

TARTAN PRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Manitoba Highland Dancer's Association

2018/19 Competition Dates
Page 4

The Tartan Tea is moving!
Page 5

MHDA President's Message

Thank you to everyone that attended our AGM last month.
The Board that was elected is:

Lisa Omand - President

Joan Holmstrom - Vice President

Bonnie Bain - Treasurer

Tamara Coutu - Secretary

**Christine Foulkes & Lorraine Lamb - Competition
Co-Coordiators**

Jennifer Lange - Fundraising Director

Gayle Roy - Membership Director

I'd like to welcome Tamara to the board and thank Cathy Laver-Wright for her service as secretary. I'd also like to welcome Lorraine to the board. I look forward to the new perspectives and ideas you both can add.

Jennifer and myself have both expressed that this will be our last year in our positions. This is my 3rd term as president. No one in our history has ever done 4 years. I don't want to be the first. So we are looking for people interested in shadowing, learning and anticipating stepping into these roles next year. We have had 1 person show interest in either position, so if you or someone you know would like either role, please contact Lisa at president@mbhighlanddance.com.

There were some other position changes as well as many committee members returning to their roles.

Thank to the dedicated coordinators and committee heads



it takes to run our competitions and other operations. For a full list of committee members check out website.

Most positions were filled at or just after the AGM. However there is a key position that remains open.

We are still looking for a Community Outreach liason. This is a newer role we are hoping to involve a variety of small things to help grow our exposure outside our current membership. Some of the tasks involve: contacting perpetual trophy donors to solicit new cash donations for the repair & upgrade of their trophies, finding and confirming new dance-out opportunities to be passed on to the dance-out coordinator, arranging media appearances or coverage, distributing sponsorship packages, general promotion and marketing tasks. Someone that's comfortable designing and creating posters, hand-outs or other media to be ordered would be an asset, but not essential, as there are others in the membership able to assist with this component. Anyone interested in taking on or sharing this role, please contact Lisa at president@mbhighlanddance.com.

I look forward to another great year as your MHDA President.

New MB Representative Funding Rules Introduced for 2018-19

This year the MHDA has made some changes to the eligibility rules regarding funding provided to assist dancers selected to represent Manitoba at the Canadian Championship held at SDCCS and to also open up the possibility of additional funding should resources permit.

To be eligible for base funding, a dancer must be a full MHDA member in good standing who has satisfied the volunteer requirement by the end of the 2018-19 dance season. Additionally, the dancer will have to have competed in at least 50% of the dances in at least two of the winter competitions (October through March). Of course, the dancer will also need to attend and compete in the SDCCS Canadian Closed Championship.

Base funding refers to the rep jacket, cost of the SDCCS banquet ticket and a contribution towards the expenses of traveling (for 2019, the MHDA has budgeted \$150 per dancer and that is likely to be matched by the SDCCS2004/2016 Fund which is not managed by MHDA).

If there are funds available to provide additional funding, dancers must fulfill the requirements for the base funding and have competed in at least 50% of the other two MHDA winter competitions, participated in at least 2 dance outs (this can include Folklorama), volunteered two additional times beyond the base member volunteer requirement (this can include volunteer work beyond just volunteering at competitions).

Dancers can submit written inquiries about whether an activity is eligible to meet the requirements or a written request for exemption from a criteria to the MHDA Board

for its determination. Although such inquiries and submissions can be submitted at any time throughout the 2018-19 dance year, no inquiries or submissions will be considered after April 1st.

Regardless of whether a Representative Dancer meets the eligibility criteria, a Representative Dancer can participate with other MHDA members in further fundraising designed to assist with dancer expenses in attending SDCCS, such as the 'Bird and Bevvv'.

Whether applying for base funding or additional funding, a Representative Dancer will need to complete and submit a form that will be included in the Representative Dancer Package that will be given to them at Awards on the day of the Provincial Selection meet and Closed Championship. This form must be returned to the MHDA Board in accordance with the instructions on same by the deadline of May 15, 2019.

The Treasurer will review all Applications by May 21. If the Treasurer rejects an Application, the Treasurer will immediately inform the Representative Dancer and the Board in writing of the reason(s) for the rejection. The Representative Dancer will have 7 days from the date of the Treasurer's notice to send the Board a written appeal of the Treasurer's decision. The Board will review the Application, the Treasurer's reasons and the Representative Dancer's written Appeal at its next Board meeting and can confirm the Treasurer's decision, allow the Application or request further information. The Board's decision will be final.

Fundraising Updates for the 2018/19 Dance Season



WINE RAFFLE: Our MHDA Wine Raffle tickets will be made available as of the November competition. A huge thank you to Cathy Laver-Wright and Stacy Robertson Bosak for stepping forward to run the raffle this year! We will be drawing again at our Provincial Selection in May. We are once again requesting that every member sell one book of tickets. Let's see if we can break \$6000 this year!

CUPCAKE SALES: Our cupcake sales will start up again at the November competition. We will have some less messy cookies available also (as per some parents requests!) I can guarantee your hungry little monsters will be happy with their sweet reward after dancing!





Boys Mentorship Program Starts Up 3rd Season of Highland Dancing!

The Boys Mentorship Program began its third dance season on Sunday, October 14th. Future dates are TBA.

If there is a young man in your life who is interested in learning about Highland Dance, he should think about coming out to meet the boys. We are looking forward to an exciting season of dance and comradery.

Watch for our Wee Warriors session that will be coming up for boys ages 3-5!

For more information please contact Jennifer Lange at fundraising@mbhighlanddance.com.

Out of Town Results - Wisconsin & Medicine Hat

Some MHDA dancers traveled to Wisconsin and Medicine Hat this summer and had great results!

Medicine Hat and District Highland Dancing Association Open Competition

August 11, 2018 (Medicine Hat, AB)

Novice 11 & under

Brooke Aronson: Special Fling - 2nd, Fling - 1st, Sword - 1st, ST - 1st, Lilt - 1st, Flora - 2nd

Overall Winner Novice 11 & Under and High Aggregate Winner



Wisconsin Scottish Highland Games

Sept 1, 2018 (Waukesha Wisconsin)

Morgan Weiss: Fling - 2nd, Sword - 2nd, ST - 2nd, Flora - 1st

Katherine Walc:

3rd - ST, 3rd - Jig

Overall - 2nd

Runner Up

Morgan and Katherine also won first place in the Choreography competition for their duet performance.



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 20, 2018 - The first MHDA competition of the year is Saturday, October 20, 2018 at the Seven Oaks Performing Arts Centre. Looking forward to seeing everyone at this brand new venue!

November 17, 2018 - The MHDA Closed November competition will take place at Louis Riel Arts & Technology Centre. Registration opened on Monday, October 15, 2018. For more info visit mbhighlanddance.com

November 22, 2018 - MHDA dancers are invited to perform at the The Manitoba Club's Gentlemen's Dinner celebrating St Andrew's Day. More info coming soon. To sign up email danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com

November 23, 2018 - MHDA dancers are invited to perform at the Scottish Gentlemen's Dinner at the Fort Garry. More info coming soon. To sign up email danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com

November 30, 2018 - MHDA dancers are invited to perform at the St. Andrew's Society Dinner. More info coming soon. To sign up email danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com

December 1, 2018 - The annual MHDA Tartan Tea is back to being on a Saturday! It will be hosted December 1 at Petrus Hall. More information on page 5 of this newsletter.

2018/19 MHDA Competition Schedule



Save these important dates of the MHDA dance competitions for the 2018/19 dance season!

MHDA October Open Competition

Date: Saturday, October 20, 2018

Location: Seven Oaks Performing Arts Centre - Winnipeg

Time: Pre-Premiers-AM & Intermediates & Premiers-PM

MHDA November Closed Competition

Date: Saturday, November 17, 2018

Location: Louis Riel Arts & Technology Centre - Winnipeg

Time: Intermediates & Premiers-AM & Pre-Premiers-PM

MHDA January Closed Competition

Date: Saturday, January 19, 2019

Location: Seven Oaks Performing Arts Centre - Winnipeg

Time: Intermediates & Premiers-AM & Pre-Premiers-PM

MHDA March Open Competition*

Date: Saturday, March 9, 2019

Location: Louis Riel Arts & Technology Centre - Winnipeg

Time: Pre-Premiers-AM & Intermediates & Premiers-PM

**This competition may have a choreography event included.*

Provincial Selection Championship & MHDA Open Competition

Date: Sunday, May 5, 2019

Location: St James Civic Centre - Winnipeg

Time: Pre-Premiers & Intermediates-AM & Premiers-PM

Mid-Canada Championship & Open Competition

Date: Saturday, June 8, 2019

Location: The Forks Under the Canopy - Winnipeg

Time: Pre-Premiers & Intermediates-AM & Premiers-PM

Lord Selkirk Premiership & Open Competition

Date: Sunday, June 9, 2019

Location: The Forks Under the Canopy - Winnipeg

Time: Premiers-AM & Pre-Premiers & Intermediates-PM

Laura Unruh's Cowal Experience

Submitted by Laura Unruh

This summer I travelled to Scotland to compete in the world championships. My experience at Cowal was not what I was hoping and dreaming it would be. In the spring, prior to provincials, I started having pain in my right foot. I was able to take a few weeks off to rest it and at the Canadian championships, I was able to pull through to place 6th overall in my age category. However, even with further rest, the pain continued. In Scotland, I competed at the British Open Championship where I placed 5th overall which I was happy with. To save my foot for Cowal, I decided not to compete in the Commonwealth championship. Heading up to Cowal, I was nervous to compete because of the pain in my foot, however, I pushed myself to dance as I knew that was the main reason we had come to Scotland and it was the most important competition. In the end I was disappointed with my results of not qualifying for the world championships, but I know that I didn't dance my best due to the injury. For the past 2 years, I qualified for the world championships which made me feel proud to represent Manitoba. Dancing at the world championships is an amazing experience knowing that you are dancing with the best dancers from all across the world, and are being watched by people from all over the world through the livestream. I also have become friends with some Scottish dancers over the past few years and I look forward to seeing them at all the competitions I go to each summer in Scotland.

Although, this trip to Cowal was disappointing this year, I still feel privileged to have been able to travel to Scotland and compete beside some of the best dancers in the world. I am determined to come back from this experience stronger both physically and mentally. To be able to achieve the goals I have set for myself, I plan to work hard at lessons and practice every day with the motivation and determination that is needed to succeed. My goal for next year is to again be able to qualify for the World championships as the experience of dancing with the best in the world is the best feeling of all.



The Tartan Tea is moving!

We are very excited to announce that the Tartan Tea is moving to Petrus Hall at 2624 Inkster Blvd (northwest corner of Inkster and Brookside). This new location boasts a huge parking lot, full wheelchair accessibility, lots of light, commercial kitchen, built-in stage and NO PILLARS! It will be held on Saturday December 1 from 12 to 4 p.m.

*Note that **the Tartan Tea is on a Saturday** this year, not a Sunday.

Tickets purchased with memberships will be distributed at the October and November competitions. Additional tickets can be purchased at the door, at the next two competitions or by contacting Lisa Omand at president@mbhighlanddance. Tickets are \$10 per person. Dancers who are performing and children under 6 are free. Anyone 7 & over requires their own ticket.



We will once again be requiring donations of baking, jars filled with goodies for the jar bar and auction prize donations. Coordinate with your dance school for volunteer jobs and prize baskets. We are also hoping each member family can donate 2 dozen dainties or baked items - 1 for the bake sale and 1 for the daintie station. Specialty items like nut-free, gluten-free, egg-free, vegan etc are appreciated to benefit all guests. Please mark such items accordingly. We will be offering a nut-free selection for those that need it.

The jar bar is very popular part of the Tea, but sells out early every year. If each member family could try to donate 5-10 jars, it would be fantastic. The containers don't actually need to be glass jars. Gift bags, plastic containers, cups, or any small wrapped gift would work. Jars are purchased for \$3, so please ensure the contents meet this minimum value. They are primarily purchased by children, so contents should be appropriate and geared towards them. Candy, craft items, hair accessories, costume jewellery, socks, toy cars, stickers, building sets, small stuffies, Christmas ornaments... or anything else kid-friendly and creative makes good jars.



So please mark your calendars for December 1, start filling jars and planning baking to help make the 2018



A Message from The Pavilion of Scotland

The Board of the Winnipeg Scottish Association (the organization that hosts the Pavilion of Scotland) would like to extend a huge Thank You to the members of the MHDA. Dancers and families volunteered in great quantities not only during pavilion week, but also on set-up and tear-down. While some member organizations sent fewer people than previous years, the MHDA stepped up with more than ever. The trailer unload, stage set up, decorating and week of pavilion were all made easier by the efforts of the MHDA. Thank you for all the help and enthusiasm. We truly would not have been able to open the doors and welcome over 3000 guests without you.

Bart Omand, President, Wpg Scottish Assoc.

Sells highland ghillies!

1 of 1

**UNIQUE
IRELAND**

EUROPEAN GIFT STORE

Harry Potter | Doctor Who | Mrs Browns Boys
British / Irish Treats | Themed Country Products
Celtic Jewelry | Guinness & Soccer Merchandise
... AND MUCH MORE!

**10% OFF FOR
ALL DANCERS!**

204-479-3154
2579 Pembina Hwy

Like us on Facebook: Unique Ireland

Jig shoes also available!

MHDA Available for Performances!

Do you know of or are you involved with a daycare, preschool, or kids program that would like to have MHDA perform traditional highland dancing?



MHDA dancers pictured above performing at the Transcona Highland Gathering on September 22, 2018.

Contact the MHDA at danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com and we can arrange a danceout free of charge for your daycare, preschool or kids program!

Thank you to our sponsors

Thank you to the companies below for providing sponsorship to the MHDA for the 2018/19 dance season!

Harvester Fish Net Company:



Priority Restoration:



MacDon Industries:

MacDon *The Harvesting Specialists.*

Banville & Jones:

Banville & Jones
WINE CO.

Highland Costumes For Sale

The highland dance costumes pictured here are for sale. They are all in mint condition. If interested, please contact Colleen Taylor at colleentaylor.lb@gmail.com or 204-782-5241. The approximate sizing is 6 - 10 yrs.

- Complete Highland outfit (red) - \$350.00
- Complete Highland outfit (green) - \$350.00
- Extra pair of Green Socks - \$30.00
- Highland Dance pumps - \$15.00
- Jig shoes - \$30.00



MHDA Dancers Attend SDTA North American Conference



Each year MHDA dancers show excellence in their theory exams and are asked to attend the scholarship portion of the annual SDTA North American Conference which this year took place over Thanksgiving

weekend in St. Catharines, ON. Out of over 120 participants, Manitoba had six candidates who were able to attend, Tessa Laver-Wright, Katherine Walc, Presley Webb, Annabelle Windsor and Emmaline Windsor as Junior Scholarship Candidates and Madelaine Baigrie as a Senior Scholarship Candidate. Each candidate on the Friday, wrote a theory paper, participated in a master class and performed the 'Tribute to JL Mackenzie' where marks for those components went towards the overall scholarships being awarded. There was also a solo choreography component that had to be done but marks were not included in the overall scholarship but awarded separately.

Junior Scholarship Theory Award, Judges Recognition: Katherine Walc, Presley Webb, Annabelle Windsor, Emmaline Windsor

Junior Choreography Award, Judges Recognition: Presley

Webb

Senior Scholarship Candidate, Madelaine Baigrie came away with a series of awards for her efforts, she earned a 6th place for the Written Paper, a 3rd in the Master Class combined with her marks for the Tribute to JL Mackenzie gave her an overall placing of 5th in the Senior Scholarship Division. Madeline also received Judges Recognition for her solo choreography.

Congratulations to our hardworking dancers, well done!

And that was just Friday! The dancers had 2 full days of workshops following the busy day of scholarship work. 2019 Championship Steps Classes, Highland Hustle with Gillian Urquhart, Tap with Christopher Bull, Highland Wellness & Strength with Laura Donlan, How to Train with Rebecca Thow as well as instruction from Gregor Bowman, Fiona Lee, Ashley Stowkowy, Allana Brown and Aileen Robertson who all put the dancers through their paces. There was a banquet on Saturday night (time to get dressed up and hang out with friends/teachers/parents) where awards were presented complete with a 'Highland Hustle' dancer flash mob showing off the dance moves they learned earlier in the day. And if that wasn't enough there was checking out the sights with excursions to Niagara Falls, Clifton Hills, visiting with family, winery tours (for the parents/teachers) and some shopping. All packed into a weekend so with brains full, bodies tired, they all flew back to Winnipeg happy and excited about such a great highland dance travel experience.

More photos from SDTA Conference



Calgary & Canmore Out of Town Results

Jennifer Watt competed at the Calgary and Canmore Highland Games over the September long weekend. Here are her results:

Calgary Highland Games - Sept 1

Premier 16 & over special event

Jean Murdoch Simpson Seann Truibhas Challenge - 2nd

Premier 18 & over

Earl of Errol - 2nd, Hornpipe - 3rd

Canmore Highland Games - Sept 2

Premier 20 & over

Fling - 3rd, Johnnie - 2nd, Lilt - 3rd, Blue Bonnets - 2nd, Village Maid - 2nd

Scotland Results from the McGregor Studio of Dance

Two dancers from the McGregor Studio of Dance travelled to Scotland this summer, Madelaine Baigrie and Laura Unruh. See their results below.



British Open Championship

August 12, 2018 (Musselburgh, Scotland)

Premier 14 years

Laura Unruh - Fling - 4th, Sword - 5th, Reel - 6th

Overall - 4th Runner Up

Commonwealth Championship

August 19, 2018 (Stirling, Scotland)

Premier 15 years

Madelaine Baigrie - Reel - 6th

RSPBA World Pipe Band Competition & Championship

August 18, 2018 (Glasgow, Scotland)

Premier 14 & under 16 years

Madelaine Baigrie - Laddie - 4th

Commonwealth Championship

August 19, 2018 (Stirling, Scotland)

Premier 15 years

Madelaine Baigrie - Reel - 6th

Cowal Highland Gathering

August 24, 2018 (Dunoon, Scotland)

Scottish Open Championship

Premier 14 years

Laura Unruh - Championship points in Fling, Sword, Seann Truibhas

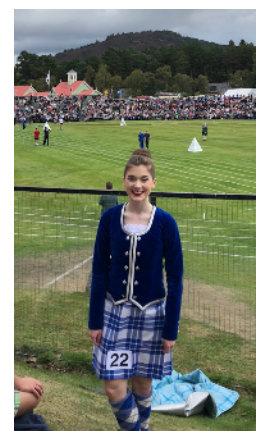
Premier 15 years

Madelaine Baigrie - participation

Braemar Gathering

September 1, 2018 (Braemar, Scotland)

Madelaine Baigrie was selected to compete in the 12 and under 16 category - danced the Flora before HRH Queen Elizabeth the second.



Donna Cram Dancers Scotland Experience

Tartan Press - October 2018

9

The Donna Cram dancers went on an adventure to Scotland this summer and had a great time with lots of dancing and fun! Jennifer Watt and Donna Cram flew over earlier in August where Jennifer competed in a few competitions and did great!

On August 10, Jennifer competed in the Premier 16 & over class at the British Open Championship. Her placings were: Fling - 2nd, Sword - 3rd, ST - 5th, Reel - 3rd. Overall 2nd Runner Up.

August 11 was the Aberfeldy Highland Games where she placed: Fling - 3rd, Reel - 1st, Hornpipe - 5th, Jig - 6th. She also won the relay race with her team!

She also competed at the British Open Championship on August 12, taking home judges placings in Fling, Sword and ST in Premier 18 & over. She placed 6th in Village Maid and 4th in Jig.



Mya Pilat and Terryn Shiells arrived and they all met at the Glenisla Highland Games on August 17. It was very cold! They also had a pipe band play right next to the dancing stage, drowning out or piper for a couple dances!

Mya placed 4th in the sword while Jennifer took home 2nd place in Fling, ST, Reel and Jig and 1st place in Sword and Hornpipe in the 16 & over class.

On August 18, Terryn spent the day with family while Jennifer participated at the RSPBA World Pipe Band Championships. Mya competed at the Melrose competition, bringing home 8 medals! She placed 1st in Laddie, 3rd in Jig, 4th in Sword, ST and Earl of Errol, 5th in Reel, 6th in Fling and 7th in Flora.

August 19 was the Commonwealth Championship for Jennifer and she received judges placings in Fling and Reel, and 6th place in Sword and ST in the 18 & over class. Mya and Terryn competed at the Dunfermline competition where Mya brought home 6th in Sword and 4th in Laddie. Terryn placed 2nd in Sword, 4th in Fling and 5th in Jig.

We all met up at the Oban Highland Games before heading up to Dunoon for the World Highland



Dancing Championship qualifying events. All three girls had a great day at Oban. Mya placed 2nd in sword and placings in the other highland dances. Terryn placed 5th in Fling, 1st in Sword, 6th in ST and 3rd in Reel. Jennifer placed 1st in Fling, ST and Reel, taking home the awards for Best Adult Overseas dancer and the Oban Silver Challenge.

We had rain and sun in Oban. The adult premier dancers were supposed to do a full reel, but because of heavy rain and a small stage, the judges decided at the last minute

that we would do a 4-part Hullachan instead. The best part of the day was squeezing 7 of us into a VERY compact 7-seater for the journey to Dunoon.

We all participated in the World Qualifying Events at the Cowal Highland Gathering on August 24, 2018 in Dunoon, Scotland and made some great memories. We can't wait to go back!



MHDA Dancers Shine at Military Tattoos this Summer

Two MHDA Premier dancers were chosen to dance at International Military Tattoo events this summer. See below for Lauren McCombe's experience at the Basel Tattoo in Switzerland and Rachel UnRuh's second summer dancing at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.



Rachel UnRuh at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Having the opportunity to dance in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo for the second time was an absolutely amazing experience. Stepping back out onto the esplanade after a year made me feel like I had never left. It was such an interesting experience, because it was similar to last year, but at the same time completely different, as it was an entirely new team and new show, but it somehow exceeded my expectations. I was joined on that rock hard cement by 48 other people who do not just love to dance, they love to perform. We danced for roughly 9000 people every night, and had the honour to have Ewan McGregor in the audience one night, which was a very exciting



moment for me. As well, we got the opportunity to dance and become friends with performers from the Czech Republic, Mexico, and Malawi. Some of my favourite shows were nights that I knew people from back home were in the audience for. I was able to make new friends, as well as reconnect with friends I made last year, and yet again it was an unforgettable experience.



Lauren McCombe at the Basel Tattoo

In July, Lauren McCombe had the great honour to perform at the Basel Tattoo in Switzerland after being chosen to be one of the 49 members of the Canadian Celtic dance team, run by Steph Grant and Steph Turnbull.



Basel is the 2nd largest Military Tattoo, next to Edinburgh. She enjoyed spending every day dancing and sight seeing in Switzerland. Also, it was wonderful to make amazing new friendships, often with many of the dancers she'd spent years waiting with behind stage while competing annually at Canadians. Nothing like performing, eating, sleeping and touring together 24/7 to

create fast friends -almost like family - even the photographer responsible for these professional photos was Brent McCombs! So many great memories - reason to "kick up your heels"! Lauren was also delighted that several of her classmates made the trip to Switzerland to see the show. After, they spent a few days relaxing on the hot beaches of Nice, France before returning home and back to the Dental College, which resumed immediately following the August long weekend.

