

## **N.Z.C.M.A RULES FOR SONGWRITERS**

1. Open to all age groups.
2. Song or tune to be recorded on cassette tape (or CD) and accompanied by words and chord notation on separate pieces of paper.
3. This section is not eligible for overall winners.
4. Joint entries are acceptable, providing entrants comply with award rules.
5. Only songs/tunes that have **NOT** been recorded for sale commercially are eligible for entry.
6. Entrants must be amateur as defined by the N.Z.C.M.A rules of entry to the N.Z.C.M.A Entertainer of the Year award.

## **HOUSE RULES FOR SONGWRITERS**

1. Original song finalists will have the option to have their song performed at the final concert.
2. Songs/tunes must be recorded with one instrument only and no vocal harmonies.

**Waikato Country Music Awards**  
**Venue: Bible Chapel, Swarbrick Drive,**  
**Te Awamutu**  
**25 February 2012**

**Convenor: Carol Stokes (07)8550619**

## **WAIKATO COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION HOUSE**

### **RULES FOR AWARDS**

1. The entry form is signed and verified by the President or Secretary of the represented Mother club after it has been filled in. When a duo or group enters representing different clubs, the entry form must be verified by the respective Mother Clubs. No photocopied signatures will be accepted. Audition times will be drawn by ballot and advised after closing date for entries.
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 firm backing with non-reflective surface.
3. Contestant to perform one item completely in 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, i.e. Musical ability.
6. Finalists must attend rehearsals if 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 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 were applicable.
10. Contestants or parent/guardian will give a signed undertaking to return any/all trophies in good condition when requested to do so.

## **APPROVED BY N.Z.C.M.A RULES OF ENTRY**

11. Contestants' 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 of the functions. No alcohol or illegal drugs are permitted on the premises.
13. Contestants must not contact judges or scrutineers with the intent to influence decisions or allocation of points.
14. **Section Rules**
  - Country Rock:** Song can be any age but must have an "upbeat" tempo
  - Gospel:** Song must have a "Christian" theme. Not a hymn
  - Western:** Song must have a "Western" theme, e.g. Cowboys, rodeos, the prairie.
15. The entrants in the Under-18 sections **ARE** eligible for the overall award in their own categories, i.e. Junior or Intermediate.
16. Any violation of these rules may result in disqualification.
17. Overall winners in all sections, junior, intermediate, senior and veterans are **NOT** eligible to enter these Awards in those sections the following year (i.e. stand down one year).
18. The committee reserves the right to limit entries depending on number received.

1. Instrumentalists using electronic instruments (e.g. keyboards), must not utilize any memory banks for pre-programmed automated playing.
2. Contestants are restricted to their respective age groups.
3. Contestants eligible for the N.Z.C.M.A Entertainer of the Year Awards must abide by the rules of entry to the N.Z.C.M.A Entertainer of the Year Awards as defined by the N.Z.C.M.A.
4. Any violation of the above may result in disqualification. In the event of a dispute or misinterpretation of the rules, the Convenor's decision will be binding on all parties.
5. All material performed in these Awards must be of Country origin.
6. All contestants must be a financial member of a Country Music Club that is affiliated to the N.Z.C.M.A at least THREE (3) months prior to these Awards being held.
7. Current overall winners of Awards eligible for the N.Z.C.M.A Entertainer of the Year Awards are eligible to enter Awards but cannot represent any other Awards in that same category (Categories are defined as Solo, Duo, Group) in which they have already qualified.
8. **Section Ages:**
  - JUNIOR: Under THIRTEEN (13) years of age as at the FIRST DAY OF AUGUST of the circuit year;
  - INTERMEDIATE: THIRTEEN (13) years, but under EIGHTEEN (18) years as at the FIRST DAY OF AUGUST of the circuit year;
  - SENIOR: EIGHTEEN (18) years and over at the FIRST DAY OF AUGUST of the circuit year;
  - OVER 55's: FIFTY FIVE (55) years of age and over as at the FIRST DAY OF AUGUST of the circuit year
9. 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, not deriving a major portion of income from performing music).
10. Where stage names are used, full names must be advised on the entry form, once accepted, no substitutes are permitted but members of the group may be less than the originally advised, but not less than three (3) members. **NO HARMONY BACKING ALLOWED**, except as part of a DUO/GROUP entry. No other enhancements allowed.