

# Rules and Information Book



MusicFest 2019 is presented by Prestige Music



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## Music Fest - Aims

Music Fest aims to provide an environment where excellence in performance and education can be celebrated.

Music Fest provides for the finest adjudicators and solid performance indicators to ensure that all participants can achieve to their best, be evaluated on their performance and not be rated against other ensembles

## Music Fest – Strategic Directions

Music Fest has engaged eminent musicians from performance and educational backgrounds to assist in developing a program of musical enrichment through a high quality performance activity.

This solid connection with the professional music industry enhances the opportunities given to Queensland's young musicians via defined educational outcomes, opportunities for further study for students and teachers, the chance for peer learning across school environments and substantial partnerships with the retail, wholesale and educational institutions.

Mostly, Music Fest is about fine music-making and joyful performance!

## Generic Rules

1. All ensembles' members must be students currently attending the school that the ensemble represents and registered with that school's administration as a student of that school. Combined school ensembles may only enter if the ensemble is one that consistently operates as an autonomous ensemble and not an entity constructed for the sake of entering Music Fest. Community Ensembles are the only exception to that rule.

2. Timing of performances will be from the first until the final note. Tuning may be done on stage but will be included in allocated performance time. Any group going over time may be allocated a lesser rating. Be sure to consult the specific rules regarding this under the ensemble sections noted below.

3. The program must include one set piece, where applicable (see Set Pieces List), and be related to the grade entered. Programming will be taken into account. A typical program may include (but not necessarily in this order):

- The Set Piece
- A work from the standard repertoire for the ensemble
- A piece which provides contrast and balance to the other works

A maximum of **three** pieces is allowed in Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Full Orchestra, and Choir programs.

4. Changeover time for stage set ups varies from five to seven minutes (see specific rules). Your fully completed entry form will streamline this procedure. Ensembles are expected to use the percussion set up detailed on the entry form. Percussion players must bring their own small accessories, including mallets. No tambourines, triangles, woodblocks etc. will be supplied.

5. The supervision of the ensemble is the responsibility of the conductor or their designate; this includes the specifically allocated warm up area. This includes ensuring quietness in the final waiting room and appropriate responses to crew instructions.

6. On your arrival you must present to the Music Fest Convener one copy of all your scores **(Including your set piece)** in a suitably marked folder. This is for the use of the adjudicators.
7. Secondary School Concert Band 'A' Grade and Secondary School Full Orchestra are expected to utilise the instrumentation nominated in the full score or as accurately as your individual program permits.
8. Conductors are to nominate two students to be seated in the front of the Auditorium at the end of the section to collect awards, scores and adjudication sheets immediately after the event.
9. Students cannot participate in more than one grade of the same section on the same instrument. To play in another grade of the same section they must play a different instrument from a different family of instruments. This includes percussionists who are deemed to play 'all' percussion instruments.
10. The professional standing of all adjudicators implies their judgments are of the highest calibre and such judgements will not be drawn into question in any written or verbal manner.
11. Conductors are urged to not select repertoire that is beyond the capacity of the ensemble either technically or musically. Doing so may adversely affect the award given to the ensemble. The Music Fest Convener and Music Fest Consultants are able to advise on matters in respect of repertoire.
12. Teachers are not to perform with their ensemble in any manner except as an accompanist in choirs or string ensembles.
13. Works principally featuring soloists are not to be performed.
14. Ensemble-specific rules are noted below
15. Ensembles not abiding by the rules (generic and specific) will have their grading effected by being reduced by one award level.

## **Music Fest Participation Fees:**

Secondary School Choir	\$180.00 plus GST
Secondary School Concert Band	\$180.00 plus GST
Secondary School Full Orchestra	\$180.00 plus GST
Secondary School Jazz Ensemble	\$180.00 plus GST
Secondary School String Ensemble	\$180.00 plus GST
Middle School Concert Band	\$180.00 plus GST
Primary School Concert Band	\$165.00 plus GST
Primary School String Orchestra	\$165.00 plus GST
Primary School Choir	\$165.00 plus GST

## **Award System and Adjudication Criteria**

Music Fest is uniquely positioned amongst festivals across the country by having an Award System which endeavours to reflect educational based outcomes located in a quality performance environment. The basic principles of rating are:

- Musicianship – which is a responsiveness to style, expressiveness, the artistic rendering of the composers' intention and a sense of ensemble
- Technique – that is, the addressing of all technical demands in the score including intonation, production, accuracy and the evident skill level of the ensemble members
- Presentation – which includes, the appropriate selection of repertoire, the ensembles demeanour and an adherence to the Music Fest rules

Obviously the above is not an equal distribution of marks to be awarded. The sections cannot be added and averaged to get a mark, because fine musicianship will always outweigh superior technical skill and stage presence. That said, it is usual to find fine musicianship and the other components well represented by the most capable ensembles.

### **The awards will be:**

- Platinum
- Gold
- Silver
- Bronze
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There will be no sectional awards and individual awards will be at the discretion of the adjudicator, as outlined below.

The criteria for each award are noted in the rubric below.

### **Process:**

All sections will be rated within themselves as the criteria for each award is the same from section to section, and across days.

The above means that the finest Novice Concert Band may receive a Platinum Award as might the finest Secondary School String Orchestra, and so on. It also means that there may well be multiple awards across a section over a series of days such that A Grade Concert Secondary Band may have multiple Gold Award winners.

The concept is to reward musicianship and commitment and to ensure that such reward is not restricted to first, second and third places. Therefore there will be no heats or finals.

Though no points will be indicated on your adjudication sheet the award defines a range of points.

All ensembles will receive an award.

Awards will be presented on stage at the end of each performance presentation.

## Award and Adjudication Criteria

Rating	Percentage	Criteria
Platinum	Low mark of 90%	<p>A Platinum Award ensemble will be an outstanding ensemble in all aspects including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Musicianship – a responsiveness to style, expressiveness, the artistic rendering of the composers’ intention and a sense of ensemble</li> <li>• Technique – addressing all technical demands in the score including intonation, production, accuracy and the evident skill level of the ensemble members</li> <li>• Presentation – this addresses the ensemble’s demeanour, the appropriate selection of repertoire, and an adherence to the Music Fest rules</li> </ul>
Gold	Low mark 80%	<p>A Gold Award ensemble will be an extremely competent ensemble in all aspects including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Musicianship – a responsiveness to style, expressiveness, the artistic rendering of the composers’ intention and a sense of ensemble</li> <li>• Technique – addressing of technical demands in the score including intonation, production, accuracy and the evident skill level of the ensemble members</li> <li>• Presentation – this addresses the ensemble’s demeanour, the appropriate selection of repertoire, and an adherence to the Music Fest rules</li> </ul>
Silver	Low mark 65%	<p>A Silver Award ensemble will be an consistently competent ensemble in all aspects including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Musicianship – a responsiveness to style, expressiveness, the artistic rendering of the composers’ intention and a sense of ensemble</li> <li>• Technique – addressing of technical demands in the score including intonation, production, accuracy and the evident skill level of the ensemble members</li> <li>• Presentation – this addresses the ensemble’s demeanour, the appropriate selection of repertoire, and an adherence to the Music Fest rules</li> </ul>



- Individual awards may be nominated by the adjudicators for all the above sections. See above for clarification.

**Secondary School Jazz Ensemble:**

Your attention is drawn to the Generic Rules which define broadly your ensemble's involvement. Please refer to them again.

Due to popular demand **Vocalists** will be allowed in all Jazz Ensemble Sections. Male or Female Vocals will be allowed in **two** of your **three** pieces at the Directors discretion. Mixing of vocals is the director's responsibility.

**Rock, Swing and Ballad are no longer necessary** BUT a balanced programme will be advantageous.

A GRADE (Max 21 players)	UP TO LEVEL 4 20 minutes performance time 5 minutes changeover time
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B GRADE (Max 23 players)	UP LEVEL 3 15 minutes performance time 5 minutes changeover time
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C GRADE	UP TO LEVEL 2 12 minutes performance time 5 minutes changeover time
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5 minutes changeover

- Individual awards may be nominated by the adjudicators for all the above sections. See above for clarification.

**Primary School String Orchestra:**

Your attention is drawn to the Generic Rules which define broadly your ensemble's involvement. Please refer to them again.

No less than 12 Students in each ensemble

A GRADE Level 1/1.5/2                      15 minutes performance time  
5 minutes changeover time

B GRADE Level .5/1                          12 minutes performance time  
5 minutes changeover time

C GRADE                                        7 minutes performance time  
5 minutes changeover time

- No set piece for this grade
- Unison music advised

General string rules

- The position of the piano will be to the left-hand side of the conductor.
- A student may only perform once on a given instrument in either primary school or high school.
- Individual awards may be nominated by the adjudicators for all the above sections. See above for clarification.

**Primary School Choir:**

Your attention is drawn to the Generic Rules which define broadly your ensemble's involvement. Please refer to them again.

Choir    10 minutes performance time  
3 minutes changeover time  
No set piece

- Three pieces at most may be performed
- Contrasting works including contemporary, pop, gospel etc, are encouraged with unison, two, three or more parts optional.
- Student participation is encouraged and that includes student performers on accompanying instruments. Those instrumentalists must be from the same primary school and a maximum four parts can be utilised.
- If only keyboard is used, one non student may accompany.
- The position of the piano will be to the left-hand side of the conductor.
- Though presentation, choreography and costumes are permitted the major measure of achievement is musical

**Secondary School Choir:**

Your attention is drawn to the Generic Rules which define broadly your ensemble's involvement. Please refer to them again. 3 contrasting Pieces

15 minutes performance time  
3 minutes changeover time

### No set pieces

- The position of the piano will be to the left-hand side of the conductor.
- Contrasting works including contemporary, pop, gospel etc, are encouraged with unison, two, three or more parts optional.