

General Rules and Conditions of Entry



DREAM
PERFORM
ACHIEVE
INSPIRE

All performers enter and participate in the Sydney Eisteddfod according to these General Rules and Conditions of Entry and the terms set out specific to categories and individual events. Please refer to your category rules and conditions of entry to review the requirements specifically pertaining to your events.

- 1 Throughout the Rules and Conditions, the following terms are clarified below:
 - > *Eisteddfod* is Sydney Eisteddfod, which is the organising body.
 - > *Official* is a representative authorised by the Eisteddfod and may include Sydney Eisteddfod staff, volunteers, and adjudicators.
 - > *Event* is a competition event identified by a program number.
 - > *Category* is a grouping of like events.
 - > *Entrant* refers to any person entered into an event (the performer).

- 2 Events are open to all comers, subject to stipulated individual event conditions.

- 3 Entries
 - > All entries are subject to event capacity. Entrants are advised to enrol in an event as early as possible to avoid disappointment.
 - > If an event is full, entrants can request to be placed on a waitlist. No charge is incurred whilst being on the waitlist. Should a place becomes available, entrants will be contacted and must pay for the entry within 24 hours. After this time, the place will be offered to the next waitlisted entrant.
 - > Enrolments will close 14 days prior to an event. No entries will be accepted after this time.
Note : An event may reach capacity prior to this date.
 - > Entries must be completed online. Sydney Eisteddfod cannot be responsible for entries lost through failed electronic transmission.
 - > The names and birth dates of all entrants must be provided upon enrolment for solo, duo, and trio events.
 - > No person may enter under a name other than their own legal name. A preferred name can be indicated using quotation marks within the First Name field when resitering for an event (eg. Leeanne 'Lee' Jones).
 - > Entries are not transferable from one person to another in events where individual performers are named.
 - > School events can only be entered with bonafide students of the school.
 - > Guidelines regarding multiple entries in the same event are as follows:
 - Solo*: Entrants may only perform once in an event.
 - Duo/Trio*: Participants may perform a maximum of two times per event, provided that each duo/trio contains only one participant who has already performed in another duo/trio in the same event.
 - Group*: Individuals are allowed to perform more than once in the same event, provided that a group contains no more than 20% of the same performers from another group in the same event.
 - > The Eisteddfod reserves the right to amend or refuse entry, to disqualify or deny participation, to alter or reduce the prizes as published, or to amend, cancel or combine any event, particularly should there be insufficient entries.
 - > Any event may be divided for program purposes and any event time or date may be altered if necessary.
 - > Sydney Eisteddfod reserves the right to move its events to an online format in accordance with health advice.

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- 4 Entry fees are not refundable except when an event is cancelled by Sydney Eisteddfod.

- 5 Correspondance
 - > Sydney Eisteddfod correspondence is primarily via email. Updates, alerts and reminders will be emailed to the entrant for each event entered. It is crucial that all personal information, including a valid mobile phone number and email address, is registered.
 - > It is the entrant's responsibility to ensure that Sydney Eisteddfod emails are not blocked by spam filters. If you encounter any issues, please email info@sydneyeisteddfod.com.au

- 6 Requests, complaints, and constructive feedback are welcome, though preferred in writing to info@sydneyeisteddfod.com.au so they can be formally addressed by Sydney Eisteddfod staff.

- 7 The Eisteddfod is a not-for-profit organisation, and officials may be volunteers. Please show them consideration for their time and effort. Failure to comply with direction, or abuse of any kind, will not be tolerated and may result in disqualification or an entrant being unable to participate in the festival.

- 8 Event Running Order
 - > Event runsheets will be sent via email 14 days prior to an event. An entrant number will be randomly allocated to each entrant/group. The entrant number represents the event running order and cannot be changed.
 - > In exceptional circumstances, special consideration may be given regarding the entrant running order prior to the publishing of the event runsheets. Written requests must be submitted via email to info@sydneyeisteddfod.com.au at least 21 days prior to an event. Sydney Eisteddfod cannot guarantee that requests can be accommodated.
 Note : For School Group Events, runsheets will be sent 28 days prior to an event. Written requests must be submitted via email 5 weeks prior to an event.

- 9 Age Limits
 - > Entrants must perform in events applicable to their age only.
 - > Age is determined as of 31 December of the current Eisteddfod year. Event restrictions such as '16 and Under' mean that only those who are 16 or younger on 31 December of the current Eisteddfod year may take part.
 Note : Age for events 498, 501-518, and 627-634 is determined as of 1 January of the current Eisteddfod year.
 - > Performing in a different age group for any reason is strictly prohibited.
 - > In the event of a dispute, Sydney Eisteddfod may require proof of age (such as a copy of birth certificate) to be provided by all participants, including those who are members of a group. Group registrants (eg. teachers) may also be asked to provide a list of participant names upon request.
 - > Not adhering to age limit requirements may result in entrants being unable to participate in the festival. A group member in contempt of age requirements will render the whole group liable to disqualification.
 - > Events titled 'Any Age' are open to everyone and can be entered by persons of any age, provided that they are not a 'professional'. A professional is defined as a person who earns the major part of their income from the practice of the art or who uses the art as a primary means of livelihood.
 - > Age limits do not apply to non-playing/non-singing conductors or private and official accompanists.

10 Performance

- > Entrants perform at their own risk. Entrants agree they are of good health and are physically able to participate in an event. No liability will be accepted for any injury sustained whilst carrying out that performance.
- > Sydney Eisteddfod representatives and adjudicators are not permitted to advise, interpret, or vary any rules, conditions, or any aspect of the conduct of the festival.
- > Entrants are required to register with the Event Coordinator 30 minutes prior to the start time of an event. For events with staggered start times, entrants should arrive at their requested arrival time.
- > Entrants must appear in numerical programming order.
- > The Eisteddfod will not be able to alter event starting times or delay the running of an event for late arrivals or registrations. Late arrivals may have no time prior to going on stage. An entrant who misses their turn may be able to perform at the end of the event, subject to time, for 'comments only' - and not for a placing or prize.
- > Entrants are expected to be prepared for their event at the time of performance, and ready to perform when called. Sydney Eisteddfod will not be responsible for an entrant missing their performance time.
- > Warm-up spaces are subject to venue availability. Entrants are advised to arrive at the venue performance ready.
- > Items performed in a Heat must be repeated in the Final, unless otherwise stipulated.
- > Groups performing in Finals must consist of the same individuals as in the Heats, without augmentation, unless prior permission is granted by the Eisteddfod.
- > The choosing of the correct performance material rests with the entrant. Suitability, quality of choice, and degree of difficulty are taken into consideration by the adjudicator.
- > Published or unpublished work is permitted, unless otherwise specified. Please note that the work must be able to be submitted in an official capacity (eg. sheet music for an instrumental event).
- > No personal transposition of music is permitted, except in Contemporary Singing, Choral, and Instrumental group events.
- > Entrants are encouraged to vary repertoire when performing in multiple events in order to develop their expressive and technical capabilities. However, there are no restrictions on the number of times that repertoire can be repeated across multiple events, including Principal events.
- > In case of an audio failure or safety concern during a performance, an entrant should exit and speak with a Sydney Eisteddfod official off-stage.
- > The order of performance in Finals is at the discretion of the Eisteddfod.

11 Time Limits

- > Performances must be kept within specified time limits. If a performance goes over the stipulated maximum time, or is significantly under the minimum, the entrant will receive 'comments only' and will not be eligible for a placing or prize.
- > Except for announcement of the item title, time is determined from the first note, dance step, action or word spoken to the last note, dance step, action or word spoken.
- > When a 'Total Performance Time' is indicated, the clock *will not stop* between any item selections or movements. If separate times are specified for multiple items, the clock will stop for each.
- > The Eisteddfod timekeeper's record is final.

12 Accompaniment

- > Accompaniment in vocal and instrumental events must be acoustic piano, except where otherwise stated, or the original has an obligato instrument.
- > Official accompanists, if appointed, are not obliged to play poorly presented, difficult or illegible music at sight. Prior rehearsal is always advisable. Please see the Official Accompanist document for further information.
- > Accompanists do not need to purchase a ticket for admission.
- > For dance and contemporary singing events, please ensure backing tracks and accompaniment are uploaded to the *Sydney Eisteddfod Entrant Portal* no later than 14 days prior to the event, and adhere with the guidelines given in the relevant Category Rules and Conditions.

13 Group Helpers

- > A maximum of 3 helpers (including teachers) per group are allowed back of house. This maximum does not include conductors and/or accompanists.
- > The names of all who require back of house access (including conductors, teachers, accompanists, supervisors, associate artists) must be provided in the *Sydney Eisteddfod Entrant Portal* no later than 14 days prior to an event.
- > All who require back of house access must hold a current NSW Working With Children Check (or interstate equivalent). It is the responsibility of the registrant to ensure all WWCC details have been verified.
- > No teacher, parent, or designated supervisor (unless an accompanist or conductor) will be allowed on stage or in the wings at any time, except those registered in a supervisory capacity with groups.
- > Supervisors must always remain with their group but are not permitted on stage unless performing with their group.

14 Behaviour and Performance Etiquette

- > A high standard of decorum is expected from all participants and patrons. Behaviour which is contrary to the spirit of the event, especially if directed at Eisteddfod representatives, adjudicators or entrants, will result in the offender/s being asked to leave. Offending entrants or entrants associated with offenders will be disqualified and may be unable to participate in future festivals.
- > Any person or group found responsible for defacing or damaging a venue or equipment will be disqualified and the Eisteddfod may take steps to recover from them any costs of repair.
- > Supervisors of groups must remain with their groups at all times and will be held accountable for the actions of their groups.
- > Sydney Eisteddfod does not tolerate canvassing or poaching. Any attempt by studio owners, teachers, competitors, or parents to change an entrant's place of enrolment is regarded as bad behaviour and an infringement of the entrants' rights and may be subject to a penalty. This infringement may result in offenders being unable to participate in the remainder of the festival.
- > Entrants must use dressing rooms provided (if applicable) and should not dress in hallways or foyers.
- > Costumes and language must be age and culturally appropriate; not adhering to this may result in entrants being unable to participate in the festival.
- > Use, or possession of weapons (including replica weapons) is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate removal from the event and disqualification.

15 Adjudication

- > The adjudicator/s' decision in accordance with the rules is final.
- > Prizes cannot be divided and no extra prizes can be awarded (eg. tied placings are not awarded).
- > The awarding of Highly Commended awards is at the discretion of the adjudicator.
- > Any person who is related to or has been taught or coached privately by an appointed adjudicator during the twelve months preceding the opening date of the Eisteddfod will be eligible for 'comments only' - and not in contention for a prize or placing.
- > Adjudicators will be asked to disclose any conflicts of interest upon revision of finalised entrants.
- > Communication with an adjudicator is strictly not allowed. If it is established that an entrant or person associated with an entrant has made personal contact with the adjudicator before or during an event, that entrant will be penalised.
- > A substitute adjudicator may be used in place of a listed adjudicator.
- > To ensure that the competition remains fair for all involved, Sydney Eisteddfod reserves the right to delay adjudication in the event of any disputes or alleged rule violations. In the case of delayed adjudication, results will be communicated via email to all participants as soon as possible after the event.
- > An adjudication report will be provided to the entrant, or group representative, unless otherwise stated. Adjudication reports may be hard copy or digital, dependent on the event, and will be distributed as follows :
Hard Copy: Reports will be distributed at the end of the event. If an entrant is unable to remain for adjudication, a scanned copy of the report will be available via email upon written request to info@sydneyeisteddfod.com.au.
Digital: Reports will be available via the registrant's *Sydney Eisteddfod Entrant Portal* no later than one business day after the event.
- > Sydney Eisteddfod strongly encourage all entrants to remain until the end of their event to observe adjudication.

16 Prize Money

- > Prize money is payable via EFT. Those applicable are requested to supply their bank details no later than 28 days after the event. More information on this process will be sent to the applicant via email after the event.
- > Bank details must be supplied no later than 30 November 2025 or the cash prize will be forfeited.
- > It is the applicant and entrant's responsibility to ensure that all banking information provided is accurate. Sydney Eisteddfod will not accept responsibility for any effect arising from incorrect or mistaken bank details.

17 All entrants must agree to Sydney Eisteddfod's Media and Photography Policy. In addition, entrants consent to the following conditions:

- > Sydney Eisteddfod may publicise the name, profile, and photograph of an entrant in festival publications and results, via electronic, social, and printed media, at its discretion.
- > No remuneration or compensation whatsoever shall be attributable to any participants so featured in promotional publications or material. Should the entrant have any personal or legal reasons which would preclude them from this, Sydney Eisteddfod should be notified in writing upon entry.

18 Personal details provided by an entrant via entry forms are for Sydney Eisteddfod identification use only and are not released to third parties except at Sydney Eisteddfod's discretion, after consultation with the entrant, to known organisations, when an opportunity may be beneficial to an entrant.

- 19 Sydney Eisteddfod will not be liable for personal items lost or stolen at Eisteddfod venues. Valuables should not be brought into venues and any school bags, handbags, instruments, or other items should be under the supervision of someone nominated by the entrant or group at all times.
- 20 Sydney Eisteddfod will not be liable for any copyright infringement relating to the submission of photocopies or use of recorded music. Entrants should be aware of the APRA/AMCOS rules of copyright.
- 21 Original published music (submitted at an entrant or teacher's own risk) should be collected immediately at the conclusion of the event. Photocopies will be returned as per APRA/AMCOS policy.
- 23 Failure to comply with any of the foregoing rules and conditions may cause withholding of prizes, disqualification, or may result in entrants being unable to participate in the festival.
- 24 Entrants and/or their guardian consent to release and hold harmless the Sydney Eisteddfod, its directors, officers, officials, agents, employees, volunteers, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event ("Releasees"), with respect to any and all injury, disability, death, or loss or damage to person or property incident to an entrant's involvement or participation in any Sydney Eisteddfod events, whether arising from the negligence of the releasees or otherwise, to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- 25 The decision of the Eisteddfod in all questions or disputes arising out of or not provided for by these rules and regulations will be final. All entries are received according to this condition and in the spirit of friendly competition upon which the Eisteddfod is based, and no dispute shall become the subject of any appeal at law.

Entrants should refer to our FAQs for other useful information.