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## 2026 RULES AND CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION Version 21-1-2026

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## 1. DEFINITIONS

**Division** – The Eisteddfod is made up of many Divisions such as, but not limited to: Vocal Division, Choral Division, Strings Division, Piano Division, Flute Division, Woodwind Division, Brass Division, Percussion Division and Guitar Division.

**Section** – Each Division is made up of many Sections. Each Section is denoted with a code such as V724, e.g. V stands for Vocal Division and the number denotes the Section number. Each Section will have its entry criteria such as: Age Group, Grade Level, Performance Category, Section Type and Time Limit.

**Entry** – When you make an Entry, you enter a specific Section of a Division. Each individual Entry may consist of a single or multiple competitors, such as a Solo, Duet, Quartet, Ensemble or a Choir. The individual Section's Entry Fee covers all competitors performing in the Entry.

**Stardom** – This is the Adelaide Eisteddfod Society's web-based portal that competitors use to access:

- Divisions and Sections that are offered for the upcoming Eisteddfod season.
- Competition date(s) of the individual Divisions.
- Information such as the Rules and Conditions of the competition.
- Entry forms to supply the required information to enter the Divisions and individual Section.
- Music copyright information and forms.
- Upload facility for digital copies of scores for use by the Adjudicator.
- Payment of all application and entry fees.

**Eisteddfod** – Welsh word that in modern times means a competitive event where participants showcase their talents in areas such as Music, Dance, Drama, Poetry Recitation and Public Speaking.

**Eisteddfodau** – Plural form of 'eisteddfod' in Welsh.

**The Council** – the management committee of Adelaide Eisteddfod

**The Executive** – the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer

**Stardom Account Holder** – the person that fills out the entry on Stardom being either the entrant, parent/guardian, teacher or school.

## 2. ENTRIES

All events, unless otherwise stated, shall be open to all, and all entries must be made via Stardom at [www.stardom.com.au](http://www.stardom.com.au)

- a) Entry Fees and Stardom Administration Fee
  - (i). Each new invoice will attract one Stardom administration fee in addition to the section fee for each section entered.
  - (ii). An entry is complete once the invoice has been paid in full.
  - (iii). All invoices must be paid in full before the close of entries.
  - (iv). An invoice may be for a single person or for multiple people, see also *to 2c*).
- b) Stardom Account Holder

This is the person that fills out the entry on Stardom being either the entrant, parent/guardian, teacher or school.

The Stardom account holder is responsible for:

  - (i). Providing the contact details for each individual competitor/entrant, including the individual competitor's name, postal address, email address, and mobile or landline phone number at the time of entry. Note that if the competitor is under 18 years old, then their parent/guardian contact details must be provided instead.

- (ii). Submitting the correct spelling of the name of each individual competitor they enter.  
Note: The names as they are submitted through the Stardom entry system will be the names printed in the Program Guide.
- (iii). In the **Choral Division**, the contact details of a responsible person who will be in charge of the choir is required. The choristers' individual names and details are not required.
- (iv). If the Stardom Account Holder is not the individual competitor or the parent/guardian of the competitor, it is the responsibility of the Stardom Account Holder to forward a copy of these rules to the competitor and/or their parent/guardian.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Eisteddfod requires the correct entrant contact details to be provided as per points a) and b) above and if not provided, the entry may be deemed invalid. It is the responsibility of the Stardom Account Holder to advise the Adelaide Eisteddfod of any changes to contact details.

c) Entry Types

(i). A single person entry

An invoice may be for a single competitor.

A competitor may enter any number of sections (which may be in different Divisions).

*Please refer to the Stardom Account Holder information above.*

(ii). A multiple person entry

The Account Holder may enter multiple different competitors into different sections in different Divisions.

*Please refer to the Stardom Account Holder information above.*

(iii). Choir entry

The Account Holder is **not** required to provide the choristers' individual names and details. Apart from the Account Holder's details, the contact details of a responsible person who will be in charge of the choir is required.

*Please refer to the Stardom Account Holder information above.*

### 3. PAYMENT OF ENTRY AND ADMINISTRATION FEES

#### Payment of Fees

- a) Entry and administration fees as per the Stardom invoice are to be paid online through the Stardom payment system.
- b) Public schools, private schools and government institutions may request private invoicing.
- c) Fees not received by the closing date will negate the competitor's entry.
- d) No late entry fees or late entries will be accepted.

### 4. REFUNDS

Entry fees are not refundable except where a section has been cancelled or where government regulations preclude the competitions from going ahead or the competitor from attending.

### 5. AGE LIMITS

- a) Where sections are subject to an age limit, that age shall be deemed to be the age of the competitor as at 30<sup>th</sup> June of the current year.
- b) The date of birth must be stated at entry, and competitors shall, if asked to do so, provide evidence of date of birth by providing a copy of any of the following identity documents: birth certificate, student card, passport, Government-issued photo ID cards such as learner's permit, provisional or full driver's licence, or proof of age card.
- c) Conductors of choirs and ensembles must certify that the ages/school years of the listed members are correct.
- d) In "under age sections" such as "10 years and under" or "12 years and under" competitors may only enter two types of underage sections in any given year. The word "*underage*" refers to

any section that states a specific age and the words “and under”. *This clause does not apply to the Choral Division.*

- e) In Age sections such as “14 to 18 years” or “8 to 9 years” competitors may only enter the section of their age as of the date referred to in 5.a). *This clause does not apply to the Choral Division.*

## 6. ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER

Competitors who in the six months prior to the first day of the Division’s competition in which that section occurs

- a) have been pupils of the Adjudicator
- b) have been coached by the Adjudicator

are ineligible to enter that section.

A one-off Masterclass with the Adjudicator will not be considered as coaching. However, the piece performed in the Masterclass is not eligible to be used in the competition.

## 7. SECTIONS WITH CONDITIONS

- a) Non-First Prize Winner sections are only open to competitors who have NEVER been awarded a first prize on that instrument in an Adelaide Eisteddfod competition.
- b) Grade Level Sections.
  - i) The selection of piece/s for grade level sections **must be from the current AMEB exam syllabus.**
  - ii) Competitors may only enter ONE grade level section for each instrument they enter for. Failure to comply with this rule **will result in disqualification from all the lower grade level sections.**
  - iii) Where a grade level, e.g. Grade 3, is stated as the requirement of any section, the entrant must currently be studying that grade level.
  - iv) Instruments where it is deemed that the same technique is used to play them, will be considered as the same instrument, and as such entrants are only eligible to compete on the instrument with the highest grade. These instruments include:
    - (1) Violin *and* Viola
    - (2) Cello *and* Double Bass
    - (3) C and Bb Trumpet

## 8. SECTION CHANGES OR CANCELLATIONS

The Eisteddfod Council reserves the right to:

- a) cancel any section which has attracted insufficient entries
- b) change the period during which entries may be submitted
- c) divide or combine any section(s)
- d) change the prize structure
- e) convene additional heats
- f) alter section times
- g) record, film, videotape, broadcast or telecast any item or sections
- h) make changes to the advertised prizes where a section has only received a minimal number of entries, has been combined with another section, or been cancelled.

## 9. REPERTOIRE

- a) No competitor shall perform the same item in more than one section unless this is specifically noted in the syllabus as being allowed for that section (sections are the separate competitions within each Division).
- b) No set piece shall be performed as an Own Choice in any section.
- c) No competitor shall perform the same item with which they have previously won a First award in the preceding two years, either individually or in conjunction with any partner or group at any Adelaide Eisteddfod competition. Any competitor who is found in breach of this rule will not be eligible for a prize and will be disqualified should the prize have already been presented. Instead, competitors will be allowed to receive feedback only from the Adjudicator.
- d) Competitors may enter any duets, ensembles, orchestras, etc. any number of times in a section provided at least half of the group is changed. This is not applicable to the Choral Division.
- e) Unless the "conditions" specify a single piece, competitors may perform any number of pieces or movements provided the specified time limit is not exceeded. The interval between movements and pieces will not be timed. Competitors may not perform a set piece as an Own Choice (*see Rule 9. b*).
- f) A piece that has an accompaniment must be presented with the accompaniment unless the section rules state otherwise. Should a competitor perform a piece without the accompaniment, they will be precluded from earning a prize or placing in that section, but the provision of Adjudicator comments will be allowed.
- g) A piece written without an accompaniment may be presented in any section unless specified otherwise by the relevant Division or Section rules.

## 10. CONDUCT OF COMPETITORS

- a) Unless directed otherwise by the Convenor, competitors shall compete in the numbered order in which their names appear in the program as shown on the Society's website. If not present when called, competitors may be disqualified.
- b) Any rehearsal or warm-up at the venue is at the discretion of the Convenor of the Division.  
**Note: many of our venues do not have warm-up facilities.**
- c) Any prompting, coaching, conducting or directing by a member of the audience may preclude the competitor concerned from earning a prize or a place. (refer Rule 17b)
- d) Should a competitor decide to leave the stage during a performance, the competitor shall be allowed to perform again (time permitting), but for adjudicator comments only.
- e) On the day of the competition, check-in opens 30 minutes prior to the commencement of their section and closes 5 minutes before the section's start. Failure to check in on time may result in disqualification from being awarded prizes unless prior arrangements have been made with the Convenor of the Division or extenuating circumstances have been encountered.
- f) Competitors unable to perform in a section they have entered MUST NOTIFY the Convenor by text message or email at least 24 hours beforehand. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from their next scheduled section. Emergency situations or extenuating circumstances will be considered by the Convenor whose decision will be final.
- g) As each section is a public performance, participants are reminded that a high standard of personal presentation is considered desirable.

## 11. TIMELIMITS

- a) Performances must be kept within the specified time-limits for the section. The following time limits may be imposed:
  - (i).Minimum time limit
  - (ii).Maximum time limit
  - (iii).No time limit

These time limits will be monitored.

- b) The interval between movements and pieces will not be timed. This does not apply to (c)

- c) suggested time limits; these are a guide only.
- d) Non-observance of time limits will preclude the competitor from earning a prize or a placing in that section but will allow the provision of Adjudicator comments.

## 12. EXCLUSIONS

Any competitor who has won first place in a section in two consecutive eisteddfodau (eisteddfods) cannot enter this section again for two subsequent eisteddfodau, unless the competitor is competing on a different woodwind, brass or string instrument. Refer to rule 7 (iv) (1) to (3). A duo or group, however, may continue to enter with new membership of not less than half of the group. *(This clause does not apply to the Choral Division.)*

## 13. SCORE REQUIREMENTS

- a) A legible copy of the works to be performed **MUST** be provided for the Adjudicator.
- b) Where this work has a piano accompaniment, the full score including piano part must be supplied.
- c) Except for the Choral Division (*refer to the note f) below*), all scores must be submitted by uploading to Stardom no later than 14 days prior to the first day of that Division.
- d) It is the responsibility of the competitor or their representative, to collect original music at the close of the section.
- e) All electronic and photocopied music will be destroyed at the end of the competition as is required by law.
- f) For the **Choral Division** it is preferable, and requested, that a legible copy be provided to the Convenor prior to the competition. At the very latest, copies must be submitted to the Convenor at least 12 days prior to the date of performance.
- g) Unpublished works will be accepted, but the print must be legible.
- h) Instrumental cadenzas must be included with the copy for the Adjudicator and must also be legible.
- i) A competitor may only change their choice of music on Stardom up to 14 days prior to the start of the Division entered.
- j) Where a competitor needs to change their choice of music less than 14 days prior to the first day of that Division, they will need to seek approval from the convenor and follow any instructions the convenor gives.

## 14. COPYRIGHT

The Adelaide Eisteddfod Society is required to comply with the Australian copyright law as defined by OneMusic and therefore follows the procedures to comply with the following requirements.

- a) Copy of music for Adjudicator  
The competitor is required to supply a copy of the music for the Adjudicator to use. A request to upload music will be emailed to all competitors once the programming for the Division has been completed.  
Note: Music must be uploaded to Stardom no less than 14 days before the competition commences, to allow time for the copies to be downloaded onto the Eisteddfod computer system. A convenor of a Division may also request a hard copy of the music for the Adjudicator to be supplied where it is deemed necessary.
- b) OneMusic Copyright Declaration Form  
The competitor is required to fill out and sign the OneMusic Copyright Declaration Form prior to competing.  
This can be done in the following ways:

- (i). Fill out the form on the Stardom website prior to the competition. This is the preferred method.
  - (ii). Download the paper form emailed to all competitors. Print and fill out both sides of the form and hand in the signed form when booking in on the day of the competition. Note: If the competitor is under 18 years old, the form will have to be filled out and signed by a parent or guardian.
- c) Eisteddfod Division Convenors are obliged to refuse entry to any competitor not complying with the above conditions. The Society will not be liable for any copyright infringement.

## 15. ADJUDICATION, PRIZES AND HONORARY MENTIONS

- a) The Eisteddfod Council reserves the right to appoint a substitute Adjudicator for an announced Adjudicator.
- b) From the date entries close, any competitor or parent of a competitor who has entered may not discuss any matter relating to their entry and or performance with the Adjudicator of the section they have entered. Any competitor so offending may be disqualified from the competitions.
- c) The Adjudicator's decision relating to the awards authorised in the syllabus is made in accordance with the rules of competition. The Adjudicator's Decision is Final.
- d) Should the Adjudicator or the Eisteddfod Council decide not to give a prize in a section, or to reduce or withdraw a prize if a satisfactory standard is not achieved, such a decision will be final and binding on all competitors.
- e) Assessments by the Adjudicator will either be available at the conclusion of each section on the day or will be available to be downloaded from the Stardom website at a later date. It is the RESPONSIBILITY of the competitor to collect any reports available at the end of the section along with any original music.
- f) Awarding of Prizes
  - (i). All prizes are awarded at the discretion of the Adjudicator.
  - (ii). If - in the opinion of the Adjudicator - no competitor is of sufficient merit to win first prize, only lower-level prizes may be awarded to competitors of sufficient merit.
  - (iii). A competitor disqualified for any reason **will not be eligible** to be awarded a prize.
- g) Awarding of Honorary Mentions
  - (i). All Honorary Mentions are awarded at the discretion of the Adjudicator or the Executive.
  - (ii). There is no limitation to the number of Honorary Mentions that can be awarded in a section.
  - (iii). A competitor disqualified for any reason will not be eligible for **any** prize but may still be **eligible** for an Honorary Mention.
- h) Prizes in the competition will generally be advertised and may be in the form of Monetary prizes, Medallions, Trophies, Vouchers, Scholarships or any other types stipulated by sponsors or trust fund requirements. Monetary prizes will be paid at the discretion of the Society by one of the following methods:
  - (i). Cash
  - (ii). Cheque
  - (iii). Electric funds transfer
  - (iv). Scholarships will be paid in line with the deeds of trust from which the scholarship is paid.

## 16. PROTESTS

All protests are to be made in the following way:

- a) Protests are to be made by letter or email to the Secretary and are to be received no later than five business days after the Division has concluded.
- b) The protest is to be dated and must include the name, address and telephone number of the complainant, accompanied by a \$250 deposit by cheque, money order or electronic funds transfer. This deposit shall be forfeited if the protest is deemed to be frivolous or lacking in substantial merit. However, if the protest is upheld the deposit will be refunded.

- c) Protests can only be made by competitors, their teachers or their parents/guardians.
- d) Anonymous protests are not considered.
- e) Protests may be:
  - (i). Posted to the Secretary, Adelaide Eisteddfod Society, Steadfast House, 239 Magill Road, Maylands, SA 5069
  - (ii). Given to the receptionist at the above address during business hours on weekdays.
  - (iii). Or emailed to the AES Secretary at [secretary@adelaideeisteddfod.com.au](mailto:secretary@adelaideeisteddfod.com.au)
- f) Where the person submitting the protest does so by email, an invoice for \$250 will be sent to them and they will have 7 days from the invoice date to pay that invoice.
- g) Where an invoice is not paid within 7 days, the protest will not be considered.
- h) When a protest is received, the Executive will set up a committee to investigate the protest and report back to the Executive.

## 17. CONDUCT OF TEACHERS, PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND AUDIENCE MEMBERS

- a) No parent or teacher is allowed on or behind the stage unless they are:
  - (i). playing the accompaniment for a performance
  - (ii). conducting a choir or ensemble
  - (iii). page turning
  - (iv). rendering assistance at the Convenor's request
  - (v). providing emotional support for a special needs child/person by prior arrangement with the Convenor.
- b) Any prompting, coaching, conducting or directing by a member of the audience during the performance, may preclude the competitor concerned from earning a place.
- c) No contact is allowed with the Adjudicator prior to or during a section by a teacher, parent/guardian or a member of the audience. Failure to do so may result in the competitor being **disqualified** from being awarded prizes.
- d) Any person attending the competitions including a competitor, audience member, parent or teacher who causes a disruption during the competitions may be asked to leave the venue and be excluded from returning to any further competitions. Where this person is the accompanying adult of a competitor under the age of 18, the competitor will also be required to leave. The Convenor's decision regarding this matter will be final.

## 18. RECORDING OF PERFORMANCES

- a) The use of **cameras or other recording devices** by any member of the audience is prohibited during any performance with the following exceptions:
  - (i). Where a competitor will use the performance as a South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) or International Baccalaureate requirement. This is to be negotiated with the Convenor at least **three weeks prior** to the commencement of the Division in question and this recording may under NO circumstances be used for any other purpose.
  - (ii). By an Adelaide Eisteddfod appointed photographer for use in promotions.
- b) Breaches of this rule by parents, relatives, friends or associates of a competitor who illegally record a performance, or upload a recording to social media and websites, may result in the competitor being disqualified from the competition. This may be on the day of competition or at a later date if the recording comes to air.

## 19. LIABILITY

Neither the Adelaide Eisteddfod Society Inc. nor any of its officers, staff or volunteers shall be held liable for any delay, loss or damage to the property of, or any inconvenience caused to any participants arising from any cause whatsoever.

## **20. ACCOMPANISTS AND BACKING TRACKS**

Competitors are required to provide their own accompanist for all sections of competitions where one is required.

A list of names of suitable accompanists is available from the Adelaide Eisteddfod Society Office or by contacting the Convenor of the relevant section.

For a piece that has an accompaniment, refer to rule 9f).

For a piece without an accompaniment, refer to Rule 9g).

A recording of an accompanist or backing track is not permitted unless a section specifically allows this.

In sections where a backing track is permitted, the type of backing track required will be specified. E.g. Piano only, Instrumental, orchestral or other and cannot include the instrumental score of the instrument / vocal being accompanied.

## **21. MINORS UNDER 18 YEARS OLD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED**

Minors (competitors under 18 years old) must be accompanied by a parent, a relative 18 years or older, guardian, school or music teacher or a person nominated by the parent.

Unaccompanied minors may be disqualified from performing.

## **22. FAILURE TO COMPLY**

Failure to comply with any of the Adelaide Eisteddfod Society's Rules and Conditions may involve disqualification and withholding of prizes. The decision of the Council of the Adelaide Eisteddfod Society Inc. in all questions or disputes arising out of, or not provided for by, these Rules and Conditions will be final. All entries are received according to this condition and in the spirit of friendly competition upon which the Eisteddfod is based.