

2017 COMPETITION RULES

1. Advance registration (\$8.00) is accepted by mail or online until October 10, 2017. Registration (\$10.00) is accepted from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 15, 2017 at our Registration Table. No registering allowed after 12:30 p.m. **Contestants who register in advance must check in before 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 15, 2016 and be ready to draw for order of performance.**
2. Drawing for order of performance in each division will be 12:30 to 12:45 p.m.
3. No electric amplification.
4. Contestant must play one **danceable** Hoedown tune and one **danceable** Waltz in each session. "Faded Love" and "Maiden's Prayer" are not waltzes and therefore not allowed. Additionally, "Ashokan Farewell" is considered "too new" a tune by most fiddle judges to be played in an "Old-Time Fiddle Contest" and is therefore not allowed (copyright 1983 by Jay Ungar, Swinging Door Music - BMI). No sheet music shall be displayed in the contesting area.
5. No cross-tuning, trick playing or novelty tunes played, such as "Black Mountain Rag", "Listen to the Mockingbird" or "Orange Blossom Special".
6. No "figure eight" or "hokum" bowing allowed on original hoedown tune. If judges detect that a contestant has violated this rule, the contestant will forfeit all of their "Old-Time Fiddling Style" points.
7. Contestants will be limited to six minutes total to play both the hoedown and the waltz. The time will start with the first note and includes the time between the two songs. If contestant goes over the six minute time limit, 10 points will be deducted from their total score for every 20 seconds he/she goes over.
8. Contestant can play with no accompanist or with no more than two.
9. Anyone with an established Illinois residency for at least one year immediately prior to the date of the contest is eligible to enter.
10. The first place winner in "Beginning Fiddle", "Junior" and "Over 70" Divisions may then also enter the "Open" Division. (Anyone may enter the "Open" Division if they choose, regardless of age, right from the start of the contest. Or you may feel you can win the smaller division and also the "Open" contest and go home with multiple awards. The choice is up to the individual.) However, contestants may enter only one division at the start of the contest.
11. Points to be earned are as follows: **Oldtime Fiddling Style** - 25 points, **Danceability** – 25 points, **Rhythm and Timing** - 25 points, **Tone Quality** - 25 points
12. In the "Open" division only, those with the top five highest scores from playing one hoedown and one waltz will be called back to play one tune of their choice. This tune must be different from the first two tunes played. "Figure eight" or "hokum" bowing technique will be allowed on the "Tune of Choice" only.
13. All fiddlers must be backstage when their number is called and ready to play or they will be disqualified. **Please be ready to perform.**
14. Divisions will play in this order: 1) Over 70 2) Beginning Fiddle (10 & under) 3) Junior (11 - 19) 4) Open
15. All fiddlers and accompanists are to be on stage at 12:50 p.m. to open the competition with the following tunes: Golden Slipper (Key G), Red Wing (Key G), Raggedy Ann (Key D)
16. Judges can call back any fiddler as often as deemed necessary in order to make a proper decision.
17. The decisions of the judges and competition committee will be final.