

1. Original Music

- Originals preferred, at least one original song composed by the artist to be performed.
- No backing tracks, live music only.

2. Local Artist Focus

You could define "local" as:

- At least **50% of band members reside within** the Hawkesbury LGA

3. Performance Experience

Choose one of these:

- Open to all original bands/artists
- OR bands without a current major recording contract.

4. Band Requirements

- Minimum of three members.
- Maximum of eight members (or whatever suits your stage).

5. Performance Length

- 25 minute set.
- No overruns.

6. Equipment

- Standard backline supplied.
- Bands provide guitars, pedals, cymbals, sticks, etc.
- Quick changeover (10 minutes maximum).

7. Professional Conduct

Bands must:

- Arrive on time.
 - Respect staff, judges and other competitors.
 - Promote the event through their social media.
 - Agree that organiser decisions are final.
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Judging Criteria (100 Points)

1. Songwriting (25 Points)

- Originality
 - Song structure
 - Lyrics
 - Hooks
 - Memorability
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2. Musical Ability (20 Points)

- Tightness
 - Timing
 - Instrumental skill
 - Dynamics
 - Overall musicianship
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3. Vocals (15 Points)

- Pitch
 - Power
 - Clarity
 - Expression
 - Audience connection
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4. Stage Performance (20 Points)

- Stage presence
 - Confidence
 - Energy
 - Crowd interaction
 - Entertainment value
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5. Originality & Creativity (10 Points)

- Unique sound
 - Image
 - Innovation
 - Identity
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6. Overall Professionalism (10 Points)

- Preparedness
 - Organisation
 - Equipment
 - Presentation
 - Time management
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Bonus People's Choice Award

Separate from the judges.

Could be determined by:

- Audience voting
- QR Code votes
- Online voting after performances

This often attracts extra patrons and encourages bands to promote the event.

Example Judging Sheet

Criteria	Score
Songwriting	/25
Musical Ability	/20
Vocals	/15
Stage Performance	/20
Originality	/10
Professionalism	/10
TOTAL	/100

Comments:

- Best Song:
 - Strongest Musician:
 - Stage Presence:
 - Audience Engagement:
 - Areas for Improvement:
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