



ROYAL SOUTH STREET SOCIETY  
BALLARAT EISTEDDFOD



# ACU Speech, Drama & Comedy 2026

## Rules and Conditions of Entry

Dates:

Monday 24 August to Friday 28 August  
(Subject to entries)

**VENUE:**

Australian Catholic University (ACU)  
Connors Hall  
1200 Mair Street, Ballarat

Further Information Contact  
Events Coordinator  
Office: 53321054

Email: [admin@royalsouthstreet.com.au](mailto:admin@royalsouthstreet.com.au)

**SECTION CHAIR**

Kris Carroll

**SUB COMMITTEE**

Zoe James, Alexandra Meerbach, Rachael Shelton, Tammy Vandenberg, Mika Wallace

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## 1. GENERAL

- 1.1 An **entrant** performs an item in a section within a discipline (e.g. Speech/Drama and Comedy).
- 1.2 An entrant may enter each section **once**, except Duet/Trio sections (different partners required for each entry).
- 1.3 An item may be performed **once per season**, except where explicitly permitted.
- 1.4 Entrants taught or coached by the adjudicator in the **past 12 months** are ineligible to compete and may perform for critique only.
- 1.5 RSSS communicates primarily by **email**. Entrants are responsible for ensuring messages from RSSS are received.

## 2. ENTRIES

- 2.1 **Age** is determined as at **1 January** of the competition year.
- 2.2 Entries open **1 March** and close **30 April**.
- 2.3 Entrants must review their confirmation and request corrections via **admin@royalsouthstreet.com.au**.
- 2.4 RSSS is not responsible for entries lost through incorrect or failed electronic submission. Check junk mail if confirmation is not received.

## 3. ENTRY FEES

- 3.1 Entries are accepted **online only** with full payment.
- 3.2 Fees are listed in the Schedule and are **non-refundable** once entries close (refer [Refunds, Withdrawals and Late Entry](#)).
- 3.3 Schools or organisations may request an invoice with a purchase order (payable within **21 days**).
- 3.4 The Board may refuse entries in accordance with the **Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities**.
- 3.5 Sections with **three or fewer entries** may be cancelled or combined (refunds issued if cancelled).

## 4. PERFORMANCE STIPULATIONS.

- 4.1 Time limit - Competitors must adhere to the specified time for each section. A warning bell will sound at the time limit and again 15 seconds later. Performances must conclude immediately, and adjudication will apply only to the portion performed within the time limit
- 4.2 NO prompting or assistance of any kind may be rendered during the performance of any item, except by the adjudicator or a person appointed by Royal South Street.
- 4.3 Competitors are requested to wear rehearsal blacks unless otherwise specified, eg – character sections.
- 4.4 In all sections a copy of the selection or reading must be presented for the adjudicator; impromptu & prepared speech, and devised sections excluded
- 4.5 Black rostrum blocks are available for use
- 4.6 For sections with 2 (two) or more competitors, group can enter only once in each section. However, individual competitors may be members of a maximum of two groups.

- 4.7 In sections (Duos, Trios, and Groups) where multiple entries are permitted, the same piece cannot be performed with a different partner.
- 4.8 Competitors are welcome to perform their own work (unless the section states that the work of a specific author must be performed). However, the competitor's writing does not form part of the Adjudication

## 5. ENTRY DECLARATIONS & DISCLAIMERS

### Copyright

- 5.1 Entrants confirm ownership or licensed use of all music and materials and compliance with RSSS copyright requirements. Non-compliance may result in disqualification. See [Copyright Summary](#) for clarification.

### Risk

- 5.2 Entrants participate **at their own risk**. RSSS public liability insurance does not comprehensively cover performer injury.

### Photography, Videography & Image Use

- 5.3 RSSS may record performances for promotional, marketing and reporting purposes.
- 5.4 Photography/videography is **prohibited** in dressing rooms and the auditorium.
- 5.5 Schools/groups must notify RSSS in advance if consent is withdrawn [Royal South Street Society Photography and Recording - Withdrawal of Consent – Fill out form](#)
- 5.6 Personal information is used for RSSS administration and may be shared with trusted organisations only where beneficial to the entrant and after consultation.

### Conditions

- 5.7 By entering, entrants/guardians agree to these Rules. Breaches may result in disqualification or future ineligibility.
- 5.8 Decisions of the Board or Discipline Chair are **final**.

### Medication

- 5.9 Entrants requiring medication must carry it and have a responsible person available to administer it if required.

## 6. ADJUDICATORS

- 6.1 The Board or staff may appoint substitute or additional adjudicators.
- 6.2 Adjudicators' decisions are **final**.
- 6.3 Direct communication with adjudicators is prohibited except through Discipline Chairs or delegates.

## 7. PRIZES

- 7.1 Adjudicator critiques are provided for all sections.
- 7.2 Prizes are presented onstage.
- 7.3 Aggregates are calculated: **1st = 5, 2nd = 3, 3rd = 1**. . Tie-breaks are determined by countback. (ie greatest number of 1<sup>st</sup> prizes, greatest number of 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes etc). Prize division applies where ties remain.
- 7.4 Honorable Mention is fourth, and Highly Commended may be awarded to anyone worthy of acknowledgement and not necessarily as fifth place.
- 7.5 The adjudicator may withhold prizes or award commendations at their discretion.

## 8. ENTRANT OBLIGATIONS

- 8.1 Proof of age must be provided on request.
- 8.2 Dress and performance must be appropriate and reflect community standards.
- 8.3 Entrants are encouraged to remain for the full section.
- 8.4 Withdrawals should be advised to [admin@royalsouthstreet.com.au](mailto:admin@royalsouthstreet.com.au)

## 9. CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

- 9.1 RSSS complies with its **Child Safe Policy** (effective July 2023).
- 9.2 All adults accessing dressing rooms or backstage areas must hold a **WWCC or equivalent**. Full details can be found on our [Child Safe Policy](#).