

GENERAL RULES

1. The closing date for entries is as stated in each section
2. Except where specific section rules apply, the age limit date for group entries is 1st September. For individual entries it is the first day of any section competition. The signature on the entry form will be the guarantee that the competitor's age is correct. The committee reserves the right to request to see a birth certificate should any question arise.
3. Competitors must be amateur* bona fide members of the organisation they represent.
**Amateur is defined as a person who does not make his/her living, by performing or teaching, in the discipline involved; e.g. a teacher may be allowed to enter, at the Festivals discretion, if playing a different instrument from that upon which he/she makes a living.*
4. Entry fees are non-refundable.
5. To comply with the Safe Guarding Policy and Privacy Policy the Official Nuneaton Festival of Arts entry form **MUST** be completed and signed.
6. Email entries will be accepted, however, cheque/cash/bank transfer for the entry fee together with the signed declarations on the application form **MUST** be received by the section secretary by the closing date for entries. The email **MUST** give all the information requested on the entry form, (Entry forms are available to download on the Festival website).
7. Competitors are limited to the number of entries they can make. Please see individual sections for the number of entries allowed.
8. The Committee may decline to accept an entry or may limit, cancel or subdivide any competition.
9. First, second and third place certificates may be awarded in each class to competitors who gain the three highest number of marks. The Adjudicator may, at his/her discretion, withhold the award of a first or second place certificate where there are fewer than three competitors and a third place certificate where there are less than ten competitors. In the event of a tie for one of the places, a certificate will be awarded to each competitor gaining the relevant mark. An Adjudicator may also withhold place awards and trophies where he/she considers that the standard is not sufficiently high to merit them. Certificates of Achievement will be awarded in accordance with the Adjudicator's decision.
10. **The Adjudicator's decision is final.**
11. Trophies are awarded for a nominal year only. All trophies must be returned the following year to the section secretary by the date stated on the Trophy receipts.
12. Winners of classes should be prepared to take part in a Festival concert or event if required to do so
PERFORMING ARTS ONLY (Piano, Speech and Drama, Stage Dancing, Vocal, Woodwind, Strings and Brass)
13. (Not applicable to Stage Dancing) Competitors will only be admitted on production of their admission cards. These will be forwarded to the competitors and will be applicable for the session indicated on the card. Competitors who have **not received the card fourteen days before the adjudication period should contact the section secretary.**
14. The order of competing is determined at the Section Secretary's discretion.
15. Every effort will be made to adhere to the schedule, however, should alterations be necessary, entrance fees will not be returned after the programme has been finalised and adjudicator and venue booked.
16. Competitors who do not respond when called upon to perform may be disqualified.
17. Competitors must collect adjudication sheets, copies of music, texts and any certificates from the Adjudicator's steward at the end of each class. **(For Stage Dancing only - collect at the end of the day).** Requests for posting these must be agreed with that steward and postage prepaid.
18. **No competitor may perform more than once in the same class OR play the same piece in more than one class.**
19. No photography or filming by equipment of any kind, including mobile phones, is allowed **during performances.** Permission for photographs of their own child receiving an award, for personal use, may be given by the section secretary, upon request.
20. (a) The services of an official accompanist are provided under terms stated in the section rules and conditions of entry. If a competitor brings his/her own accompanist, the Adjudicator may take in to account the adequacy of the accompanist when assessing the performance. (b) Any competitor requiring the services of an official accompanist must forward one copy of their 'Own Choice' to the section secretary as detailed in that section's programme. All competitors must supply one copy for the use of the Adjudicator, this to be handed to the section organiser before the commencement of the class concerned. 'Own choice' copies must be legible.
'The Music Publisher's Association Code of Practice on photocopying copyright works makes the following concessions for copying own choice pieces from volumes only for the use of the adjudicator at a festival, provided that the entrant or participant has already purchased his/her own copy and that the copy made is retained and destroyed by the administrator of the festival immediately after the event. This permission specifically does not apply to set works. Single copies of items may not be photocopied without the prior permission of the copyright holder.'

ALL SECTIONS

21. Any complaint about the infringement of these rules must be made to the appropriate section secretary **WITHIN THIRTY MINUTES** of the end of the class concerned. (Performing Arts sections), **or ONE WEEK** from the close of the presentation event. (All other sections).
22. Any changes to the rules shall be made at the Annual General Meeting. All proposed changes must be submitted to the general secretary, in writing, at least three weeks before this meeting. The general secretary shall then call a meeting of the Executive Committee, which will report upon the proposed change to the rules to the AGM. Then if necessary, make recommendations concerning the proposed change.
20. The Committee reserves the right to decide on any matter not covered by these rules.