



November 2010

BCHDA Newsletter

The British Columbia Highland Dancing Association

A Message from our BCHDA President:

Greetings to all and a special welcome to our new members!

During this past year your executive has focused on making BCHDA events more social! Our first social event of this season was held on October 30th. 'Welcome Back to Highland' was a great kick-off to the 2010-2011 season offering an amazing fun-filled day for parents and dancers alike . . . a Scottish Christmas card craft table, Halloween games and pumpkin decorating, Celtic lectures, scoring and line-up instruction for parents, and the always popular used costume sales rack. The three dance workshops were well attended and our dancers were both inspired and energized by popular instructor, Joy Tolev! The evening Ceilidh was preceded by a delicious 'Scottish dinner' including amazing desserts. . . thank you Gourmet Baker for all those wonderful calories!!! Everyone in attendance not only enjoyed exciting choreography but also learning the traditional ceilidh dances . . . thank you to all the volunteers, executive and teachers involved! BC Highland's last Ceilidh was held in 1986 so let's hope we won't have to wait another quarter century to enjoy another!

Our association is about fair competition, having fun and making good friends. Your executive is working hard to make these things happen and is looking forward to seeing all of you at our first competition November 20th at Earl Marriott Secondary School.

Good Luck to everyone and have fun!

Dave Moralek,
President

BCHDA 2010 – 2011 Executive

President:

Dave Moralek 604-272-6566

Vice-President:

Mark Rattray 604-267-0110

Secretary and Newsletter:

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Treasurer:

Heather Moralek 604-272-6566

Competition Secretary:

Sherry Bateman 604-945-9691

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Past-president:

Angus MacKenzie

Voting Members at Large:

Peggy Askew

Barbara Fraser

Liz Johnston

Heather Jolley

Nancy Lee

Gwen Palmer

Diane Tikhane

Ron Vallis

Shannon Watt

Non-Voting/Alternate

Members at Large

Fraser Fraser

Highland 101: Your first competition?



"The first time I took my daughter to a competition, I had no idea what to expect!"

When arriving at a competition, try and arrive approx. 45 – 60 minutes prior to the start of the competition. This will enable the dancer to get familiar with his/her surrounding and have a good warm-up. Dressing rooms will be assigned for male and female dancers.

Upon arrival at most competitions, your son/daughter will have to pick-up their competitor number. When you arrive at the registration table you will be required to produce your SOBHD Registration Card. (American dancers will produce their FUSTA Card). If you do not have a card, or your card is not up to date your son/daughter will be permitted to dance, however, if he/she should win an award they would not be able to receive the award at the award presentation. You would have to attain a registration card and send it to the competition secretary who would then stamp the card and return it to the sender with the award. There is sometimes a fee assessed for doing this. It is always advisable to have safety pins with you

as most competitions do not have a supply of safety pins available for your number. The number is usually pinned towards the bottom right hand corner of the kilt. Some dancers pin it in the center of the kilt. Upon completion of the above the dancer is not ready to compete. The platform your son/daughter is going to compete at is usually found in the program. The dancer would wait until their class was called to go to the line-up area. This is usually located in the back stage area or along the side line of the dance platforms. The dancer would be lined-up in their prospective order of dance by a volunteer line-up person. (It makes the volunteer's job so much easier if only the dancer goes to the line-up area) In cases where the dancer may be younger, the parent might want to take them to the area and be sure he/she is in the proper care of the volunteer. Once this is attained, please leave the area so that the volunteer and dancers can proceed to the stage area. After your son/daughter has danced their first dance, they may be asked to

remain back stage until all of their dances have been completed. In some cases the dancer will return after the first dance and wait for the call up for their next dance, at which time they would return to the line-up area.

Prior to sending your son/daughter to the line-up area, do a last minute check to be sure that their shoes are tied up properly and the laces tucked in, hose pulled up to the proper place on the leg and secured with garters or elastics, and that the kilt is in the proper place (centre front down the centre front). Male dancers might check their bow ties, cummerbunds (if they have them) and sporrans to be sure they are on properly.



Awards

Dancers numbers who have attained awards in specific dancers will be called to the stage to receive their awards. Be sure your dancer has their registration card with them when they go to the stage. After the dancer's number is called out the dancer should take a step forward and bow/curtsy and then proceed to receive the award where they once again acknowledge the presenter with either shaking their hand, or a courtesy and then return to the line. Upon completion of the awards for the class the dancer would take another bow or courtesy to the audience.

Judging

When judging, the judge is looking for specific things. Amongst these are:

- a) Turn-out
- b) Deportment – Position of the arms and head during movements; overall appearance of the dancer
- c) Execution of movements – pointing toes, movements being done in correct positions and being executed properly
- d) Timing and rhythm

These are some of the basics that help the judge to determine the overall winners in each class.

Scoring

All dancers are scored individually. The judge will mark the competitor out of 100. Upon completion of the class the judges sheet is taken to the scoring area where the scorer's will score the dance.

The points over the number of dances are accumulated and the aggregate winner is determined from these points.

1st placing the dancer receives 88 points,

2nd placing 56 points;

3rd placing 38 points,

4th placing 25 points,

5th placing 16 points

6th placing 10 points.

If awards are given past 6 placings there are no points awarded to the balance of the placings.

In the event of a tie, the tie breaking procedure might be used to determine the aggregate winner. This is always used in the event of a tie at a championship.



A display of BCHDA awards

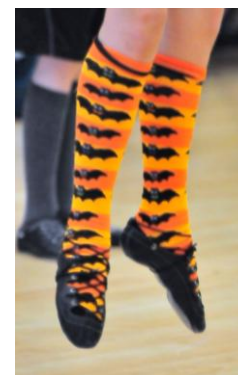
BCHDA Executive extends their thanks to Telus for the generous donation of laptops. These laptops are used for Scoring at competitions. Thanks Telus!

Welcome Home to Highland

BCHDA proudly hosted the 2nd Annual Welcome Home to Highland Event on Saturday October 30th. A Halloween themed event designed to 'kick off the year' featuring a Haunted Walk, pumpkin crafts, card making, a used costume rack. We also offered information and education about including BCHDA history, scoring, line-up and the Scottish History of Halloween. The day-long event ended with a ceilidh!

The highlight of the day was a workshop led by Joy Tolev.

*photos provided by
Rob Watt*



THANK YOU'S

BC HIGHLAND DANCING ASSOCIATION would like to thank the following people and organizations for their support of our Welcome Back to Highland event, 2010

Tartantown ~ Heather Jolley
Gourmet Baker ~ Dave & Michelle MacPhail
Frosting Cupcakery ~ Craig & Melanie McDougall
Canada Safeway @ 70th & Granville
Fraser Valley Highland Dancing Association
Scrapbook Warehouse
Dr. Antone Minard, Ethnologist & Folklorist
Gwen Palmer, Stampin' Up !
Richmond Country Farm
Telus
BCHDA Executive Planning Committee

"BCHDA Depends on our amazing volunteers in order to be able to offer events and competitions. Thank you for your support!"

Safety Regulations:

In order to ensure the safety of all dancers at competitions and events, ScotDance Canada is asking all associations to follow the following guidelines:

1. The line up area for the dancers is a “no touch” zone. Should a dancer require assistance with a costume or dance, it is recommended that they be sent back to their parents. If time does not allow for this, two volunteers should provide the needed assistance. There should always be at least two volunteers backstage at all times.
2. Dancers are asked to change in designated areas, and to be fully dressed when in common areas.
3. Volunteers must never engage in discipline of a minor. If inappropriate behavior is occurring, the dancer will be asked to return to their parent so that the behavior can be addressed.
4. If you witness an inappropriate contact between a minor and adult, refer the minor to another individual with supervisory authority.
5. Anyone who observes abuse of a minor will take appropriate steps to immediately intervene and provide assistance. Any inappropriate conduct will be reported to the proper authorities and officials of the event, as well as **SCOTDANCE CANADA** for handling.



Calendar of Events

Closed Competitions:

Saturday November 20, 2010
Earl Marriot Secondary School
15751--16th Ave
Surrey, B.C.

Saturday January 22, 2011
Earl Marriot Secondary School
Workshop--Sunday January 23,
2011
Times and Location TBA

Saturday April 16, 2011
North Delta Secondary
11447 82nd Ave
Delta, BC

BC Open Championship

Saturday March 5, 2011
North Delta Secondary
Workshop Sunday March 6, 2011
Times and Location TBA

Celtic Celebration

Saturday April, 9th
Shadbolt Centre for the Arts
6450 Deer Lake Ave

BC Closed Championship

Saturday May 14, 2011
North Delta Secondary

BC Highland Games

Saturday June 25, 2011
Percy Perry Stadium, Coquitlam

Celtic Celebration



The Celtic Celebration 2010 was an amazing success! BCHDA wishes to extend thanks to the contributors who made this event possible:

Robert Malcom Pipe Band

White Spot Dancers

Bon Accord Dancers, Victoria

North Shore String Ensemble

Royal Scottish Country Dance Team

Kathleen Carlson Dancers

De Danaan Irish Dance Studio

Angus MacKenzie Dancers

Heather Jolley Dancers

Mary Manifold Dancers

Elizabeth Johnston Dancers

Maie Dancers

Special Thanks to Heather Jolley, Dave Morelek, Steve Goodman and Stuart Johnson for their contributions

Celtic Celebration 2011

The Celtic Celebration is a major fundraiser for BCHDA and we need your help to support it! We are seeking volunteers to be on a planning team, please contact Peggy Askew:

pegaskew@telus.net if you are able to be part of this exciting event.

Dance Studios who are interested in presenting a choreography or show number, please contact Peggy by the end of November.

Can you be
part of the
planning team
for the 2011
Celtic
Celebration?

Buy and Sell

Purple dress Macrae Kilt and two pairs of socks, Black velvet jacket, size 10 - 12 - \$700

Pipers rain cape - \$20

Red jig shoes - size 1/1/2 - \$50

Rolling travel garment bag suitcase for \$50

Phone or email Glenna 604-224-5479 gurbshadt@shaw.ca

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.BCHighlanddancers.com
