

Rules of the Nidderdale and District Drama Association

NAME: The Association shall be known as **THE NIDDERDALE AND DISTRICT DRAMA ASSOCIATION**

OBJECTS:

The aim of the Association shall be to promote an annual competitive festival of One Act Plays with a view to the encouragement of the appreciation of Drama and to raising the standard of Amateur Drama Productions.

MANAGEMENT

1. Each member society shall be entitled to be represented by two voting members at each meeting (although more than two members are welcome to attend these meetings).
2. A Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by and from the participating Societies at the Annual General Meeting.
3. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members.

FESTIVAL RULES

1. The festival is open to any amateur group that gathers together to present a performance.

Member societies may enter one or more youth teams (all performers to be **under 17 years by 1st September of the year of the Festival**). Such entries will be adjudicated and performances assessed for awards shown in Appendix 'A'.

The junior play must conform to the time rules, but **need not have a minimum number of speaking parts**. It must, however be understood by the entrant that if there are less than two speaking parts, in the event that the Junior play wins the whole Festival, it will not be eligible to enter the next round of the AETF.

NB. Awards specifically given for juniors may only be awarded in Junior productions eg. An under sixteen in a senior play may not be awarded a junior acting award.

2. Teams from Dramatic Schools for the training of professional actors will not be eligible.
3. No Society shall enter the same play in the Festival more than once in five years.
4. The dramatic work shall be a One Act Play, an Act from a full length play (provided it makes sense as it stands), plays developed to performance level from original improvisations or pieces of theatre involving mime, movement, sound etc in unscripted form for which synopses are provided for use by the adjudicator.
5. The entry must consist of **not less than two speaking** parts.
6. A member of a Society may only appear in one production at any one Festival.
7. The length of performance of the entry shall be **not less than 20 minutes and not more than 55 minutes including any change of scene**. Setting and striking times will **not** be included in the 55 minute limit.
8. The responsibility for acquiring the author's permission for performance and the payment of her/his royalty fee in advance shall be that of the competing society. Any alteration to the text of the play should have the author's permission and proof that this has been obtained may be required by the Committee.
9. Either a curtain set or a cyclorama and side-flats (with or without curtains) will be provided. Societies may bring additional scenery providing these do not constitute a box set.
10. Additional lighting, unusual sound effects, naked lights, firearms etc may be used at the expense of the competing society, subject to the approval of the Committee and providing appropriate safeguards are used.
11. An official Timekeeper and a Stage Manager will be appointed by the Committee. The decisions of the Stage Manager in respect of all backstage matters will be final and binding.
12. The Stage Manager and her/his assistants shall be responsible for the switchboard and lighting equipment. Directions to the Stage Manager shall be given to her/him by the representative of the competing society.
13. The competing society is responsible for seeing that the lights and scenery are set to its own requirements and to see that the curtain is raised and lowered at the proper times. **A 20 minute technical rehearsal is allocated between 6-7pm.**
14. A time of 10 minutes shall be allowed for the setting of the stage and 5 minutes to strike the set in addition to the time of the performance. The penalties for not keeping within the allotted times for performance, setting and striking the set shall be as follows:

Up to 1 minutes over (or under) time	1	mark
Up to 2 minutes over (or under) time	3	marks
Up to 3 minutes over (or under) time	6	marks
Up to 4 minutes over (or under) time	10	marks
Up to 5 minutes over (or under) time	15	marks
More than 5 minutes over (or under) time		Disqualification

(‘under time’ applies only to performance times)

Disqualification means that the group forfeits the right to all awards to which any member of that group might be eligible in the Festival.

THIS RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED

15. No part of the performance shall be filmed, recorded or televised without the permission of the Committee, nor shall any recording be made of the adjudication without both the Adjudicator's and the Committee's consent.
16. The public adjudication will be given by the Adjudicator on each play in the Festival. The Adjudicator will take care that her/his assessment is constructive and helpful both to the societies taking part and to the audience. The Secretary will ensure that the Adjudicator is provided with a copy of these Objects and Rules.
17. The Adjudicator shall announce the first two places and other awards as appropriate at the end of the Festival. A list of current awards is listed in the attached Appendix 'A'.
18. Each entry will be marked out of a total of 100 marks divided as follows.

Acting	40 marks
Production	35 marks
Stage Presentation	15 marks
Endeavour, Originality and technical attainment	10 marks

This is in line with the All-England Theatre Festival marking scheme.
The Adjudicator's decision shall be final.
19. Each competing Society shall forward by a date specified before each Festival a copy of the play to the Secretary of the Association. The Secretary will ensure that these are delivered to the adjudicator and that they are returned to the relevant societies after the Festival.
20. Any society entering the Festival may receive, at a fee, a written report containing a summary of the Adjudicator's criticisms of its performance. The member society will be responsible for the payment of the fee requested by the Adjudicator. The written report, besides showing the comments, will bear a letter indicating the standard by the marks awarded:

A	Very good (75 or over)	B	Good (60-74)
C	Fair (40-59)	D	under 40 marks
21. The Committee will arrange insurance for the Festival against Public Liability and Employer's Liability but will not hold itself responsible for any liability whether or not covered by this insurance. The Committee will not hold itself responsible for any loss or damage to scenery, costumes, properties, furniture or any other theatrical equipment. Competing societies are recommended to arrange their own insurance for the Festival and are expected to arrange insurance for Festival trophies while in their possession.
22. Membership of the Association will be £10 per society which will include entry of one play in the Festival. Additional entries will pay a further £10 per play.
23. Profits from the Festival, after deduction of all incidental expenses, will be shared equally among the teams taking part, except that a proportion of the profits - to be determined by the Committee - shall be retained for the working expenses of the Association and for the furtherance of future Festivals.
24. Any infringement of the above rules may lead to disqualification at the discretion of the Committee. The Adjudicator has no power to disqualify, but s/he shall bring to the notice of the Committee any case where s/he sees cause for disqualification.
25. Cases of doubt as to the interpretation of these rules or any matter not covered by them should be brought to the notice of the Committee for its decision.

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