

Skye Highland Games 2026

<http://www.skye-highland-games.co.uk>

Piping Competitions

Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th August 2026

Information

- The Charles MacArthur Memorial Award and Targe
- £150 for all competitors in the Colonel Jock MacDonald Clasp
- Additional tunes eligible for the Clasp
- Enhanced prize money
- Closing date for entries for all senior piping events 31st May

Tuesday 4th August 2026

Competition No 1: Dunvegan Medal. Skye Gathering Hall, Portree. 8.30am

Competitors will submit four tunes from the list below to the Piping Convenor. The competitor will be asked to play one of these tunes by the judges.

The winner of the Dunvegan Medal will be invited to play in the following year's Silver Chanter.

Competition No 2: Col: Jock Clasp. St Columba's Parish Church, Portree 7.30pm

Competitors will submit four tunes from those marked ** on the list below or any from the Piobaireachd Society List A for Senior Competitions <https://www.piobaireachd.co.uk/set-tunes-archives> (or combination therefrom) to the Piping Convenor. The winner of the Dunvegan Medal will be invited to play in the Clasp. Competitors, therefore, are advised to prepare four of the specified tunes, which could then be offered, for both competitions.

The winner of the Clasp will be invited to play in the following year's Silver Chanter.

List of MacCrimmon tunes:

Battle of Waternish, The **	Lament for the Duke of Hamilton **
Earl of Ross's March, The **	Lament for the Earl of Antrim **
Flame of Wrath for Patrick Caogach, A	Lament for the Harp Tree **
Glen is Mine, The	Lament for the Only Son
Groat, The	MacCrimmon Will Never Return
I got a kiss of the King's hand **	MacCrimmon's Sweetheart
John Garve MacLeod of Raasay's Salute **	MacDonald's Salute, The **
King's Taxes, The	MacLeod of MacLeod's Lament **
Lament for Donald Bàn MacCrimmon **	MacLeod of Raasay's Salute
Lament for Donald Doughal MacKay **	MacLeod's Controversy
Lament for Donald of Laggan	MacLeod's Salute
Lament for MacLeod of Colbeck **	Mrs MacLeod of Talisker's Salute **
Lament for MacSwan of Roag **	Pretty Dirk, The
Lament for Mary MacLeod	Rory MacLoude's Lament **
Lament for Patrick Og MacCrimmon **	Salute on the Birth of Rory Mòr MacLeod, The
Lament for the Children **	Too Long In This Condition

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Competition Nos. 3 & 4: 6/8 March, and Hornpipe & Jig.

St Columba's Church, Portree

8.30am.

Each piper plays one 6/8 March of own choice followed by a Hornpipe and Jig of own choice. There will be an opportunity for competitors to re-tune between the March, and Hornpipe & Jig.

Wednesday 5th August 2026

Competition No. 5: 2/4 March (Kemble Star)

9.00am.

Heats - Each piper submits three Marches of own choice and is asked to play one of them once through.

Competition No. 6: Strathspey & Reel (Peter MacFarquhar Star) runs in conjunction with Competition No. 5, the 2/4 March

Heats - Each piper submits three Strathspeys and three Reels of own choice and is asked to play one Strathspey & one Reel once through.

Pipers entering both competitions will play the 2/4 March first and, after an opportunity to re-tune, will play the Strathspey & Reel.

Heat 1 of Competitions 5 and 6 will take place in **St Columba's Church**

Heat 2 will take place in the **Skye Gathering Hall, Portree.**

Finals - The top three performers from each heat (i.e. 6 competitors drawn from the two March heats and 6 competitors from the two S&R heats) will go forward to take part in the finals in **St Columba's Church starting at 1.30pm.** For the March Final, pipers will perform the unplayed two tunes from their original submission of three i.e. not the march played in the heats. If a piper is in both finals he/she will be asked to play their two Marches, and then the Strathspeys and Reels rather than making separate visits to the platform. There will be an opportunity to retune between the Marches and S&Rs. As with the March final, in the S&R final competitors will play their two so-far unplayed S&Rs (once through) in order of their own choosing.

Prizes:	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Comp 1.	£200	£175	£150	£125	£100	-
Comp 2*	£250	£150	£100	-	-	-
Comp 3.	£ 60	£ 40	£ 30	£ 20	£ 15	-
Comp 4.	£ 60	£ 40	£ 30	£ 20	£ 15	-
Comp 5.	£100	£ 80	£ 70	£ 60	£ 40	£ 30
Comp 6.	£100	£ 80	£ 70	£ 60	£ 40	£ 30

Additional Special Prizes:

The piper with the highest points in the Ceòl beag (light music) competitions will win the Dr Allan MacDonald Cup + £200 presented by the Highland Society of London

- The piper with the highest aggregate points in the Clasp and/or Dunvegan Medal + Ceòl Beag competitions will win the Highland Society of London award of £500. In the event of a tie points in the Clasp will count double
- *Each competitor in the Clasp competition will receive the Charles MacArthur Memorial Award of £150
- *The three winners in the Clasp competition 2 will receive the Charles MacArthur Memorial Award of £250, £150 and £100 respectively in addition to the prize money

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- The winner of the Finlay MacRae Trophy for the top local piper in senior piping competitions will receive £25 presented by the Isle of Skye Piping Society.

Points for placings in the Ceòl Mòr competitions are as follows:-

1st - 10 points, 2nd - 8, 3rd - 6, 4th - 4, 5th - 2.

Note that the last two placings do not apply in the Clasp competition.

Points for placings in the Ceòl Beag competitions are as follows:-

1st - 6, 2nd - 5, 3rd - 4, 4th - 3, 5th - 2, 6th - 1.

In the event of a tie, weighting will be given to the competitor scoring highest in the Ceòl Mòr events.

Competition Rules:

- (1) Any competitor who is unable to attend the competition after entry must notify the Convenor, at the latest on the day before the competition. Failure to do this without reason may result in refusal of entry in subsequent years.
- (2) Competitors must appear in Highland Dress, **and remain so attired until after the presentation of prizes. Wearing of jackets is a matter of the individual competitor's preference.**
- (3) Competitors must be in attendance not later than the advertised reporting time, or other notified time, failing which they will only be allowed to play at the discretion of the stewards.
- (4) The order of play will be adhered to as far as is possible, but the committee reserve the right to alter this if circumstances require.
- (5) Competitors, who are not known to the committee, or who do not hold a CPA grade, are required to submit evidence of success in other competitions, or a recommendation from a recognised tutor.

Failure to observe any of these rules, or the instructions of the stewards, may result in disqualification and/or refusal of entry in a subsequent year.

While every effort will be made to ensure that the competitions run as detailed above, the Piping Convenor reserves the right to make any changes necessitated by unforeseen circumstances.

- Entries for the all piping events will close on 31st May. A list of successful applicants will be circulated as soon as possible thereafter.
- Entries by post or email will be accepted and an inclusive entry fee of **£15** should accompany entries. Please send to the convenor at the address below
- If a legible e-mail address is provided. the entry will be acknowledged by e-mail, if no e-mail address is given, acknowledgement will not be sent out unless you have included a stamped addressed envelope
- Please make all cheques payable to **Skye Games Committee**. Regrettably, no late entries can be accepted due to the very strict timetable to which we must adhere.

Piping is supported by the Clan Donald Trust for the Gaelic Performing Arts, the Highland Society of London, the Isle of Skye Piping Society, and the Royal Hotel, Portree.

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