

BIG YAM POTATOES OLD TIME GATHERING

Fiddling Contest Rules & Regulations

A. GENERAL REGULATIONS

1. The judge's decisions will be final.
2. Judges may not compete.
3. No electrical instruments or drums allowed.
4. No contestants will be permitted to register after his or her category has started.
5. Lots will be drawn at the registration table. No exceptions will be made.
6. Contestants must be present at the time number is called to compete. Late arrivals or no-shows will be eliminated.
7. Competition tune must be at least 1 ½ min. but no longer than 4 min...
8. Any protest must be submitted in writing to the contest chairman and signed by no less than three contestants of the contest involved, within three hours of the protest occurrence.
9. In the event of a tie, the two in question will play one tune in that category to break the tie and a new tune must be played.
10. Only old-time style of playing is permitted. Texas, bluegrass and classical styles will not be judged.
11. Registration closes at the time the first number for each category is called.
12. No sheet music allowed.
13. No speaking on the microphone.
14. No medleys/song sets will be played.
15. All music played should be part of the public domain (i.e. no licensed music).

B. GENERAL CATEGORY RULES

Categories: Dance Tune, Waltz, Cross Tuning and Tune of Choice

1. Contestants in the pee-wee (1-11) age group will play one tune of choice in the old-time style.
2. Contestants in the junior (12-17) age group will play two tunes (dance tune and a waltz) in the old-time style.
3. Contestants in the senior (18 & over) age group may play in one or all categories. Fiddlers must register and pay for each category entered. (There is a five dollar fee for each category.)
4. Fiddlers who wish to play but not be judged must pay a ten dollar fee.

C. FIDDLE TUNE SPECIFICATIONS

Dance Tune & Waltz

1. Fiddle must be tuned to G-D-A-E (standard tuning).
2. Tunes must have even measures (16 to 32 bars).
3. No crooked tunes allowed (uneven measures).
4. Cross tunes can be played but must be in standard tuning (G-D-A-E).

Cross Tuning

1. Fiddler can choose the tuning.
2. Cross tuning can have uneven measures.
3. No standard tuning.

Tune of Choice

1. Fiddler can play whatever suits his/her fancy.

D. JUDGE'S CRITERIA

1. Rhythm and Timing (Dragging, rushing, jerking and unevenness). 25 pts.
2. Expression (Danceability, feeling, swing, interpretation). 25 pts.
3. Execution (Tone, command, intonation and bowing). 25 pts.
4. Authentic Style (Difficulty, lack of style, inappropriate licks, inappropriate style). 25 pts.

E. THINGS TO CONSIDER

1. Do not play too close or too far from the microphone.
2. Make sure your instrument is tuned before your performance. (Points will be deducted for excessive tuning.)

BIG YAM POTATOES OLD TIME FIDDLING CONTEST

BACK-UP PLAYER SCORE SHEET

Date: _____

Category: _____

Fiddle Player's # _____

Back-Up Musician's

Name _____ Instrument _____

Name _____ Instrument _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

EXECUTION _____ (Total 25 points)

INTONATION _____ (Total 25 points)

CHORD PLACEMENT _____ (Total 25 points)

TEMPO _____ (Total 25 points)

TOTAL: _____

Judge's Signature _____

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Category (choose one only)

Pee Wee _____ Junior _____ Senior _____

Name(s) of contest tune(s) and tuning chosen

1. Dance Tune _____

2. Waltz _____

3. Cross Tuning _____

4. Tune of Choice _____

There is a five dollar fee for each category entered.