



COFFS HARBOUR & DISTRICT
EISTEDDFOD SOCIETY

Arts | Performance | Community

COFFS HARBOUR & DISTRICT **GENERAL EISTEDDFOD RULES – 2026** To be read in conjunction with your discipline Rules

1. Competitors, Teachers and Parents will be regarded as being conversant with all rules; the plea of lack of knowledge will not be accepted as a bona-fide reason for the infringement of any rule. 'General Rules' should be read in conjunction with the 'Special Rules' pertaining to relevant sections. It will be assumed by the Society that **ALL** agree to both sets of Rules.
2. All entries are now online with "Comps On Line " at <https://www.comps-online.com.au/> Please refer to our web page www.coffseisteddfod.org.au for your relevant sections syllabus for further information. Our closing date for all disciplines is 31 March 2026. No entries will be accepted after 31st March 2026. (Unless stipulated by Disciplines Own Rules about late entries) ALL entries will be submitted online.
3. Competitors, Teachers or Parents **MUST NOT APPROACH THE ADJUDICATOR** during competition. Breach of this rule will bring disqualification.
4. Protests shall be lodged with the Organising Committee, in writing, immediately after the completion of the session in which the protest is entered. Forms are available from committee members, payment of \$50 is also to be submitted.
5. In any Section where there are LESS THAN THREE (3) competitors, Sections may be combined, deleted or cancelled at the discretion of the Organising Committee, prior to the commencement of the Eisteddfod. If there are insufficient entries in some sections, the AGE RESTRICTIONS may be altered on the condition that the teachers are informed of any changes prior to the printing of the program.
6. These competitions shall be open to **AMATEURS ONLY**. A person who owns, manages, is the principal teacher of a Performing Arts, Musical, Dance studio shall not be eligible to enter any section of the Eisteddfod.

Eligibility: All Sections are open to amateurs only. Professional dancers and teachers are not permitted to compete at the Coffs Harbour & District Dance Eisteddfod. (refer Rule 8 for Choir & Instrumental disciplines)

Professional Dancer Defined: Any person who has ever been a cast member and received payment for any professional dance, TV, Musical or Theatre production with a running time of four weeks or more is considered a professional and may not compete in the Coffs Harbour & District Eisteddfod.

Teacher Defined: A person who is or has ever been employed to teach dance professionally, eg, has teaching qualifications or has been listed as teaching staff of a dance school on a full time or part time basis.

7. Student Teachers: Any student 18 years and under who teaches dance part time at the dance school or schools they currently attend are considered amateurs and as such are eligible to dance in all sections of the Coffs Harbour & District Dance Eisteddfod. Full Time Students attending Performance Schools are ineligible to enter.
8. Teachers and Professional Performers are not eligible to enter, except for Orchestra and Choir sections, and those sections specifically including teachers as referred to in the Schedule.
9. The executive reserves the right in any age competition to call upon the competitor to furnish, at his or her own expense, proof of age and to withhold any prize until such proof of age has been furnished. ('Age' as per current entry form).
10. Any competitor who has been formally taught (excluding workshops) by the Adjudicator of a discipline after 31 January, shall not be eligible to compete in that discipline.
11. No person will be allowed or permitted to contact a competitor during an item on stage, unless as an Accompanist or Conductor. No prompting or assistance of any kind can be given by anyone other than the adjudicator. This rule will be strictly enforced.
12. No competitor shall be allowed to render the same item in more than one section., except Dance.



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13. No competitor/s shall be allowed to render the same item/s with which they have previously won a first prize in any section at the Coffs Harbour and District Eisteddfod, except Dance.
14. The Adjudicator's decision shall be final, and he or she shall have the power to withhold or divide prizes according to merit. The Adjudicator shall be entitled to recommend the withholding of prize but must announce the decision when making the adjudication and note the adjudication sheets.
15. Where competitors perform together, no individual competitor may appear more than once in the same section. Refer to individual Discipline rules (re: Choirs and Dance)
16. **Novice Sections.** These sections are restricted to those competitors who have never won a First Place in the relevant category in any Eisteddfod, (either online or on stage) prior to the closing date for entries for the Coffs Harbour Eisteddfod.
17. **Championship Sections.** Competitors should note any special conditions set out for Championships in appropriate "Special Rules" of their section
18. **Scholarships** are intended for the extension of studies. Scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the Adjudicator from the eligibility list supplied by the Organising Committee. Adjudicator's decision is final. **Restricted Scholarships** To be eligible, competitors must live within the boundary and attending a Studio/Performing Arts / for classes regular classes within a 75-kilometre radius of Coffs Harbour.
19. The Executive reserves the right to determine the status of any competitor and to apply and interpret these rules.
20. The Coffs Harbour & District Eisteddfod Society does not accept any responsibility for any infringement of the Copyright Act , It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure they comply with the Act.
21. Engraving. The cost of engraving on any trophy shall be borne by the winner if not already proved.
22. If through unforeseen circumstances an Adjudicator is unable to perform his/her duties, the Committee reserves the right to replace Adjudicator
23. Presentation and Dress. It is in the Competitor's own interest to pay special attention to their dress and presentation when appearing in competition. Dress will constitute part of the performance and will be taken into consideration by the Adjudicator.
24. Competitors **must perform in the order** in which their names appear in the Official Program, unless otherwise directed by the Organising Committee, and must enter and perform under their own name. Dance Groups Only: Studios will be provided with a running schedule prior to publication of the Dance Program and at such time will be permitted to present to the Dance Committee any issues with scheduling. The Committee will take into consideration requests from the Studios and reserves the right to make amendments if deemed necessary by the Committee. Only by committee discretion will changes in the running order of Group sections be allowed on the day.
25. Offensive Material/Performances will be terminated by the Adjudicator and or the Committee.
26. Rehearsals or practice on stage is not permitted for any section once the Eisteddfod has commenced.
27. Where applicable, a separate legible copy of the music or material for each competitor's performance must be provided for use by the Adjudicator, must be clearly marked with the competitor's name and number, section number and title, and handed to the librarian 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the session. Any photocopied material will be retained by the Committee to be destroyed according to Copyright ruling (Dance and Choirs are exempt), no later than 3 months after the competition concludes.
28. All Dance Music is to be uploaded to "Music Uploads" for CHDES Disciplines (ie there will no CD / MP3 / Phones). For information on other disciplines please contact your coordinator.



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29. Coffs Harbour Eisteddfod does not Refund Door Ticket sales
30. Coffs Harbour Eisteddfod does not refund competition entry fees unless a Medical Certificate is supplied and after consideration by the committee
31. All COVID restrictions and NSW Health guidelines will be adhered to at the time of competition if applicable.
32. Any performer that does not complete their performance within the time limit may not receive a place BUT will receive Adjudicators Report (except Dance)
33. The Eisteddfod will not tolerate behaviour (including Social Media communication and posts that are not respectful) that is not in the spirit of the events. In the light of this, the Executive Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry to any competitor, parent, school or carer if it deems necessary.
34. By submitting an entry to the Coffs Harbour & District Eisteddfod, you acknowledge and consent to the recording, use and publication of images and/or footage for promotional, marketing and media purposes, including on social media and in media releases. If you do not consent to this use, you must notify the event coordinators or the Executive Committee in writing prior to participation.
35. **COMPETITORS AT THE COFFS HARBOUR and DISTRICT EISTEDDFOD PERFORM AT THEIR OWN RISK, PERFORMERS ARE ALSO TO TAKE DUTY OF CARE TO THEIR OWN PERFORMANCE TO REDUCE RISK AND INJURY. ENTRANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN PROPERTY AND BELONGINGS.**