

# NEWRY MUSICAL FEIS

## GENERAL FESTIVAL BYELAWS (2024 REVISION)

**These must be read in conjunction with any current byelaws prepared by each of our Sections**

1. Entries must be submitted via the electronic system accessed through [www.newrymusicalfeis.com](http://www.newrymusicalfeis.com) – where a Section is not using the electronic entry system, the appropriate fee (in sterling) must accompany performers' entries.
2. An Own Choice must not be a selection designated as a test piece in the current syllabus.
3. Performers will be admitted free only to the session/s in which they are taking part.
4. Only performers officially submitted for entry in the programme will be allowed to perform.
5. Performers will follow, as far as possible, the order set out in the programme.
6. Teachers are requested to adhere to the time limits as set out in the syllabus.
7. (a) Prizes will be withheld if sufficient merit is not shown  
(b) Awards may be made to single entries when recommended by the adjudicator.  
(c) In all Classes prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator.  
(d) The adjudicator is empowered to terminate a performance at their discretion.  
(e) The adjudicators decision will be final.
8. (a) Proof of age must be produced if required, and performers must be under the age stated on **1st January** in the year in which the Festival is taking place or as stated in the relevant Class. e.g. "under 12" means that the 12th birthday of the entrant will not occur on or before 1st January in the Festival Year "over 12" means that the entrant will have reached the age of 12 before that date.  
(b) Where participation is for adult performers only, the term 'adult' refers to any individual who is over 16. This means that the entrant will have reached the age of 16 on or before 1 January in the year in which the Festival is taking place. [N.B. The Music Section has subdivisions within adult Classes]
9. While complaints may be expressed in a variety of ways – verbal and written – we require formal complaints to be presented in writing and submitted by email to [info@newrymusicalfeis.com](mailto:info@newrymusicalfeis.com) for the attention of the Administrator, within four weeks of the issue arising; this will facilitate fair, consistent, sensitive, and timely handling of the complaint.
10. The Executive Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry.
11. All Challenge Trophies must be returned to the Trophy Secretary of the appropriate Section in good order and condition at least 4 weeks before the opening of the Section to which they belong.
12. Only amateurs shall be eligible to perform [see also point 14].
13. Performers must provide copies of Own Choice pieces for the adjudicator; original copies only may be claimed at the end of the session at which they have been used. In Sections where details of sources used to select Own Choice material *must be provided in order for a performance to take place*, performers and their teachers must ensure that the guidance provided by the relevant Section Leaders is adhered to strictly so that upset and disappointment can be avoided on the day of the performance.
14. Teachers and professional performers may not compete in their professional subject. For the purposes of this byelaw, those for whom the presentation of their subject is their sole source of income shall be designated as professional performers. Performers who receive an occasional stipend shall not be regarded as professional performers.
15. No *unauthorized* photography, audio or video recording is allowed at the Feis including all performance spaces, backstage and dressing-room areas. Information about authorization of photography will be provided by Section Leaders in attendance and referenced to our current Child Protection Policy where relevant.
16. The decision of the Executive Committee in all questions arising out of, or not provided for in these byelaws, shall be final, and entries for Classes in all of our Sections are accepted subject to these byelaws.

Executive Committee  
Newry Musical Feis  
November 2024