

**Arbuckle Mt. Bluegrass Park
2009 Junior Music Contest
GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS**

Who: Fiddle & Mandolin players under (Junior Division), 17 years old

What: Bluegrass Fiddle & Mandolin Contestant

Registration limited to the first 15 applicants in each contest.

Applications **MUST** be received by Sept. 1, 2009.....**NO EXCEPTIONS**

When: Saturday, Sept. 19, 2009 Time: 9 am

Where: Arbuckle Mt. 10th Annual Bluegrass Festival
Arbuckle Mt. Park, Davis, OK

ON I-35 Exit 60 (Ruppe Rd). Turn east follow signs 1 ½ miles

Why: Youth Fiddle & Mandolin Contest

Ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place.
It is fun to play & show your stuff!

PRIZE MONEY FOR EACH CONTEST

First Place ~ \$300, ribbon & certificate

Second Place ~ \$150, ribbon & certificate

Third Place ~ \$75, ribbon & certificate

**THIS CONTEST FOCUSES ON OLD-TIME & BLUEGRASS MUSIC
IT IS MEANT TO BE FUN & ENCOURAGE OUR YOUTH**

CONTEST RULES

1. The judges decision is final.
2. This contest focuses on old-time and bluegrass music.
3. Contestants may play old-time tunes or a combination of old-time & bluegrass, not modern. Points will be taken off for other styles such as jazz & rock.
4. Each contestant must bring the name of their songs on index cards.
5. **AT NO TIME IS THE CONTESTANT TO SPEAK INTO THE MICROPHONE (will be disqualified).**
6. Two songs approximately 2 minutes each with the maximum playing time of 5 minutes.
7. The contestant may only take one instrument on stage, and have no more than two accompanist. No other instrument may take any lead part in the song.
8. When the contestant's number is announced, the contestant will walk up on stage handing the announcer an index card with the names of the tunes they have chosen then walk up to mic. No communication will be allowed. The mics will be set the same for everybody.
9. Improper dress will not be tolerated (i.e. torn clothing, cut off's, lewd or suggestive type of clothing, etc.)
10. Contestants must be present 15 minutes before contest and accounted for so performing order can be established. Late arrivals and no shows will be eliminated from the contest. Allowances may be made for problems deemed to be beyond the control of the contestant.

- 11. Contestants will not be allowed to re-start a song once he/she has begun. In the case of a broken string, the contestant will be allowed to exit the stage, re-string, and come back at the end of the contest. All songs must be played with a single pick (medley of tunes is NOT acceptable).**
- 12. Electric Instruments will NOT be allowed.**
- 13. The judges will tally the scores at the end of the contest. ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL.**
- 14. This is an open tournament and all types of players are urged to participate, however, it should be understood that any player that earns money playing with a Featured Band with their instrument, is ineligible to compete.**
- 15. Champions are not allowed to enter the next year after winning the contest, but can the following year.**
- 16. Judges will not accept show tunes or trick playing. Traditional tunes and traditional style playing is encouraged.**
- 17. Judges will be seated in a separate area to prevent visual contact with contestants.**
- 18. In the event of a tie, the contestants involved will be allowed to play an additional selection of his or her choice. Points scored in the prior performance will not be carried over. The judges will then determine the winner based on the scores awarded for this tune. The tie-breaker performance will be judged on its own merit and by the same judging guidelines.**
- 19. All spectators of contestant will be expected to pay entrance fee at gate.**
- 20. The contest will be conducted in accordance with the rules outlined herein, however, due to unforeseen circumstances such as weather conditions, emergencies, etc., Arbuckle Mt. Park and/or the judges reserve the right to modify the rules if necessary.**

Judging Criteria

Rhythm and Timing (20 points)

The rhythm and timing should be even and consistent. Any jerking, rushing or dragging in the tempo will result in a loss of points.

Creativity (20 points)

Judges will look for minor variations and improvisations. However, the creativity should not be excessive so as to change or destroy the basic melody line of the tune. Extreme modifications will result in the loss of points.

Authentic Performance Style (20 points)

Excessive and indiscriminate changes in a tune that make a performance unclear or unrecognizable, or the addition of inappropriate modern "licks" will result in a loss of points.

Expression (20 points)

The judges will look for the "feeling" the contestant puts into the performance. Flat, mechanical, and "unfeeling" performances will result in point reduction, as will excessive "showmanship."

Execution (20 Points)

The judges will listen for the tonal quality and clarity of the performance and for general command of the instrument.

General Considerations

Each judging category has a potential of 20 points, for a possible score of 100 points per tune.

The final score for each contestant will be the average score of the two selections he or she played. High/low scores will not be thrown out.

All contestants should give adequate consideration to the placement of microphones and the efforts of the sound system operators who are working to ensure that each performance is heard clearly by the judges and the audience. The judges will score according to what they hear. An instrument too close or too far away from a microphone may distort or "drop out" the sound, resulting in a lower score.

Registration

Contestants will play in the order they registered.

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