GRADE 8

Performance (60 marks):

12 tunes from a prepared list of 20 as follows: Candidates will be asked to play *two Slow Airs, two Double Jigs* (connected), *two Slip Jigs* (connected), *two Slides* (connected), *two Reels* (connected) and *one Reel* of three or more parts.

Also to play **one** of the following: Mazurka, Fling, Barndance, Hornpipe, Schottische, Polka, Set Dance, Clan March, Planxty (as chosen by the Examiner).

Note: Slow Airs may be chosen from list of suggested slow airs on page 17 of Syllabus

Aural Awareness (10 marks):

Candidates will be asked

1) to identify tune type **and** time signature based on a sample 8-bar melody played **twice** by the Examiner, i.e. Air, March, Polka, Double Jig, Reel, Slide, Hornpipe, Slip Jig, Mazurka, Barndance, Fling, Clan March, Single Jig, Schottische. Candidates should also be able to identify any ornaments featured within the sample melody.

2) to repeat on their instrument a 2-bar phrase in 4/4 time in the key of D major, G major or A major with use of ornamentation, as played **three times** by the Examiner.

3) from a 32-bar tune sample played **once** by Examiner, candidates will be asked which of the following the tune is based around: Doh Mode (Ionian) of G or D, Ray Mode (Dorian) of G or D, Lah Mode (Aeolian) of G or D. Candidates should also explain how they arrived at their answer.

Examples of Lah (Aeolian) Mode Tunes:

Lah Mode: The Fermoy Lassies (Reel), The Kid on the Mountain (Slip Jig), The Old Grey Goose (Double Jig), The Musical Priest (Reel)

Research Project, Discussion & Repertoire (20 marks):

Research Project

The Research Project at Grade 8 level should take the form of a live concert review of approximately 1000 words and provide information about performer(s), location/timing of event, repertoire played, performance traits and relevant background information about the performers. The Research Project should also include candidate opinion and response to the performance. (see also page 9)

Discussion

The Research Project will be discussed during the examination, with an ability to recall and discuss relevant information being of critical importance. Candidates will also be expected to display knowledge of newly-released recordings (solo & ensemble) of traditional music, along with a detailed awareness of influencial historical recordings both within and outside of Ireland.

Repertoire

Candidates are required to present a **Repertoire List**, comprising a suggested minimum of **60 tunes** (containing at least 9 different tune types), not including tunes already played in Performance section. They should be able to play short phrases from any tune featured on Repertoire List, and discuss the various tune types found on the list.

Literacy (10 marks):

Candidates will be asked to play the following 3 Modal Scales of D major, one octave up and down: Ray Mode (Dorian Mode), Lah Mode (Aeolian Mode) and Soh Mode (Mixolydian) [of D major i.e. A, B, C#, D', E', F#', G', A'].

Candidates will be asked to play a sight-reading test comprising 16-bar reel (2-part tune, no repeats) in the key of D major, G major or A major, with consideration being given to progression, fluency and general notational / rhythmic accuracy. Candidates will be allowed a 2-minute period to study the staff notation prior to commencing.

