.5 marks

*Examples of answers given*

3rd or 5th – 1 mark

3rd or 3rd rear – 1 mark

3rd - 0.5 mark

2. Sean Truibhas – 2nd step Side Travel

Q. Which part(s) of the working foot is used during the Side Travel?

A. Ball – 0.5 marks

*Examples of answers given*

½ point – 0 marks

Counts – 0 marks

3. Sailor's Hornpipe – Introduction

Q. When dancing the alternate Introduction which Break(s) can be danced?

A. Break A with or without Shakes – 1 mark

*Examples of answers given*

Break A or B – 0.5 marks

Shake Breaks – 0 marks

4. Irish Jig – 11th step Second Diagonal Travel

Q. In Bar 5, which Grind(s) is used and in which position(s)?

A. 3 beat Grind in 4th Rear position – 1 mark

*Examples of answers given*

4 beat Grind in 5th position or 4th opposite 5th – 0 marks

A in 5th or 4th Opposite 5th – 0 marks

Paper 2 will test the candidate's knowledge of the rules and regulations covering championships and competitions and the practice of judging such events.

Example questions and answers:

Q. Must the 2nd step in the Sean Truibhas follow the 1st step?

A. No – 0.5 mark

*Examples of answers given*

The book states invariably so the answer is yes – 0 marks

If being danced the 2nd step must follow the 1st step – 0 marks

Q. Should the judge take marks off a dancer if his/her kilt is too short?

A. No – 0.5 mark

*Examples of answers given*

Yes – 0 marks

Depends on how short it is – 0 marks

Q. Is it acceptable to dance a variety of steps taken from more than one National book in any one dance?

A. Yes – 0.5 marks

*Examples of answers given*

No, should be consistent i.e. Take all steps from same book or association – 0 marks

No, this should be avoided – 0 marks

## Part 2

### Judging of a mock competition

Candidates are required to judge dances namely:

Highland Fling (6 steps)

Sword Dance (2 slow & 1 quick)

Sean Truibhas (3 slow & 1 quick)

Strathspey & highland Reel (2 & 2)

Reel of Tulloch (half)

Set steps will not be used but all dancers will be of a Premier or Intermediate standard.

In each dance the candidate will be required to give:

A) Constructive technical criticisms on each dancer.

B) Candidates to state why penalties have been deducted and/or reasons for disqualification.

C) A percentage mark for each dancer.

D) 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th placing in each dance.

A two minute period will be allowed after each set of dancers for candidates written assessments to be completed on official evaluation forms provided for each dance.

## Part 3

### Practical

This section of the examination is in no way intended to be a dancing teachers' examination but merely to prove that the candidate is able to demonstrate movements and count in beats and bars. Each candidate will select sealed envelopes and pass these to the Examiner. The envelopes may contain questions on Highland, Sailor's Hornpipe, Irish Jig and all National Dances. The questions on the National dances are based on the BATD, SDTA and UKA national books. The time allowed for this section of the examination is approximately 30 minutes per candidate.

## SYSTEM OF MARKING

To successfully pass the examination the candidate must sit all three parts of the examination and pass both written papers (85%) and gain an overall pass mark of 85%. The percentage mark for the part failed will be advised to the candidate.

Candidates will be advised, in writing, by the Administrator of the Board, the result of the examination. No correspondence will be entered into regarding the result of the examination.