

RULES AND RESTRICTIONS FOR WARTACE MUSICFEST COMPETITION

The commercial use of any portion of the Wartrace MusicFest program by film, video, audio, or any other form of advertisement is strictly prohibited by law without the written authorization of the Wartrace MusicFest Committee.

PARTICIPANTS

1. All amateur musicians and dancers welcome to participate.
2. NO PROFESSIONALS PLEASE
3. Professionals are defined as those who earn 50% or more of total income through performing or teaching.

Rules

1. Electric amplification, drum, or any percussion instrument will not be permitted.
2. If there are **NOT** 2 entries in a contest category, the contest for that category **will not** be held.
3. Contestants in all instrumentals categories will play two tunes each.
4. In the "Individual Performer" categories each contestant may perform unaccompanied, or accompanied by no more than one instrument.
5. The decision of the judges will be final.
6. Those signing up will be selected in random order.
7. If a string breaks during the competition, the contestant will have the option to continue or stop at that point. If the tune is completed, it will be judged as played. If the contestant stops play, he/she will be allowed to begin with that tune and complete his/her program without penalty. A reasonable amount of time will be allotted for a string replacement. If another instrument is available and given to the performer to continue, that will be allowed.
8. It is the responsibility of the contestant to hear the event called from the stage. Failure to respond after the 3rd call from the stage will result in elimination and forfeit of fees.
9. In the event of a tie, a replay will be necessary.
10. A medley of tunes is NOT acceptable.
11. **Sound system adjustments will be made and remain at the same setting throughout each, the round of eliminations, with the exception of feedback adjustments by the official sound technician only.**
12. Rules subject to modification at the sole discretion of the Wartrace MusicFest Committee.

RESTRICTIONS ON PERFORMANCES IN CERTAIN CATEGORIES

GUITAR: Performers regardless of the style, flatpicking or fingerpicking, the difficulty of the tune and the skill with which it is performed will be the criteria on which the judges will base their decision. Contestant will perform 2 tunes of choice.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR FIDDLE CATEGORIES: Contestants will be required to play a waltz and a tune of choice. Junior Fiddle below age 50 and Senior Fiddler age 50 and above.

BANJO: Scruggs 'tuners will not be permitted to aid performance in bluegrass categories. Play 2 tunes of choice.

DOBRO: Emphasis on clarity of tone, rhythm, timing and style. Play 2 tunes of choice.

MANDOLIN: Traditional old-time or bluegrass style is permitted. Emphasis on tone quality, execution, timing, rhythm, and style. Play 2 tunes, a waltz and a tune of choice.

BANDS: Band performers must have minimum of 3 members, but not more than 6 members. Band member may not play in more than one band in that same event. Band will be judged with the following in mind

1. Material selection: difficulty, taste, authenticity.
2. General instrumental musicianship: rhythm, timing, intonation, expression for both solos and overall instrumental blend.
3. Vocal performance: intonation and overall vocal quality for both leads and harmony.
4. Stage presence: entertainment value, showing comfort with the audience.
5. Play 1 instrumental, 1 vocal and 1 tune of choice.

BUCK DANCING: Emphasis on feet as well as rhythm, timing, energy, appearance of dress, expression and authenticity. Foot, arm and upper body movement should be limited. Feet should not be higher than 6" off the floor during the whole dance performance. Arms should not be flounced but should be held loosely at the sides of body, keeping the head and shoulders as level as possible. Shoes and taps must be worn.

FREE STYLE CLOGGING: Emphasis on rhythm, timing, energy, appearance of dress, expression, and authenticity. Shoes must be worn. This is **NOT** a restricted dance.

TEAM SQUARE DANCING: No more than 4 couples. Emphasis on rhythm, timing, energy, appearance of dress, expression and authenticity. Shoes with taps must be worn.