

## DRAMA FESTIVAL RULES

### ELIGIBILITY

1. Teams must consist of bona fide members of Young Farmers' Clubs affiliated to the Scottish Association of Young Farmers Clubs, who must not have attained their 28th birthday by the date of the Regional Final **plus one associate is allowed per every three members competing, who must not have attained their 30<sup>th</sup> birthday by the day of the contest. (It is permissible for the producer NOT to be a Club Member)**. All backstage crew must also be bona fide members of the Young Farmers' Clubs affiliated to the Scottish Association of Young Farmers Clubs.
2. The decision on the order of appearance in the Final will be taken by the Committee once the District entries are known.

### PROCEDURES

3. The nature and duration of the play should be a one act play or extract from a longer play of not less than eighteen minutes nor more than fifty minutes. (Should any time be spent in changing a scene during the course of a performance, this will count as part of the time allowed). A member appearing on stage, who acts but does not speak is not classified as a first time performer in future productions.
4. Teams will be allowed ten minutes to set stage and five minutes to strike i.e. to remove props etc.
5. Marks will be deducted from teams which fail to conform to the times allowed. (See Time Penalties)
6. Each team will be allowed twenty minutes to examine stage lighting etc. in the order directed by the Stage Manager on the day of the competition. The last team on stage each night must report to the Theatre at the given time for lighting rehearsal.
7. **MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO NOTE THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES MUST ANYONE SMOKE IN THE THEATRE NOR IS PHOTOGRAPHY ALLOWED DURING A PERFORMANCE.** Details of stage measurements, lighting facilities, audio equipment and specific internal regulations will be sent to all competing Clubs. Please note that Theatre regulations forbid the use of naked flame.
8. Plays must contain not fewer than two characters appearing and speaking and clubs must previously have paid Author's related Royalty Fees. A copy of the Royalty License must be in the Regional Office at least one week prior to the performance or the team will not be allowed to perform.
9. Teams are reminded that by entering the Festival they have undertaken a contract to give a public performance and the tradition of the theatre requires them to appear even in the most adverse circumstances e.g. where a principal part has to be read.
10. The Organising Committee will provide the services of a lighting technician and stage electrician who will be at the service of the teams. Each team is to provide their own sound operator, if one is required.
11. All musical tapes used in the Theatre must be the original and bear the manufacturers copyright mark. It is illegal to use home copied or pirate tapes in any form of public performance.
12. Each Club will be responsible for providing all props, back cloth and stage cloth to individual Club requirements, but every care must be taken concerning fire safety and local theatre regulations must be observed. All props should be suitably fire proofed and free from woodworm. The theatre technician will test all props with a lighted match, and props they decide are not suitably fire proofed will not be allowed on stage. It is advised that teams test their own props with a naked flame. No straw or hay allowed. No pre-setting of battens. **The back cloth must be set up during the lighting rehearsals and teams using the back cloth will use one less stage crew member**
13. Teams must notify the responsible organising committee if their performance requires any unusual effects e.g. use of firearms, etc. Any expense incurred in this connection must be met by the team concerned. The responsible committee's decision is final as to whether proposals for effects have to be curtailed or rejected.
14. All producers must submit sound and lighting plans to weeks in advance of event.
15. During each performance only the cast of the play and six others connected with the play (ie. the producer and five club members) will be allowed behind the scenes.
16. Plays that were placed either 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> cannot be used in the next year's competition.

17. Cast members, producers and stage crew cannot consume alcohol before their performance or within the changing rooms. Teams will be disqualified if they are caught consuming alcohol before their performance or within the changing rooms.
18. The Drama must abide by all theatre rules.

### SCORING

19. As most Adjudicators adopt the scale of marking used by the Scottish Community Drama Association a note of this is given hereunder:-

(I)	Acting	40
(ii)	Production	35
(iii)	Stage Presentation (including set lights costumes and make-up)	15
(iv)	Achievement, originality and endeavour	<u>10</u>
	TOTAL	<u>100</u>

**In the opinion of and at the Chief Stewards' discretion a competitor or team could be disqualified for conduct by word or act which is deemed to bring the event and/or the YFC into disrepute. In the opinion of and at the Chief Stewards' discretion a competitor or team could be recommended for disciplinary action by the appropriate committee in the event that their conduct or that of any of their supporters is, during or after the event, deemed threatening, aggressive or inappropriate.**

### TIME PENALTIES

20. The teams penalties for not conforming to allowed times of performances, setting or striking are:- one point deducted for every minute over time up to five minutes, thereafter twenty five points will be deducted.

### ENTRIES

21. Prior to the competition, each team must submit an entry form, copy of the play and licence to West Development Manager by deadline date outlined on entry form.

### SUBSTITUTION

22. Team members competing in subsequent rounds of any competition must comprise at least 50% of the team competing in the previous round. Any member being substituted is not allowed to compete in subsequent rounds of the competition.

### JUDGES

23. The West Regional Chair and a nominated Stage Manager will be in full charge of the contest.
24. The Adjudicator's decision is final.
25. The Adjudicator will give a public adjudication and announce the first three placings on the final night as well the individual awards. Subsequently the adjudicator will meet with the teams privately and give more detailed criticism after the public adjudication.
26. Where the same play is presented by more than one team in the Festival, the public adjudication of all performances of this play shall be deferred until after the last such performance. This shall not apply to the private adjudication.
27. The organising Committee will send to each team a written report by the Adjudicator including a note of the marks awarded.
28. Prizes will be presented as follows:-
 

1st Team	-	NFU Mutual Trophy and Certificates	
2nd Team	-	Certificates	
3rd Team	-	Certificates	
Best Actor	-	Birks Tankard	
Best Actress	-	Braeside Quaich	
Best 1st Time Performance at Regional Level	-	Greenfield Rosebowl	
Most Promising Actor	-	West YF Prize	
Most Promising Actress	-	West YF Prize	
Play Best Depicting Scottish Life and Character (please note if there are no plays covering this category then this trophy will be awarded for Best Stage Setting)	-	BOCM Silcock Trophy	