

Conditions of Entry for ABPA National Bush Poetry Championships

1. All Competitors must complete an Entry Form and submit it with their entry fee to the organisers by the closing date. Competitors may enter any section but **to be eligible for the Championship title, competitors must enter all four categories.**
 2. Poems which have won first place in the same competition previously shall not be performed by the same poet in the current competition.
 3. The ABPA resolutely requires all Competition Performances to be conducive to family entertainment. Socially unacceptable subject matter, language or gestures will not be tolerated, with Competitors liable to being marked down, or at worst, being asked to leave the stage. The duly authorised organisers of the Competition will have the final say if breaches occur, and will confer with the judges.
 4. The time limit for performance shall be restricted to a maximum of 8 minutes, including preamble. Two points per every 15 seconds, or part thereof, shall be deducted from each judge's score sheet for performances exceeding this limit.
 5. Judges decisions are final and will not be disputed.
 6. All entries in the poetry sections must be Australian Bush Poetry, (ie: rhymed and metred poetry about Australia, Australians, the Australian way of life or history) Poems must be performed from memory, and not read.
 7. In **Modern** and **Traditional** sections, the contestants shall be required to provide the name and author of the poem on the Entry Form. Wherever possible, permission should be sought from an author to perform their poem prior to entry into the competition. "Anon" can only be claimed in relation to poems the authorship of which is genuinely unknown.
 8. **Modern** ie: Australian Bush Poetry not written by the competitor, but written by an author since and including 1951. It is the individual competitor's responsibility to seek permission from the author, (or copyright holder) prior to the competition, to perform the specific poem. The ABPA accepts no responsibility for a competitor who fails to do so.
- Traditional** ie: Australian Bush Poetry not written by the competitor, but written by an author before and including 1950. If copyright has not expired, it is the individual competitor's responsibility to seek permission from the copyright holder prior to the competition to perform the specific poem. The ABPA accepts no responsibility for a competitor who fails to do so. Note copyright expires 50 years (if author died before 1955) or 70 years after the death of the author.
9. **Original** poems must be Australian Bush Poetry written by the competitor. They can be humorous or Serious. Original Humorous should be an original approach to an idea in content and not be based on a pre-existing joke.
 10. The National Championships shall be conducted under the ABPA "Guidelines for Australian Bush Poetry Competitions". (Guidelines) Judging sheets as described in the Guidelines shall apply. (See the ABPA website: www.abpa.org.au)
 11. Prizemoney will be awarded in all categories (1st, 2nd, 3rd) and the Overall Champion will receive a trophy with 2nd and 3rd to receive a medallion.