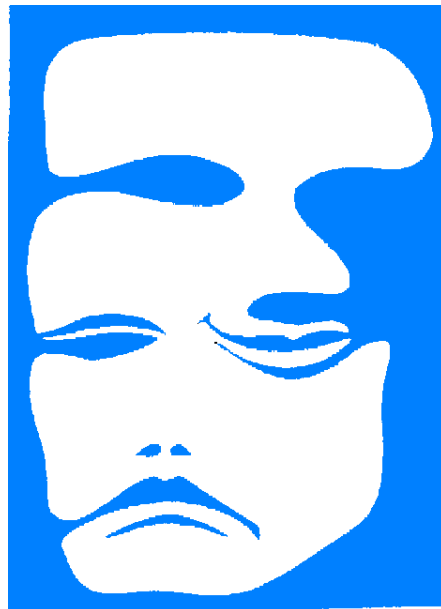




# The AETF

FESTIVAL RULES

The  
ALL-ENGLAND THEATRE FESTIVAL  
  
**ENTRANTS RULES  
& DECLARATION FORM**



Issue 10

**- Section 4 -  
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 recognised Youth Theatre.  
Definition of a professional group: A professional group performs an activity to earn an income, whereas an amateur group performs an activity as a hobby.  
A group's public presence/marketing must clearly demonstrate a group's amateur status and must not promote professional work.  
Any festival production must not be available to hire for financial gain.
11. All players must be amateur i.e. whose main income is not earned by acting.

### **WHAT CAN WE ENTER?**

12. 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.
13. 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'.
14. No play in copyright may be performed without production of its performance licence and written permission must be provided for any cuts or alterations.
15. 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.
16. Only hard copies of scripts are accepted. Photocopies are only acceptable with the written permission of the publishers.
17. Each entry must have a minimum of two speaking characters appearing on stage.

### **WHAT ARE THE TIME CONSTRAINTS?**

18. 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.
19. Each team will be allowed 10 minutes for setting and 5 minutes for striking their set.
20. 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?**

21. Any set or scenery must be free standing within the provided 'black box' acting area.
22. 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.
23. 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.
24. 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.
25. 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?**

26. 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.
27. The adjudicator will use the following marking system: -  
Acting 40      Direction 35      Stage Presentation 15      Dramatic Achievement 10
28. The adjudicator's decision is final.



# APPENDIX 1 to the FESTIVAL RULES

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## DECLARATION

**Part 1 - To be completed by all companies prior to the start of the festival at which they wish to be considered as an AETF entry.**

**To be retained by the Preliminary Round Festival organiser.**

On behalf of (Name of Company) .....

1. We have read and will comply with the AETF rules.
2. We have paid or attach the £10 opting fee (payable to the festival you are opting from).
3. We have our own Public Liability Insurance with a reputable company. (All AETF rounds provide insurance for participants)
4. We will appear at the quarter-final, semi-final and English Final if selected.

Any photos supplied by you or taken at during an AETF festival by the official photographer may be used for publicity purposes, your consent is required indicate below:

Yes I consent

No I do not consent

Signed .....

(Position in Company) .....

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**Part 2 - To be completed by Preliminary Round Festival secretary at the close of your festival for all teams 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: .....

by performing (Name of Play) .....

by (Name of Author) .....

On behalf of the Preliminary Round Festival of the AETF: -

- ◆ We confirm that it meets the entry requirements of the AETF.
- ◆ We also confirm that to the best of our knowledge this is the only Preliminary Round Festival from which this company is opting to go forward with this play in the AETF festival.

Signed .....

Date .....

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**This form should be returned to the National Treasurer, as soon after the conclusion of the Preliminary Round Festival as possible.**

**To: - Carol Hennessy, 10 Ascot Towers, Windsor Road, Ascot SL5 7LG  
aetftreasurer@gmail.com .**

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A1-iss5 Oct 2022