

Fiddlers of Idaho
State Open Championship
2018 Contest Rules and Standards

1. The contest is open to musicians without discrimination of age, gender, race, ethnic background, nation of birth or religion. The contest is open to musicians regardless of state of residence.
2. Contestants are expected to demonstrate courteous, professional and respectful behavior toward other contestants, judges, contest staff and the audience. *Please dress appropriately for this public event.*
3. A contestant's application must be received at the registration table and entry fee paid before 9:00 am the day of the contest.
4. A pre-registered contestant, not able to participate, must notify Fiddlers Inc of their intent to withdraw prior to 9:00am the day of the contest. Refund of fees paid will be made to the contestant within 30 days..
5. Contestants must check-in at the registration table starting 7:30 am Saturday April 14th. Check-in confirms that the contestant has submitted an application and all fees are paid.
6. Contestants are requested to attend the Judges – Contestants meeting. If a contestant does not attend the meeting, they are solely responsible for not having received the information presented.
7. Accompanists are requested to sign-in at the registration table. There is no entry fee for Accompanists. Accompanists are invited to attend the Judges-Contestants meeting.
8. Age for the purpose of this contest is the contestant's age on the day of competition.
9. The certified divisions are; "Small Fry" (age 8 and under), "Junior Junior" (9 through 12), "Junior" (13 through 17), "Young Adult" (18 through 36), "Adult" (37 through 59), "Senior" (60 through 69), Senior-Senior (70 and above) and the "Open" (any age).
10. Novice competition will occur in the "Small Fry", "Junior Junior", "Junior" and "Adult (18 and above) divisions. A fiddler is eligible to compete as a Novice Contestant in the 2018 contest if they have not placed in the top five scoring positions of any certified contest or they did not place in the top three scoring positions of the 2017 Fiddlers of Idaho Novice contest.
11. Intermediate competition will occur only in the "Junior Junior" and "Junior" age divisions. A fiddler is eligible to compete as an Intermediate Contestant in the 2018 contest if they have not placed in the top five scoring positions of any certified contest or they did not place in the top three scoring positions of the 2017 Fiddlers of Idaho Intermediate contest.
12. Participation in a Novice or Intermediate division means that the contestant is not eligible for certification to the National Old Time Fiddlers Contest.
13. **If a contestant is not in position to go on stage at the appropriate time and they miss their Order of Play, they will be disqualified.** Order of play is randomly generated. The Order of Play for each division will be posted at specific locations in the lobby, the South campus hallway and the North hallway. Please leave the sheets where posted.
14. Each contestant will present their tune sheet(s) to the Announcer when they arrive on stage.
15. Awards will be presented to the top five contestants in the certified, novice and intermediate divisions.

16. Contestants in all fiddle divisions may play with up to three accompanists.
17. Novice and Intermediate divisions will have one round of play. Each Novice contestant must play two songs; first a hoedown and second a waltz. Each Intermediate contestant must play three songs; first a hoedown, second a waltz and third a tune of their choice.
18. Each Certified division will consist of two rounds of performance. Contestants at each appearance must first play a hoedown; second a waltz and third a fiddle tune of choice other than a hoedown or waltz. No contestant shall play a tune more than once during the entire competition.
19. Contestants placing in the top five scoring positions of round one of a certified division will advance to round two. Advancement to the second round of more than five contestants is the decision of the Contest Chairman.
20. Announcement of certified contestants advancing to the second round of competition will be made by posting the advancement report at specified locations. The report will contain only the names of those contestants advancing to the second round.
21. A four (4) minute play time is set for both rounds of certified competition and round one of novice and intermediate competition. The grace period is twenty seconds. A penalty of ten points will be assessed if the performance time exceeds the grace period.
22. The judges are sequestered such that they cannot see the performing contestant and they do not hear the contestant's introduction to the audience. The contestant is introduced to the judges by division title, round of play and order of play. Judging criteria for each tune includes fiddling style, dance ability, rhythm, timing, and tone quality. A contestant's score for a round of play is the sum total of scores from the individual judges. Points may be deducted for rule violations. Final score for a contestant that advanced to round two of competition is the sum of scores from both rounds.
23. On completion of each contestant's performance, the Judges will complete and sign their individual score sheets. The score sheets are immediately removed from the judges' room and delivered to the Score Keeping Team. The score sheets are tabulated manually and a paper tape of the tabulation is produced. The score sheets are then tabulated electronically using a spreadsheet program. The manual tabulation paper tape and the spreadsheet tabulation are validated by the Scoring Supervisor.
24. The only persons permitted inside the Judges' room are the Judges, the Judge's Assistant the Contest Chairman, the Scoring Supervisor, persons specifically assigned to tabulate scores and those authorized by the Contest Chairman. Please no visitors in the Judges' room during the contest.
25. Contact microphones and amplified instruments are not permitted during any competition.
26. If a string breaks, the contestant will have the option to continue or stop at that point. If the tune is completed it will be judged as played. If the contestant stops play, due to a broken string, he/she will be allowed to begin with that tune and complete the intended program without penalty.
27. No sheet music will be displayed on stage.
28. No trick or fancy fiddling allowed during the contest.
