

## RULES OF ENTRY TO AWARDS

- 1 All material performed in these Awards must be of COUNTRY ORIGIN.
- 2 All contestants must be financial members of a Country Music Club that is affiliated to the NZCMA Inc. at least **THREE** (3) months prior to the Award being held.
- 3 Current Overall winners of Awards eligible for the NZCMA Inc. Country Music Entertainer of the Year Award, are eligible to enter Awards but cannot represent any other Award in that same category (Categories defined as Solo, Duo or Group) in which they have already qualified.
- 4 **SECTION AGES**  
**JUNIOR**  
Under THIRTEEN (13) years as at the FIRST (1) Day of August, of the current circuit year.  
**INTERMEDIATE**  
Must be THIRTEEN (13) years but under the age of EIGHTEEN (18) years as at the FIRST (1) Day of August, of the current circuit year.  
**SENIOR**  
EIGHTEEN (18) years or over, as at the FIRST (1) Day of August, of the current circuit year.  
**VETERAN**  
FIFTY-FIVE (55) years of age, as at the FIRST (1) Day of August, of the current circuit year.
- 5 Where stage names are used full names must be advised on the entry form. Once accepted, no substitutes are permitted, but members of a group may be less than originally advised, but not less than **THREE** (3) members.
- 6 Contestants must be amateur as defined and not contracted to a recording company, or receive a major part of their income in the last FIVE (5) years from these activities. (Amateur is defined as not deriving a major portion of income from performing music).
- 7 Instrumentalists using electronic instruments e.g. keyboards, must not utilize memory banks for pre – programmed automated playing.
- 8 Competitors are restricted to their respective age groups.
- 9 Contestants eligible for the NZCMA Inc. Country Music Entertainer of the Year Award must abide by the Rules of Entry to the NZCMA Inc. Country Music Entertainer of the Year Award, as defined by the NZCMA Inc.
- 10 Any violation of the above rules may result in disqualification. In the event of a dispute or interpretation of the rules, the convenors decision will be binding on all parties.

## HOUSE RULES FOR AWARDS.

- 1 The entry form must be signed and verified by the President or Secretary of the represented clubs after it has been filled in.
- 2 Backing bands will be available for auditions in all sections, no other accompanist allowed unless contestant plays own instrument. Contestants are required to provide four (4) copies of fully chorded song sheets, named and attached to a firm backing with non-reflective surface.
- 3 Contestants to perform one item completely in the Auditions. Finalists must perform a different item to that of the Auditions.
- 4 Contestants to report to official registration desk at least thirty (30) minutes before their advised audition time. Contestants not available when called may be disqualified.
- 5 Judging will be on Musical Ability, Presentation and Entertainment Value. Any tie breaker to be a count back on a selected category. ie Musical ability.
- 6 Finalists must attend rehearsals when required and may be accompanied by one (1) representative where applicable.
- 7 The Awards Committee has the right to limit the number of entries, they may add to, combine, or delete from the programme where necessary and beneficial to the majority.  
NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.
- 8 The Convenor must be consulted prior to any recall being performed.
- 9 The organisers reserve the right to record and broadcast any or all of either the Auditions or Finals, subject to copyright conditions where applicable.
- 10 Contestants or their parents/guardians will give a signed undertaking to return any/all trophies in good condition when requested to do so.
- 11 Contestant's equipment is used and stored at their own risk. The Awards Committee will not be responsible for the loss, damage or theft of personal effects and /or property.
- 12 The organisers reserve the right to refuse admission to any function. No alcohol or illegal drugs are permitted in the halls or backstage.
- 13 Contestants must not contact judges or scrutineers with the intent to influence decisions or allocation of points.
- 14 That entrants in the U-18 section at Awards are eligible for the Overall Award in their own categories e.g. Junior or Intermediate. NB. This is optional to all affiliated Awards.  
If the option is not used it must be stated in the House rules of the Award.
- 15 Mixed age Duo / groups are eligible to enter and be eligible to win the Overall BUT cannot take part in the Entertainer of the Year unless they comply with NZCMA Entertainer of the Year rules regarding respective age groups.

## CATEGORIES FOR AWARDS

	MINIMUM	OPTIONAL
<b>VETERAN 55+</b>		
<i>Solo</i>	<i>Male Vocal</i>	
	<i>Female Vocal</i>	
<i>Gospel</i>	<i>Solo Vocal</i>	<i>Open Vocal</i>
<i>Western or Old time</i>	<i>Solo Vocal</i>	<i>Open Vocal</i>
<i>Duo / Group</i>	<i>Duo / Group Vocal</i>	<i>Duo Open</i>
		<i>Group Open</i>
<b>SENIOR</b>		
Solo	Male Vocal	
	Female Vocal	
Gospel	Solo Vocal	Open Vocal
Western or Old time	Solo Vocal	Open Vocal
Duo / Group	Duo / Group Vocal	Duo Open
		Group Open
<b>OPTIONAL CATEGORIES</b>		
Traditional	Solo Vocal	Open Vocal
Yodelling	Solo Vocal	Open Vocal
Instrumental	Solo	Open
New Country	Solo	
Country Rock	Solo	
<b>JUNIOR / INTERMEDIATE</b>		
Solo	Combined	Male
		Female
Duo / Group	Duo / Group	Duo
Group		
Gospel	Under – 18	Junior
		Intermediate
Western or Old time	Under – 18	Junior
		Intermediate
<b>OPTIONAL</b>		
Instrumental	Under – 18	Junior
		Intermediate
New Country	Under – 18	Junior
		Intermediate
Country Rock	Under – 18	Junior
		Intermediate

( Song must have FIRST been released in the last TEN (10 ) years ).

***Under 18 Sections winners points will be allocated to respective age groups for consideration of the Junior or Intermediate Overall / Runner-Up Overall.***

Mixed age Duo / Group

This is optional. If contestants want to enter in the NZCMA Inc. Country Music Entertainer of the Year Award, then contestants must stay with their respective age groups.

NOTE: - Under – 18 sections or the optional sections can be solo or open Western section can be acoustic or full backing.

**RULES OF ENTRY TO THE  
NEW ZEALAND COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED  
COUNTRY MUSIC ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR AWARD.**

- 1 All Material performed on these Awards must be of COUNTRY ORIGIN.
- 2 Entrants must sign a declaration to abide by the rules of this contest and agrees to assist in the promotion of the same.
- 3 Entrants must be financial members of a club or be an Associate Member affiliated to the NZCMA Inc. at least **THREE** (3) months prior to entering an Award that is an affiliated group i.e. Club, Region, Associate or Organizational member.
- 4 Entrants must qualify within the following age criteria:  
JUNIOR:  
Must be under the age of THIRTEEN (13) years as at the FIRST (1) Day of AUGUST, of the current circuit year.  
INTERMEDIATE:  
Must be THIRTEEN but under the age of EIGHTEEN (18) years as at the FIRST (1) Day of August, of the current circuit year.  
SENIOR:  
Must be EIGHTEEN (18) years or over, as at the FIRST (1) Day of August, of the current circuit year.
- 5 Entrants must be Amateur as defined by the NZCMA Inc. and not contracted to a recording company or receive a major part of their income in the last FIVE (5) years from these activities.
- 6 In the event of an entrant releasing a recording for commercial purposed after qualifying and prior to this event, then that item shall not be eligible for performance on the NZCMA Inc. Country Music Entertainer of the Year Award.
- 7 Entrants to attend rehearsals as and when required and may be accompanied by ONE (1) guardian or representative.
- 8 Entrants may appear ONCE (1) in any particular category. i.e. SOLO, DUO or GROUP.
- 9 Entrants may have the use of official backing band and vocal harmonies as supplied by the organizing committee. No other instrument or voices will be permitted, unless self accompanied.
- 10 DUO or GROUPS, performing on either NZCMA Inc. Country Music Entertainer of the Year Awards, must fall into the same age category as stated under RULE 3 of the above.
- 11 Entrant's equipment is used and stored at their own risk. The NZCMA Inc. and the NZCMA Inc. Country Music Entertainer of the Year organizers will not be responsible for the loss / damage / theft of personal effects and / or property.
- 12 Persons found using drugs, alcohol or guilty of offensive behaviour will be disqualified.

## **RULES FOR SONGWRITERS**

- 1 Open to all age groups.
- 2 ***Song or tune to be recorded on a cassette tape or compact disc (CD) and accompanied by words and chord notations on separate sheets of paper.***
- 3 This section is not eligible for Overall winners.
- 4 Joint entries are acceptable, providing entrants comply with Award rules.
- 5 Only song / tunes that have not been recorded for sale commercially are eligible for entry.
- 6 ***Entrants must be amateur as defined by the NZCMA Inc. rules of entry in the NZCMA Inc. Country Music Entertainer of the Year Award.***
- 7 Songs or tune must not have won an Affiliated Award in the past.
- 8 Song must be accompanied by one acoustic instrument only.

## **HOUSE RULES FOR SONGWRITERS**

- 1 Songwriter finalists will have the option to have their song performed at the Final Concert.