

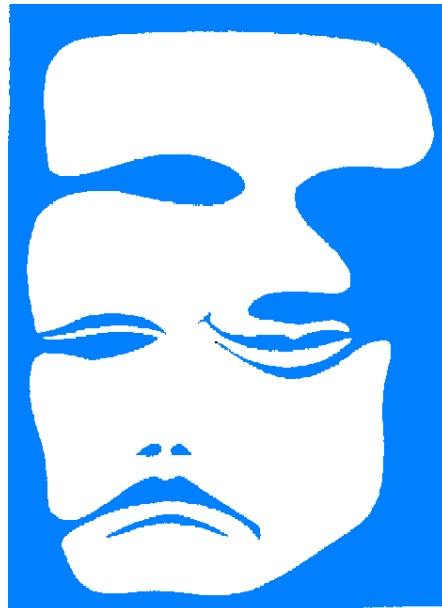


The AETF

FESTIVAL RULES

The
ALL-ENGLAND THEATRE FESTIVAL

**ENTRANTS RULES
& DECLARATION FORM**



Of the AETF GOVERNING DOCUMENT



ENTRANTS RULES

HOW DO WE ENTER?

1. Entry into the National Festival must be via a Preliminary Festival, either a local festival organised by the AETF or an independent local festival affiliated to the AETF.
2. Any company:
 - 2/1. Who desires to enter the AETF competition must declare this on the Preliminary Round entry form.
 - 2/2. Companies must provide a completed AETF Declaration immediately following their selection.
3. A company may: -
 - 3/1. Enter and opt with any number of plays in a Preliminary Festival.
 - 3/2. Enter as many festivals as they like, but can only opt from one, preferably their local Preliminary (First Round) Festival.
 - 3/3. Enter more than one Festival with different plays and opt.
4. By entering the AETF Festival companies commit themselves to performance at each level if selected and are expected to appear. Those pulling out at short notice without what is deemed reasonable cause will be refused entry for the subsequent year's competition.
5. A company may not recast more than 25% of its roles unless it is from within the existing cast or by circumstances that are deemed extraordinary.

THE FOLLOWING POINTS ALSO APPLY!

6. Dramatic Schools for the training of professional actors are not eligible.
7. Any copyright recorded speech or projection of film or TV material can be used as long as proof of permission is produced.
8. Curtain calls are not permitted.
9. Written adjudications can be arranged for companies provided a written request is made to the organisers, together with necessary fee, before the festival.

The following are accepted by the 'British Final of One-Act Plays' governing body the United Kingdom Community Drama Federation (UKCDDF) and must be adhered to by all competing teams in the UK at all levels of the competition.

WHO CAN ENTER?

10. Any bona fide adult amateur Society, or recognized Youth Theatre.
11. An amateur group performs as a hobby, unlike a professional group which performs to earn an income for itself (and / or its members and officers).
12. All players must be amateur i.e. whose main income is not earned by acting. *With the exception of those under 18, any actor who has had a credited, paid role in a commercial production in the year prior to a festival performance is deemed to be professional and ineligible to take part*
13. A group's public presence/marketing must clearly demonstrate a group's amateur status and must not promote professional work.
14. Any festival production must not be, or have been, available to hire by a venue, with the aim of that venue making sole financial gain, or on a profit share basis.

NOTE : Although Preliminary Round Festivals, independent of the AETF, set their own entry criteria, the AETF reserves the right for organisers of the next stages of the competition to check every group's eligibility to progress, with reference to the above criteria.

WHAT CAN WE ENTER?

15. 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.
16. The entry will be a One-Act Play or an extract from a longer play. The accepted definition of a one-act entry is 'a coherent piece of mainly spoken drama'.
17. No play in copyright may be performed without production of its performance licence and written permission must be provided for any cuts or alterations.
18. The performance must be performed as per the script provided for the adjudicator, which must be with the adjudicator at least three weeks before the performance.
19. Only hard copies of scripts are accepted. Photocopies are only acceptable with the written permission of the publishers.
20. Each entry must have a minimum of two speaking characters appearing on stage.



WHAT ARE THE TIME CONSTRAINTS?

21. The length of performance of the entry shall be not less than 20 minutes and not more than 55 minutes, including any time spent in changing a scene in the course of a performance or time used to set the mood by the cast or music before the tabs open.
22. Each team will be allowed 10 minutes for setting and 5 minutes for striking their set.
23. Penalties for not keeping within times for performance, setting and striking are: -
Up to 1 minute 1 mark Up to 3 minutes 6 marks Up to 5 minutes 15 marks
Up to 2 minutes 3 marks Up to 4 minutes 10 marks Over 5 minutes Disqualification

WHAT ARE THE STAGING CONSTRAINTS?

24. Any set or scenery must be free standing within the provided 'black box' acting area.
25. Societies have a duty to co-operate with the Festival Stage Director in adhering to the theatre's safety rules and attending all safety briefings as required, please be aware that there may be different requirements in each country.
26. Societies must give advance notice to the Festival Stage Director of any additional equipment, which must comply with the theatre's requirements. And any effects such as naked lights or smoking, fire arms or pistol shots, knives or swords, strobes etc which the theatre will need to be made aware of.
27. Projectors and projector screens must be provided by the company and are not the responsibility of the festival. These must be rigged in the 10 minute setting time.
28. The use of any kind of microphone will not be allowed to enhance an actor's vocal projection. Microphones may still be used as a sound effect. In the interests of inclusivity microphones would be allowed in order to facilitate a deaf or hard of hearing member of the casts use of an induction loop.

HOW WILL WE BE JUDGED?

29. The adjudicator will give a public adjudication of each entry and at the end of the Festival give the organisers a copy of the marks awarded.
30. The adjudicator will use the following marking system: -
Acting 40 Direction 35 Stage Presentation 15 Dramatic Achievement 10
31. The adjudicator's decision is final.



APPENDIX 1 to the FESTIVAL RULES

AETF – ENTRY & DECLARATION FORM 2025

PART 1: To be completed prior to the start of the festival by all companies for each production that they wish to be considered as an AETF entry.

On behalf of (Name of Company)

I confirm that –

- We have read and will comply with the AETF rules, including the eligibility criteria.
- We will appear at the quarter-final, semi-final and English Final if selected to do so.
- We have paid the £10 opting fee to our local festival.
- We have our own Public Liability Insurance with a reputable company

Any photographs supplied by you or taken during an AETF festival may be used for publicity purposes. Your consent is required --

Yes I consent	
No, I do not consent	

Signed Date

PART 2: To be completed by the Preliminary Round Festival at the close of the festival for the *winning* Entry/Entries going forward to the quarter or semi final.

The company identified in Part 1 is a team going forward to the next round of the AETF Festival.

Name of PRF:

Performing (name of play)

By (author).....

On behalf of the PRF we confirm that, to the best of our knowledge –

- It meets the entry requirements of the AETF
- This is the only PRF from which this production by this company is opting to go forward into the AETF Festival.

Signed..... Date

Please email the completed form to aetftreasurer@gmail.com

Alternatively post to – AETF Treasurer, 10 Ascot Towers, Windsor Road, Ascot SL5 7LG