

Victorian Bush Poetry Championships (16th-19th April 2026)

Written Bush Poetry Competition Assessment Sheet

Conducted under the auspices of the Australian Bush Poets Association Inc.

SECTION: ENTRY NO.- *

TITLE OF POEM: JUDGE:

Does the entry meet the competition requirements such as specified theme, line limit etc. where applicable?		If applicable, please circle one: If "Yes", continue. If "No", entry is disqualified.	
<u>Assessment Guide</u>	Dot points may be used to assist rating of various aspects if desired, allowing up to 5 points each or any method producing a score not exceeding the maximum allotted in the Score column. (Judge may choose to circle areas of concern.)		<u>Score</u>
<u>Metre</u>	• is the metre consistent throughout? • do stanzas conform to an established pattern throughout? • Is the metre maintained without resorting to inversions or forced syntax? • Is the metric scheme unusual or inventive?		/20
<u>Rhyme</u>	• are rhymes unforced and suited to context? • are the rhymes used unusual or distinctive? • Is the rhyming pattern unusual or distinctive? • Is the rhyming pattern maintained throughout?		/20
<u>Construction Techniques</u>	• is the amount of punctuation adequate and appropriate? • is the grammar of an acceptable standard? • Is spelling of an acceptable standard?		/15
<u>Language</u>	• is the language consistent with the chosen theme? • is the poet's diction/phrasing/word-choice distinctive & appealing? • is there good use of imagery? • is language likely to cause offence avoided? • are clichés avoided?		/25
<u>Overall Impact</u>	• does the poem flow logically and draw the reader toward a forceful / satisfying conclusion? • does the poem exhibit an original concept or novel approach to a well-worn subject? • does the poem engage the reader's interest? • does it have a certain "wow" factor?		/20
TOTAL _____			
<u>DISCRETIONARY POINTS</u>		<i>In the event of a tied score</i> , the judge may award one additional 1/2 point to indicate their preference.	+
Tie-breaker Score (if necessary) _____			

JUDGE'S COMMENTS:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

JUDGE'S SIGNATURE:

* Competitor's Name to be added by the organisers' scrutineer next to the entry number once the competition has been judged.