

THE WALES ONE-ACT FINAL FESTIVAL RULES

The Drama Association of Wales reserves the right to decide on the interpretation of these rules and on any matter not dealt with therein.

ENTRY

1. The Drama Association of Wales will appoint one adjudicator to travel throughout Wales to all the Regional Rounds. Then as recommended by the adjudicator will invite the 6 highest scoring plays + the winning hosting play (if it's not amongst the 6) to appear in the Wales Final Festival.
2. The best production in the Drama Association of Wales Final Festival, as decided by the Adjudicator, will be invited to represent Wales in the British Final Festival.
3. Only companies who are fully paid up members of the Drama Association of Wales will be considered eligible for a Bursary, should one become available, for the DAW's Wales Final Festival. Only Companies consisting wholly of members of a bona fide amateur theatre society, which has a regular existence apart from an Area Festival, will be invited to appear in the DAW's Wales Final Festival.
4. Whilst entries from private drama schools, GCSE, A' Level and BTec courses are encouraged to take part in the Festival, Higher Education courses offering training for the professional theatre are not eligible.
5. The members of a company must themselves be amateurs i.e. no one whose main occupation is in the professional theatre may be included in the cast. A Company may employ a professional director.
6. Any festival entry with children under the age of 18 in the cast should have a child protection policy in place. Checks will be made and any group not able to comply with checks will be refused performance.
7. The Wales regional one-act festivals form part of the UK National Festival of Community Theatre which happens at three levels i.e. Local/Regional festivals, the DAW's Wales One-Act Final and the British Final of One-Act Plays. Participation at regional level assumes availability and commitment to the DAW's Wales One-Act Final and the British Final Festival of One-Act Plays. Dates for these second (DAW's Wales Final) and third (British Final Festival of One-Act Plays) stages will be published well in advance. Should a group not be available or not wish to take part in stage two, regional festival organisers should be made aware. The 'runners up' of that Area Round will then be invited to stage two (DAW's Wales Final). Appearance at stage two (DAW's Wales Final) assumes availability for stage three (British Final of One-Act Plays).

PLAYS AND PERFORMANCE

8. A play may be either a complete one-act play or an extract from a longer work. An extract must be intelligible to any member of the audience who is unfamiliar with the play from which it is taken. **No introduction by way of spoken or printed synopsis is permitted.** The Publisher of the script must define the text as 'A Play'. If there is any doubt reference should be made to the Drama Association of Wales.
9. The same company may enter no play more than once within a period of **five** years.
10. The play must contain at least **two** characters that appear and speak.
11. All performances are subject to the Theatres Act 1968 and must comply with its provisions regarding plays, which might be considered obscene, seditious, or libellous, or likely to incite racial hatred or a breach of the peace. In cases of doubt, reference should be made to the DAW Chairperson.

12. **Companies are responsible for obtaining any necessary permission to perform the play or extract offered, and will be required to certify that they have done so.**
13. A performance shall be **not less** than **twenty minutes** and **not more** than **fifty-five minutes** in length. 'Performance time' includes time taken to change a scene during a performance. (Penalties - see Rule 26)
14. Companies will be required to supply **two copies** of the script and full programme details. Photocopies will not be accepted unless prior **written** permission has been obtained from the author/publisher. In case of difficulties the matter should be referred to the Drama Association of Wales well in advance of the festival.
15. **No change in the cast will be permitted after the qualifying performance for stage two (DAW's Wales Final) without the sanction of the Drama Association of Wales.**

STAGING

16. A basic setting of full stage drapes **or** of wings and cyclorama will be provided where available.
17. Basic lighting and sound equipment will be provided. The Festival Stage Director will normally allow companies to bring to the theatre any additional items of lighting, sound or other equipment, which are necessary and cannot be provided.
18. Stage plans and details of the facilities and equipment provided will be supplied.
19. Companies will be required to supply a completed stage plan, a list of properties, and lighting and sound plots.
20. The Festival Stage Manager will control the stage, and his/her decision on all matters relating to the stage and the use of the facilities and equipment provided is final.
21. Subject to the approval of the Festival Stage Manager, who will consult as necessary in case of difficulty, companies may bring to the theatre such items of properties and scenery as are required for their productions, and which they have advised under rule 18.
22. The Drama Association of Wales can accept no liability for the loss of, or damage to, any property of a company brought to the theatre, and companies are advised to take out appropriate insurance cover.
23. Each company will be allowed a technical rehearsal on the day of the Festival, to be used as agreed with the Festival Stage Manager. The length of the rehearsal will be advised in advance, and will in no circumstances be extended.
24. Companies will be responsible for the stage management (i.e. setting, striking, etc. and cueing Festival stage staff) of their own productions.
25. The personnel who operate the sound and lighting equipment during performances is at the discretion of the venue technical management team and should be set out clearly in the Festival Handbook.
26. Ten minutes will be allowed for setting and five minutes for striking. **The Festival Stage Manager will note on an official schedule the time taken for setting and striking and the time occupied by the performance. The FSMs decision on these times is**

final. Companies which exceed these times or whose performance is outside the limits allowed under the rules will be penalised as follows:

Discrepancy	Number of marks deducted
Up to one minute	1
Up to two minutes	3
Up to three minutes	6
Up to four minutes	10
Up to five minutes	15
Over five minutes	20

ADJUDICATION

27. The following marking system will be employed:

Acting	40
Production	35
Stage Presentation	15
Dramatic achievement	10

The system is intended to be a useful guide to the adjudicator and companies. Marks given will not be divulged in either the public adjudication or private discussion.

28. A public adjudication of each production will be given after the final performance of the evening.
29. Where the same play is presented by more than one company in the same festival, the public adjudication of all performances of this play shall be deferred until after the last such performance.
30. No adjudication may be recorded in any way without the permission of the Adjudicator.
31. The Adjudicator's decision regarding marks and awards is final.

FINANCE

32. There is no entry fee.
33. Companies are responsible for all production expenses and will be required to certify that any performance fee due has been paid. **The royalty receipt/licence must be submitted to the festival organisers before the relevant performance.**

GENERAL

34. Any dispute or complaint should be referred to the Chair, Drama Association of Wales.
35. Any question of penalty or disqualification will be decided by the Chair of the Drama Association of Wales in consultation with the Festival staff and the Adjudicator.

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