



Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne 2023 – Montréal, Quebec, Canada

**A Two-Night Non-Refundable Deposit will be charged at time of booking.
All hotel rates are in Canadian Dollars (CAD).**

A CAD\$130 FACILITY USAGE FEE WILL BE CHARGED DAILY TO ALL PATRONS, INCLUDING TEACHERS, PARENTS AND DANCERS, TO VIEW THE COMPETITIONS. THIS FEE IS SEPARATE FROM THE DAILY ADMISSION FEES, ALL OF WHICH ARE OUTLINED ON THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE WWW.ORNC2023.COM.

THE FACILITY USAGE FEE WILL BE WAIVED FOR PERSONS WEARING A **WORLDS 2023** WRISTBAND, WHICH WILL BE DISTRIBUTED FREE OF CHARGE FOR BOOKING HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS WITHIN THE OFFICIAL HOTEL BLOCK AT ANY OF THE OFFICIALLY CONTRACTED HOTELS.

RESIDENTS OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC AND THOSE WHO RESIDE WITHIN THE *LOCAL EXEMPTION AREA* (DEFINED LATER IN THIS DOCUMENT) WILL BE EXEMPT FROM THE FACILITY USAGE FEE BY SHOWING VALID I.D.

BOOKING OUTSIDE THE **WORLDS 2023** ROOM BLOCK, BOOKING WITH POINTS/MILES OR BOOKING THROUGH A TRAVEL AGENT WILL NOT MEET THIS REQUIREMENT. IT IS NOT ENOUGH THAT YOU BOOK AT A HOST HOTEL, YOU MUST BOOK WITHIN THE OFFICIAL **WORLDS 2023** ROOM BLOCK.

STRICT SECURITY WILL BE IN PLACE TO ENFORCE THIS POLICY.

Why is there a Room Block and why are there Official Hotels?

Top conference sites across North America are in high demand, so hosting committees typically contract their venues and hotels four to six years in advance, to ensure that a large enough facility with enough accommodation can be secured. Negotiations for preferred room rates include agreeing to a minimum guarantee of inventory sales, so an official hotel room block is established to help identify event patrons as part of a specific conference to offset those quotas. With other conferences occurring before, during and after our event, an official hotel room block is vital to secure enough accommodation for all patrons of the *Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne 2023*.

What is the Facility Usage Fee?

The CAD\$130 per person per day Facility Usage Fee was established to ensure that patrons of these events fill the official hotel room block and therefore not put the event at a massive financial risk by way of monumental attrition fees.

Anyone not staying in the **WORLDS 2023** official hotel room block at any of the host hotels (with the exception of patrons who present a valid I.D. showing that they live within the Local Exemption Area) will be charged this fee to access the competitions. Booking at the host hotel, but outside of the official hotel room block will not meet the criteria to be exempt from this fee.

What initiated the Facility Usage Fee?

The Facility Usage Fee was introduced following a *North American Irish Dance Championships* where the official hotel room block was substantially under booked, and the hosting region suffered immense financial penalty by way of hotel attrition fees. Through consultation with experts in the convention services industry and conversations with organizers of similar events outside the Irish dancing world, it was determined that adopting this policy for *Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne* is the best way forward to protect the interests of *An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha*. This system was used for Worlds 2009 (Philadelphia), Worlds 2013 (Boston), and Worlds 2015 (Montréal).

What are hotel attrition fees and why are they necessary?

Attrition fees are applied when a conference group cannot fill at least 80% of the contracted number of rooms in a hotel. Attrition fees are compensation to the hotel for the rooms that might have been sold to other patrons, had they not been held in reserve for an event.

How does the organizing committee decide how many hotels rooms to block?

Estimates are based upon past registration figures, expected popularity of the site, and best projections for attendance. Contractual flexibility is built into the contract to allow for adjustments to be made as the Championships approach, however, that flexibility is limited.

Will the Facility Usage Fee apply at future Championships?

Yes. This is a standard policy for *Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne* when held in North America, regardless of the location or the hosting committee. Otherwise, registration and admission fees would escalate significantly, and the organization risks financial ruin.

What if I find a less expensive hotel, or what if I want to stay with family/friends instead?

No one is obligated to book within the official room block of a host hotel in order to attend the Championships. Patrons have the option to stay wherever they wish, knowing that the Facility Usage Fee will be charged to each person (including parents, dancers and teachers) to access the competition area each day.

What if I live in or near the Montréal area?

Teachers with pupils from the Province of Québec and/or within the Local Exemption Area (see below) will be required to submit a list of those planning to attend. Once identified, these

attendees will not be subject to the Facility Usage Fee, and will only be required to pay the daily admission fee (if applicable). These patrons will be asked to show I.D. with their name, photo and address on each day that they attend the Championships to verify their exemption from the Facility Usage Fee.

How do I prove that I have booked within the official hotel room block at a host hotel?

Reservations will be flagged at each host hotel, and patrons who have successfully booked within the official hotel room block will be prompted to submit a registration form to obtain event wristbands upon check-in. It will be necessary to wear and show these wristbands to staff at the venue to access the competition rooms. Patrons who do not acquire wristbands by way of booking within the official hotel room block at a host hotel must purchase them for CAD\$130, per person, per day.

How many wristbands will we receive and when will we receive them?

Wristbands will be issued at check-in (upon completion of a *Wristband Registration Form*), relative to the number of people booked to stay in the room. Please ensure to check your reservation carefully. Booking a room for two to sleep four people will garner only two wristbands. Please note; if you arrive to the hotel several hours prior to check-in, it may not be possible to receive your wristbands at that time. It will be at the discretion of the hotel team managing distribution.

Will I require a *WORLDS 2023* wristband to the Vendor Room or the Practice Room?

Yes. Wristbands will be required to access all areas of the event space. The competition rooms, vendor rooms and practice rooms are interconnected and there is no way to differentiate who is entering the event space for which purpose. If you want to visit the venue before you are checked-in, you will have to have your wristbands from the hotel in order to gain access.

What are the details for the Local Exemption Area?

Residents of the following postal codes/zip codes are exempt from having to pay the Facility Usage Fee:

Québec – G1A to G9Z, H1A to H9Z, J1A to J9Z

Ontario – K1A to K3Z, K7V, K7S, K0A, K2J, K2M, K4M, K7C, K4R, K4K, K6A, K0B

New York – 12901, 12903, 12962, 12992, 12921, 12919, 12958

Vermont – 05401 to 06408, 05439 to 05494

Additional information, if necessary, will be published in early-March.