

Washington State Fiddle Championships

Vancouver, Washington

August 4-5, 2018

Championship Division Rules

1. This is a non-certified division with open judging.
2. A contestant may enter either their age division OR Championship division.
3. Contestants will draw their numbers during the Young Adult division. After cuts, order of play will remain the same for each additional round.
4. **Judging criteria:** The contestant must show knowledge and mastery of Texas style fiddling. A contestant will not only be judged on difficulty but also their ability to arrange tunes according to the tradition of Texas style fiddling and improvise appropriately. Rhythm and drive will be considered a priority.
5. No contestant shall play a tune more than once during competition.
6. Scores from Round 1 and 2 are accumulative, but scores from rounds 3 and 4 are not.
7. Round 1 will be a standard contest round which includes a hoedown, waltz and a tune of choice (other than a hoedown or waltz) in said order. Tunes for Round 2 and 3 will be determined by the judges and announced at the end of prior round. Round 4 will cut to the top three contestants which will then compete in a Round Robin. Tunes will be decided by a roll of the dice.
8. In case of a tie the judges may use their discretion on call backs.
9. There is no time limit; however, repetitive phrasing or noting may decrease a tune's score.
10. During Round Robin no contestant may leave the stage area.
11. Round 3 may be Olympic Judging.
12. You must be present to receive your award.
13. By registering for the contest, contestants agree to grant WSFC & WOTFA all media rights.

Please be advised that places for each round may be posted.

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Novice & Twin Division Rules

1. Judging for Novice and Twin Divisions will be **Open Judging**.
2. Novice and Twin Divisions will play only **One Round**.
3. Novice Division contestants will play **two tunes** of their choice. Twin Division contestants will play **one tune** of their choice. Contestants may choose to play with or without backup. Contestants entered in a Certified or Championship division may also inquire about playing in the Twin Division.
4. A 4 minute time limit is recommended in both Novice and Twin Divisions.
5. Contestant's order of play will be randomly drawn by a committee member and posted 30 minutes before starting time for each division. Contestants must be ready to play when notified.
6. Judging criteria on individual tunes will include, but not limited to: Difficulty, Musical Expression, Rhythm, Timing, Tone and Intonation.
7. **Twin Division** contestant pairs will be judged on Note for Note Harmonies, Synchronized Bowing and Phrasing, in addition to Difficulty, Musical Expression, Rhythm, Timing, Tone and Intonation. **At no time** will one fiddle stop while the other fiddle plays solo.
8. In the event of a tie, contestants will play off according to the stipulations of the judges. Playoff will be for ties in the top three places only.
9. If a string breaks, **the fiddler** has the option to continue or stop when the string breaks. If the tune is completed it will be judged accordingly. If the contestant stops, **due to broken string**, the fiddler will be allowed to start that tune again and finish the round.
10. Sheet music **will not be** allowed on stage.
11. Contact microphones and/or amplified instruments **will not** be permitted during competition.
12. **No** trick fiddling is allowed during competition.
13. Cross tuning **is not** allowed on stage.
14. Points may be deducted from scores or a contestant may be disqualified if a contestant violates the Contest Rules.
15. All decisions of the judges and the contest committee will be final.
16. You must be present to receive your award.
17. By registering for the contest, contestants agree to grant WSFC & WOTFA all media rights.

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Celtic Division Rules

1. Judging for Celtic Division will be **Open Judging**.
2. Celtic Division contestants will play **two rounds**.
3. Celtic Division contestants will play **3 tunes** A Jig, Reel and a Tune of choice which is defined as a tune other than a Jig or Reel. Contestants may choose to play with or without accompaniment.
4. Contestants entered in a Certified or Championship division may also play in the Celtic division BUT bare in mind that authenticity is a judging criteria.
5. A four minute time limit is recommended.
6. Contestant's order of play will be randomly drawn by a committee member and posted 30 minutes before starting time for each division. Contestants must be ready to play when notified.
7. Judging criteria on individual tunes will include, but not limited to: Difficulty, Musical Expression, Rhythm, Timing, Tone and Intonation. Style is also considered. Contestants shall demonstrate Celtic mastery which can include - Irish, Scottish or Cape Breton.
8. In the event of a tie, contestants will play off according to the stipulations of the judges. Playoff will be for ties in the top three places only.
9. If a string breaks, **the fiddler** has the option to continue or stop when the string breaks. If the tune is completed it will be judged accordingly. If the contestant stops, **due to broken string**, the fiddler will be allowed to start that tune again and finish the round.
10. Sheet music **will not be** allowed on stage.
11. Contact microphones and/or amplified instruments **will not** be permitted during competition.
12. **No** trick fiddling is allowed during competition.
13. Cross tuning **is not** allowed on stage.
14. Points may be deducted from scores or a contestant may be disqualified if a contestant violates the Contest Rules.
15. All decisions of the judges and the contest committee will be final.
16. You must be present to receive your award.
17. By registering for the contest, contestants agree to grant WSFC & WOTFA all media rights.

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GENERAL CONTEST RULES for All Certified Divisions

1. A contestant may enter only one certified division. Residents from any state are welcome to compete however, the top placer from Washington will receive benefits of certification and designated as state division champ at Weiser. Please note : Prizes will be awarded to contestants according to actual placing.
2. Judges will be sequestered for all Certified Divisions rounds in accordance with Weiser Rules.
3. All contestants order of play will be randomly drawn by a committee member and posted 30 minutes before set starting time for each division. Round two cuts will be posted in a timely manner and order of play will be the same as first round. Contestants must be ready to play when notified.
4. Contestants entered in certified divisions must play a hoedown, a waltz, and a tune of choice (a tune other than a hoedown or waltz) in said order. **No** contestant shall play a tune more than once during competition.
5. Judging criteria on individual tunes will include, but not limited to: Difficulty, Musical Expression, Rhythm, Timing, Tone and Intonation.
6. In the event of a tie, contestants will play off according to the stipulations of the judges. Playoffs will only be for ties in the top five places only.
7. A four minute time limit is strongly recommended. Rounds going over five minutes may be docked points if repetitive.
8. Contestants may choose to play with or without accompaniment. There is no limit on contestant's number of back-up; however, please consider that the accompaniment should not drown out the fiddle.
9. If a string breaks, **the fiddler** has the option to continue or stop when the string breaks. If the tune is completed it will be judged accordingly. If the contestant stops, **due to broken string**, the fiddler will be allowed to start that tune again and finish that round.
10. Sheet music **will not be** allowed on stage.
11. Contact microphones and/or amplified instruments **will not** be permitted during competition.
12. **No** trick fiddling is allowed during competition.
13. Cross tuning **is not** allowed on stage.
14. All scores are cumulative from the preliminary round into the finals. Points may be deducted from scores, or a contestant may be disqualified if a contestant violates the Contest Rules.
15. All decisions of the judges and the contest committee will be final.
16. You must be present to receive your award.
17. By registering for the contest, contestants agree to grant WSFC & WOTFA all media rights