

## NELSPRUIT EISTEDDFOD 2026

### GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

**IMPORTANT: All Eisteddfod rules must be strictly adhered to in order to avoid disqualification.**

#### PROCESS OF ENTERING

##### 1. Registration of Affiliates (Users) and Payment Reference Number

- Each teacher, coach, school, or person wishing to enter participants must register on the website: [www.nelspruiteisteddfod.co.za](http://www.nelspruiteisteddfod.co.za) to become an affiliate.
- If an affiliate was already registered during 2025, re-registration is **not required** for 2026.
- New affiliates must complete the registration form on the “Contact Us” page. Upon submission, a username and password will be emailed.
- Only electronic registrations and entries via the website will be accepted.
- No entries will be accepted if the above steps were not followed.

##### 2. Entry Fees – 2026

Category	Fee
Solo	R145
Duet	R90 per participant
Small Groups (3–10 members)	R70 per participant
Groups (11+)	R50 per participant
Choirs	R800 per choir
Competitive Items	R300
Visual Art & Photography	R150
Bands / Rock Groups	R500
Dance Solo (includes video clip)	R165

### 3. Payments

- **Full payment is required upon submission of entries.**
  - Entry fees are **non-refundable**.
  - **Failure to pay will result in participants being excluded from the programme. Failure of making payment on time will result in participants being considered as not entered and the system will not include them in the programme.**
  - Invoices can be printed on request; **bank details appear on the invoice.**
  - A specific **entry number** will serve as payment reference.
  - Proof of payment must be emailed to: **wilna@nelspruiteisteddfod.co.za**
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### 4. Determining Participant's Age Group

- Age group is determined by the participant's age at end of July **2026**.
  - Primary School = Grade 1–7
  - Secondary School = Grade 8–12
  - **Age-based divisions: Visual Art & Photography (ART), Dance (DNC), Music Instrumental Classic (IMC), Music Vocal (MVC)**
  - All other divisions are **grade-based**.
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### 5. Electronic Entries

- Entries open: **8 April 2026**
  - Entries close: **29 May 2026**
  - Only electronic entries will be accepted.
  - **Video clips and manuals are available on the system.**
  - **The Eisteddfod is not responsible for incorrect information submitted by affiliates.**
  - **For payment purposes always use the specific entry number as reference.**
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## 6. Details of Entries

- All required information must be completed accurately.
  - Verify participant's age/grade, spelling of names, item numbers, and codes.
  - The name as entered on the system will be the name that appears on the certificate.
  - Participants must be entered in the correct category; affiliates are responsible for accuracy.
  - Special needs participants must have the **SP code** completed in the NOTE block.
  - **No work may be presented in more than one division or repeated from the previous year.**
  - Participants may only enter once per category, except in Music Instrumental where the participant may be playing a different instrument.
  - Participants may only perform in his/her own age group when entering for individual items.
  - Groups are entered under the age of the oldest participant, except for Family Groups.
  - **No late entries will be accepted as the system will not allow it.**
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## 7. Withdrawal of Participants

- Any participant withdrawing will forfeit the entry fee.
  - Withdrawn participants **cannot be replaced**, as certificates are pre-printed.
  - Notify the Head of Division immediately in case of cancellation.
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## 8. Programme

- Programme available on the website.
- Time limits per item must be adhered to.
- Programme changes allowed only with Head of Division approval.
- Eisteddfod cannot accommodate clashes with other activities.
- While every effort is made to ensure the smooth running of each division, unforeseen circumstances may affect the programme. Affiliates will be notified of unavoidable changes where possible.

- Programme change requests must be submitted via email to the relevant Head of Division and will only be considered if possible. The approved email response must be presented at registration.
  - No time slots will be changed during adjudication, especially in the Afrikaans Speech and Drama and English Speech and Drama divisions.
  - Loadshedding or other unforeseen disruptions may affect the programme. The Eisteddfod cannot be held liable for such circumstances.
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## 9. Venues

The 2026 Eisteddfod will be hosted at three venues:

- **COMMUNIO Auditorium & Church Hall, C/o Jakaranda and Kaapschehoop Road, Nelspruit**
- **Church Unlimited, Barberton Road, Nelspruit**
- **NG Hervormde Kerk Nelspruit, 33 Bell Street, Nelspruit**

**Participants and affiliates are requested to take careful note of the venue allocated to their specific division.**

**Strict discipline and appropriate conduct are expected at all venues. The Head of Division reserves the right to cancel participation in cases of non-compliance with the Eisteddfod Rules and Regulations.**

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## 10. Registration (During Eisteddfod)

- Participants must register **30 minutes** before performance.
  - Dance participants register **60 minutes** prior.
  - Registration tables at the foyer.
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## 11. Certificates

### Mark Grade Description Award

90+	A++	Outstanding	Prestige
85–89	A+	Excellent	Gold
80–84	A	Very Good	Gold
75–79	B+	Good	Silver
70–74	B	Mastered	Silver
<69	C	Fair	Bronze

- Each participant receives a **printed certificate**.
- **Names on certificates are taken directly from the entry system. Any spelling errors originate from the original entry. Reprints may be requested at the venue and will incur an administration fee.**
- Reprints available on site (**R60 admin fee**).
- Adjudicator's decision is **final** and not discussion with the adjudicator will be allowed.
- Adjudicators may **disqualify participants** in the case of non-adherence to the rules and regulations of the Eisteddfod or in the event of plagiarism.
- NO participants, coaches, parents etc. will be allowed at the adjudicator's table during adjudication. It is the prerogative of the Head of Division to discreetly request that such a person leave.

## 12. Awards

- Awards only for Competitive Sections.
- Minimum qualifying mark: **85%** (80% for Choir Competitive Sections).
- Awards presented by adjudicator at the end of each competitive section.
- Additional awards from sponsors may apply.
- Versatility Trophy: Participants must enter **minimum 3 divisions** (solo & duo only).
- Winner determined by number of divisions entered and highest average marks.

### **13. Language & Dress Code**

- No prejudicial, derogatory, blasphemous, or political content.
  - Performance content must be age-appropriate.
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### **14. Participants with Special Needs**

- May enter any item and will be adjudicated separately.
  - SP Codes must be completed:
    - SPA – Special Auditory Needs
    - SPI – Special Intellectual Needs
    - SPV – Special Visual Needs
    - SPL – Special Learning Needs
    - SPP – Special Physical Needs
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### **15. Eisteddfod Gala Evening**

- Date: **11 September 2026**
  - Dress Rehearsal: **10 September 2026**
  - Participation by invitation only, based on quality, variety, and entertainment.
  - Committee decision is final and non-negotiable.
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### **16. Indemnity**

- Nelspruit Eisteddfod is not responsible for loss, theft, or injury.
  - Security personnel will be present at all venues.
  - Artwork must be collected by **21 August 2026**. Uncollected artwork may be destroyed 7 working days after collection date.
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