

Accordion Association of Calgary RULES and REGULATIONS

- Every competitor must hold a valid membership in the Accordion Association of Calgary. Ensembles and Show groups are exempt. See competition classes for details.
- All required documents (music and full payment of fees) must be attached to the entry form.
- All fees are payable in Canadian funds and are non-refundable.
- Registration deadline is May 25, 2026.
- Submit all forms, required documents and payments in full to:
Accordion Association of Calgary 32 Armstrong Crescent S.E. Calgary, AB T2J 0X3

OR

Email all required documentation (in pdf format) and e-transfer your payment to:
kenwedemire@telus.net

- If possible, the festival committee will accept late entries, provided a \$10.00 late fee per entry accompanies them.
- For categories based on age criteria, the competitors age as of June 20, 2026 will determine the classification.
- For this competition, the term PROFESSIONAL is anyone who earns a living teaching and or performing on the instrument of competition and/or is a member of a musician's union.
- As a soloist you are permitted one entry into each solo category (Own Choice, Folk/Ethnic, Popular/Jazz, and Virtuoso Solo)
- Any competitor cannot perform a selection more than once.
- Own choice selections will be placed in the grade level appropriate to the level of difficulty of the selection.
- The Festival Committee reserves the right to combine or divide similar categories, as may be warranted by the number of entries.
- A contest schedule will be posted indicating time, date, and place of performance. The Festival Committee will determine playing positions. No changes or substitutions are permitted.
- Competitors must be ready to perform 15 minutes prior to their scheduled time.
- Electronics (such as amplifiers and synthesizers) are permitted in the Show Group class. Amplification and percussion may be used in the group and ensemble classes, but not for solo or duet classes. Electronic rhythm machines and components are not permitted for competition.
- Reed-less instruments are accepted when played to present similar balance with acoustic accordions.
- Competitors must furnish all musical equipment, amplifiers, music stands, microphones and extension cords.
- The following criteria is considered in judging a performance: correct tempo, coordination of both hands, time values, accuracy of notes, phrasing techniques, articulation, interpretation of music, dynamics, musicianship and overall performance, memorization where required (all solos and duets). The decision of the adjudicator(s) is final.
- Practicing is only allowed in designated areas. If a competitor is found practicing anywhere else within the venue, they will be disqualified from all competitions.
- The adjudicator(s) will choose the scholarship recipients. Adjudicator(s) decisions are final.
- All award, trophies, scholarships will be handed out as scheduled during the festival. Performers are strongly encouraged to be present to receive any competition prizes. If you cannot be present, please have someone present to receive your award on your behalf.
- All scores must be submitted with the entry form.
- The Accordion Association of Calgary cannot be held liable for any delay, bodily injury, loss or damage to the property of participating contestant or spectators. The submitted entry form shall indicate the competitor's agreement to the foregoing.
- Failure to comply with these rules and regulations may result in disqualification, forfeit of award, loss of points, or other as the occasion demands.

FESTIVAL CLASSES

IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE ALL FEES ARE PAYABLE IN CANADIAN FUNDS

Own Choice:

Music can be of any genre. In this category, music must be supplied with the entry form.

Entry Fee: \$15.00

Class Number	Level of Study	Name of Class	Age Restrictions
101	Up to Book 3A	Elementary A	8 Years and Under
102	Up to Book 3A	Junior A	9 to 12 Years Old
103	Up to Book 3A	Intermediate A	13 to 16 Years Old
104	Up to Book 3A	Senior A	17 Years and Over
105	Book 3B to 4B	Elementary B	8 Years and Under
106	Book 3B to 4B	Junior B	9 to 12 Years Old
107	Book 3B to 4B	Intermediate B	13 to 16 Years Old
108	Book 3B to 4B	Senior B	17 Years and Over
109	Book 5 and 6	Junior C	9 to 12 Years Old
110	Book 5 and 6	Intermediate C	13 to 16 Years Old
111	Book 5 and 6	Senior C	17 Years and Over
112	Book 7 and 8	Intermediate D	13 to 16 Years Old
113	Book 7 and 8	Senior D	17 Years and Over
114	Book 9 and 10	Senior E	17 Years and Over
115	Up to Book 3B	Open Adult Novice	35 Years and Over
116	Book 4 to 6	Open Adult Intermediate	35 Years and Over
117	Book 7 and Up	Open Adult Advanced	35 Years and Over

Popular/Jazz:

Popular/Jazz Music is defined as music reflecting North America culture of the 20th and 21st centuries. Neither classical nor old-time music is accepted for performance in this class. Music is not required for this category.

Entry Fee: \$15.00

Class Number	Name of Class	Age Restrictions
201	Pop/Jazz Junior	10 Years and Under
202	Pop/Jazz Intermediate	11 to 15 Years Old
203	Pop/Jazz Senior	16 Years and Over

Folk/Ethnic:

Folk and ethnic music refers to old-time and dance selections of non-North American origin. Music is not required for this category.

Entry Fee: \$15.00

Class Number	Name of Class	Age Restrictions
301	Folk/Ethnic Junior	10 Years and Under
302	Folk/Ethnic Intermediate	11 to 15 Years Old
303	Folk/Ethnic Senior	16 Years and Over

Virtuoso:

Music selections must reflect Grade 8 or higher. Professional Musicians may enter these classes. In this category, music must be supplied with the entry form.

Entry Fee: \$30.00 per person

Class Number	Name of Class	Age Restrictions
V01	Virtuoso Solo	16 Years and Over
V02	Virtuoso Duet	16 Years and Over

Accordion Duets:

This class has no age restrictions. In this category, music must be supplied with the entry form.

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per person

Class Number	Name of Class	Level of Study
401	Accordion Duet Level A	Up to Book 3A
402	Accordion Duet Level B	Book 3B to 4B
403	Accordion Duet Level C	Book 5 and 6
404	Accordion Duet Level D	Book 7 and Up

Chamber Groups:

One (1) selection is to be performed. Music score is required with the entry form. Three to six musicians with at least a threepart harmony is required. A time limit of 12 minutes is strictly enforced. Percussion and amplification are permitted. Electronic devices not used for amplification purposes are not permitted. Level is determined by average level of all members (total the Book level of all members; divide by the number of members of the group). Please note that a Chamber Group is NOT an ensemble. Therefore every member of the group must pay a general entry fee.

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per person to a maximum of \$50.00

Class Number	Name of Class	Level of Study
501	Chamber Group Level A	Book 4 and Under
502	Chamber Group Level B	Book 5 to 7
503	Chamber Group Level C	Book 8 and Up

Show Group:

In this category, no music score is required to be submitted or provided to the adjudicator. A show group is defined as a group of at least three (3) musicians including at least one (1) accordion. A time limit of 20 minutes is strictly enforced. Use of other instruments, percussion and electronics, including those for amplification purposes are permitted.

Accordion Ensemble:

In this category, two (2) music scores of different genres are to be performed. Music scores are required with the entry form. Ensemble must be comprised of at least (7) musicians presenting arrangements with at least four-part harmonies. A total time limit of 20 minutes is strictly enforced. Percussion and amplification are permitted. Level is determined by average level of all members (total the Book level of all members; divide by the number of members of the group).

Entry Fee: Show Group or Ensembles comprised of AAC members only-\$50.00 Any non-member players add \$10.00 per person

Class Number	Name of Class	Level of Study
S01	Show Group	No Restrictions
E01	Accordion Ensemble Junior	Book 4 and Under
E02	Accordion Ensemble Intermediate	Book 5 to 7
E03	Accordion Ensemble Advanced	Book 8 and Up