



2026 VICTORIAN BUSH POETRY CHAMPIONSHIPS
ADULT PERFORMANCE ENTRY FORM
Entries Close Friday 27th February 2026

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTCODE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

MOBILE: _____ **HOME:** _____

Sections 3-8 - \$10.00 per poem & 1 entry per person per section | Sections 9 - \$5.00 per poem & 1 entry per person per section

Sections 3, 8 & 9 Males & Females judged together. Sections 4-7 have separate Male & Female classes. (Prizemoney stated for Sections 4-7 is for both Male & Female classes).

Australian Bush Poetry is poetry with accurate rhyme & metre-distinctly Australian, depicting Australian history, Australians and/or the Australian way of life, past or present.

Judging Sheets for Sections 4-9 can be found at www.abpa.org.au/events.html

PERFORMANCE SECTIONS - Please tick applicable section

SECTION 3: Banjo Paterson's MFSR Recital – 1st - \$150 & Trophy 2nd - \$100 3rd - \$50

Record on MP3, sound file or CD. Post to P.O. Box 655, West Ryde, NSW, 1685.

3 Finalists notified by 20th March 2026 to perform at Festival Friday 17th April 2026. ☐

Judging Sheets for Section 3 can be found at www.abpa.org.au/events.html

SECTION 4: VBPC Open Classical Poem (written in or before 1950) | Max 8 mins

1st - \$150 & Trophy 2nd - \$70 3rd - \$30 ☐

1st title Preference:

Author _____

2nd title Preference:

Author _____

You will be notified by 20th March 2026 if your 2nd preference is needed.

SECTION 5: VBPC Open Original Serious Poem | Max 8 mins

1st - \$150 & Trophy 2nd - \$70 3rd - \$30 ☐

Title: _____

SECTION 6: VBPC Open Original Humorous Poem | Max 8 mins

1st - \$150 & Trophy 2nd - \$70 3rd - \$30 ☐

Title: _____

SECTION 7: VBPC Open Modern Poem (written after and including 1951) | Max 8 mins

1st - \$150 & Trophy 2nd - \$70 3rd - \$30 ☐

1st title Preference:

Author _____

2nd title Preference:

Author _____

You will be notified by 20th March 2026 if your 2nd preference is needed.

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SECTION 8: VBPC Open Yarnspinning (original or non-original) | Max 8 mins

1st - \$150 & Trophy 2nd - \$70 3rd - \$30

☐

Title: _____ Author: _____

SECTION 9: Novice Poet (Poem can be Original, Modern or Classical). | Max 5 mins.

1st - \$100 & Trophy 2nd - \$70 3rd - \$30

☐

Title: _____ Author: _____

SECTION 10: "Matilda"-Female Champion

SECTION 11: "Clancy's Choice"-Male Champion

There is no fee to enter these awards. Their results are determined from the aggregate scores compiled in the judging of Sections 4-7.

Overall Performance Champion: -1st; \$1000

There is no fee to enter this award. Its results are determined from the aggregate scores compiled in the judging of Sections 10 & 11.

Overall Grand Champion: -1st; \$1000

There is no fee to enter this award. Its results are determined from the aggregate scores compiled in the judging of Sections 10 & 11 (Performance) & Sections 1 & 2 (Written).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- Sections 10 and 11, (the Matilda & Clancy's Choice Awards) can only be won by someone who writes as well as recites.
- Sections 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, One-minute, Lawrie Sheridan, Senior and Jan Lewis Encouragement awards **do not** count towards the Matilda or Clancy Titles.
- Parodies are ineligible for Open Performance Sections.
- Entrants should be prepared to provide a photo and details for publication if required.
- We reserve the right to publish, record or reproduce work submitted, Copyright ©, is retained by the writer.
- We reserve the right to alter the program if necessary (at any time).
- Judges and anyone paid by the MFSR Bush Festival is ineligible for prizes except for the One-Minute Poem.
- Judge's decisions for both the Performance & Written sections of the competition are final and no correspondence will be entered into. **Harassment of any judge or official (by contestants) before, during or after the competition (whether said harassment be either verbal, written or electronic) will not be accepted or tolerated. Harassment of any sort will see the perpetrator banned from entering said Victorian Bush Poetry Championships for a period of 3 years!**

DECLARATION

- I have read and agree to abide by the *Terms and Conditions of Entry*. Entries, where indicated as "Original" are my own work. My submitted entries have not won me a 1st prize at any Victorian State or ABPA National Championships.
- I **ALLOW / DO NOT ALLOW** my work (© mine) to be used for Festival promotion (please circle).
- I declare that Poetry/Music is (please circle) **HOBBY** OR **My ABN is:**
- I declare my status is (please circle) **OPEN** **NOVICE**
- Novice:** Gained no more than 2 x 1st places in any competition in 2 consecutive years.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ENTRY FEES

I enclose completed entry form and payment of:

Open: (\$10 ea.) _____ Novice: (\$5 ea.) _____ Total: _____

Entry Forms: Post hard copy entry form and recording (if applicable) to:

2026 MFSR Performance Bush Poetry Competition

P.O. Box 655, West Ryde, NSW, 1685

Email: TheRhymerfromRyde@bigpond.com

Payment can be made by:

Direct Deposit:

Account Name: MFSRBF Income Account

BSB: 633 000

Account Number: 1536 14573

Reference: Your surname & 'Poet' (e.g., Martin,

Poet).

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EXTRA INFORMATION

Performance entries will be accepted in order of date received. Due to time restrictions imposed by the festivals programme **a strict limit of only 12 individual entries in each male & female section of sections numbered 4,5,6 & 7 will be accepted. (12 overall contestants will be accepted for section 8 & 12 contestants will be accepted for Section 9).**

It is anticipated that these entry limits will be reached well before the closing date of 27th February 2026 so it is the responsibility of each individual prospective contestant to ensure that their entries are sent in a timely fashion to avoid disappointment.

If you would like results mailed to you, please include A4 sized, stamped, self-addressed envelope (2 x \$1.70 stamps). No envelope =No posted results. Sorry!

Judges' assessment sheets will be posted to contestants after the conclusion of the festival.

All sections held Thurs, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Lions Youth Hall/Banjo's Block. All awards presented on Sunday afternoon (19th April 2026).

Programs, when available, can be purchased at the festival, or accessed at: www.bushfestival.com.au

If you have any questions, please contact the Poetry Co-Ordinator Graeme Johnson on 0419415137 or e-mail, TheRhymefromRyde@bigpond.com