



## **The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society**

### **Virtual Festival 2026 - Information for Branches and Affiliated Groups**

Thank you for your interest in the Virtual Festival!

#### **Theme:**

#### **Categories:**

##### **One: Creative**

This category focuses on the fun, enjoyment and inclusivity of Scottish Country Dancing. Submissions should adhere to the theme and will be judged by the criteria that are outlined below.

##### **Two: Technical**

This category focuses on the quality of the dancing shown. The dances should entail a quicktime dance and a strathspey, while still including a creative incorporation of the theme. Further details on the judging criteria can be found below.

#### **Criteria:**

- The Virtual Festival, organised by the Youth Services Committee, is open to all branches and affiliated groups around the world. Please note that not all dancers in the entries need to be members of the RSCDS
- Videos can be up to 5 minutes long
- Entries can be made up of any number of dancers, including just one
- Under 18s must have the permission of a parent/guardian to take part

#### **Permissions and consent:**

- Permission should be obtained from parents/guardians for all dancers under 18. Please note, all entries will be uploaded to the RSCDS YouTube channel, shared on our social media platforms, in the e-newsletter and on the RSCDS website.

#### **Music:**

- Please note that when you are choosing the music for your video you need to be aware of the copyright and performing rules which govern the uploading of material to YouTube - this is where we will be hosting the Virtual Festival submissions. The Society gives permission for branches and groups to use any material that has been produced by the RSCDS.
- To use any other recordings, you should seek permission from the owners of the recording before submitting your entry. Please complete the music permissions section on the application form. If you have any questions, please contact us at [ysc@rscds.org](mailto:ysc@rscds.org).

- If your group requires any support from a musician regarding the provision of music for your video, please get in touch with the Youth Services Committee – [ysc@rscds.org](mailto:ysc@rscds.org).

### **Video Guidelines and Specifications:**

- Where possible, please film the video in landscape
- Recommended are video dimensions 1280 x 720 for landscape (if filming on a mobile phone, please use the Full HD setting)
- Recommended video formats are .MP4 and .MOV.
- Please ensure that the video is steady, and where possible use a tripod or selfie stick. You can use a drone to obtain aerial footage if you wish.
- Screen Skills offer top tips for filming on a mobile phone – access this resource on our website or email [ysc@rscds.org](mailto:ysc@rscds.org) for more information.

### **Submissions:**

Please complete the submission form and send with your video to [ysc@rscds.org](mailto:ysc@rscds.org) and copy it to [info@rscds.org](mailto:info@rscds.org) When sending files over 10MB please use a file sharing service or Cloud storage such as WeTransfer, One Drive or Google Drive. A folder can be sent to you to upload any videos directly, please email [info@rscds.org](mailto:info@rscds.org) to request this.

Please submit your video by (insert date 2026).

### **Judging and winners:**

Judging will take place from ( insert date), with the People's Choice vote closing on ( insert date). The winning entries will be announced at the Autumn Gathering on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2026.

### **People's Choice Award:**

Voting will be live from (add date) to (add date) with the YouTube playlist made public.

### **Judging categories:**

People's Choice Creative category – (voting open until - add date) £10 voucher for the RSCDS Shop

People's Choice Technical category – (voting open until - add date) £10 voucher for the RSCDS Shop

Creative category - £15 voucher for the RSCDS Shop

Technical category - £15 voucher for the RSCDS Shop

### **Judging criteria:**

For the creative Category:

- Fun and enjoyment/Would like to join in with
- Adherence to the Theme
- Teamwork/communication
- Musicality
- Videography skills
- Choreography

For the technical Category

- Footwork in Strathspey
- Footwork in Quicktime
- Handing
- Accuracy of formations
- Adherence to the Theme
- Teamwork/communication
- Musicality
- Videography skills
- Choreography

**Special commendations:**

Choreography

Teamwork

Would like to join in with

Videography

Musicality

If you have any questions, please contact us at [ysc@rscds.org](mailto:ysc@rscds.org).