

Code of Conduct



POLICY STATEMENT

The Maryborough Eisteddfod seeks to provide a supportive public performance space with optimum conditions for competitors to receive professional critique to improve their performance, artistic and literary skills and inspire them to embrace a lifelong association in the performing arts. All competitors, parents, volunteers, staff, supporters and audience members have the right to feel and be safe at any Maryborough Eisteddfod events. With this right comes the responsibility to follow behavioural standards that seek to ensure a positive performance experience for Eisteddfod competitors and a positive viewing experience for audience members. Attendees of Maryborough Eisteddfod events are expected to be law-abiding citizens, accountable for their actions that may intimidate or put at risk the safety or wellbeing of others or oneself. This includes behaviour that may be considered anti-social. Inappropriate behaviour/conduct is defined as unsportsmanlike actions through verbal or written comments, isolation or bullying behavior, including emotional and/or physical incidents and loud or obnoxious language and behavior, both within and outside of the venue.

For the purpose of this Code of Conduct, "Eisteddfod" is the Maryborough Eisteddfod Association Incorporated, which is the organising body. "Members" comprises of everyone with a current membership with The Maryborough Eisteddfod Association Incorporated; "Committee" President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and all Convenors; "Executive" President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Participants includes competitors, teachers, coaches, parents, guardians, friends, relatives, carers, supporters and invitees of the Eisteddfod, who attend at the Events, or elsewhere, for the purposes of visiting, viewing, participating, supporting or being present for any official, or for the benefit of, the Eisteddfod and the competitors.

The Maryborough Eisteddfod Code of Conduct sets clear standards of behaviour, which are expected of all participants and members of the Eisteddfod. It stipulates rights, responsibilities and consequences for any person who does not comply with those standards of behaviour, at any Maryborough Eisteddfod authorised events or activities.

BACKGROUND

The following are the values which provide the framework for this Code of Conduct:

1. Access information and follow processes for registration, rules and regulations.
2. All participants of the Eisteddfod are to be treated with respect and dignity.
3. Show care and regard for Eisteddfod property and the property of others.
4. Demonstrate honesty, integrity and good sportsmanship.
5. Performance and theatre etiquette.

RIGHTS

- Be given all necessary information required to compete or support the competitor and be provided with assistance if required.
- Participate in the competition in a safe environment and according to competition rules.
- Access facilities required for preparation for competition; access the stage area for each performance.
- Enjoy a friendly and harmonious atmosphere, where everyone is treated in a courteous and respectful manner with encouragement by all others present backstage.
- Perform on stage, viewed by the adjudicator in fair competition and without distraction from any side stage or auditorium activity.
- View the performance of all competitors in a positive, supportive and encouraging environment, without distraction by others.
- Appropriately give and receive encouragement and acknowledgement for performances through applause by the audience.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Do all things necessary to complete registration if required.
- Follow instructions given to facilitate fair competition including Eisteddfod rules and regulations available on the website.
- Participants and members of the Eisteddfod have a responsibility to maintain a place where conflict and difference can be addressed in a manner characterised by respect and civility to all others.
- Follow rules set down by the venue or the eisteddfod that constitute personal safety or the safety of others.
- Follow instructions given to facilitate safety measures.
- Inform Eisteddfod volunteers or Front of House Officer of any issues that may cause safety concerns.
- Stay clear of any entry or exit area which may inhibit or distract from another competitor's performance.
- Observe all rules and instructions while side stage awaiting performance.
- Not act in any way which may compromise the physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing of any other person present in all areas.
- Refrain from doing anything that may knowingly contribute to the damage of venue property.
- Defamation of character on social media towards any person involved in our Eisteddfod will not be tolerated and may result in disqualification, bans and/or legal action.
- Act in a manner courteous and respectful manner towards all other persons occupying the backstage area.
- Refrain from making insulting, degrading or ridiculing comments of any other persons accessing the venue or participating in the competition.
- Not behave in any way that could distract a competitor from their performance.
- Not approach or distract the adjudicator at any time unless authorized specifically to do so by Eisteddfod personnel.
- Sit in designated areas in the auditorium as instructed by volunteer ushers.
- Always be supportive and encouraging of other participants.
- Observe all behaviour protocols of audience participation.

EXAMPLES

Examples of breaches of the Code Of Conduct regarding physical behavior, verbal abuse, bullying and harassment, include, but not limited to those listed below.

Physical Behaviour

Running (except when organised to run for performances), damaging property, throwing objects, pushing and shoving other people

Verbal Abuse, Bullying Or Harassment Of Others

Yelling at others, profanities at or to others in an insulting manner, insults (including criticism of an adjudication or the adjudicator), put downs (of ability, character or reputation), threats (to physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing), degrading comments, ridiculing or laughing at others, facial or body gestures.

Stealing and Damages

Damaging or stealing property of others. Stealing is an offence under the law and will be reported to police. Borrowing property without asking, breaking another's property knowingly, damaging venue property.

Performance and Theatre Etiquette

All audience members are expected to not speak during a performance.

All audience members must remain seated during all performances. A performance is considered to start as soon as a performer enters the stage and finish when the performer has fully exited the stage. Exception applies to audience member(s) leaving in the case of emergency or to remove an individual (such as a young child) who may be causing distraction to the performer. Leaving the auditorium to answer a mobile phone during a performance is not considered to be an emergency.

Rules must be followed in relation to use of mobile phones and recording devices. Use of mobile phones and recording devices is not permitted at any time in the auditorium. Phones are expected to be turned off or set to silent.

All members in the auditorium will make an effort to keep noise levels to a minimum to allow the adjudicator to make thoughtful decisions without distraction.

No one is permitted to approach the adjudicator at any time during the Eisteddfod unless authorised by Eisteddfod personnel. Comments about any of the performances are not to be made in a voice loud enough to be audible to the adjudicator.

Any negative remarks or put down comments about a performance, competitor, adjudicator or adjudication result constitutes bullying and harassing behaviour.

CONSEQUENCES

Breaches to any of the behaviours described in the Code of Conduct, policies, rules or other documentation may result in being asked to leave the venue immediately. Perpetrator(s) or responsible person(s) may be requested to replace stolen/damaged items or be financially liable, or be at risk of being charged with vandalism, theft, or any other relevant imputations. Competitors may be disqualified. Consistent breaches over several sessions may result in a ban from the Eisteddfod event.