



Grand Master Fiddler Championship Inc.™

A Tennessee non-profit and U.S. IRS
501(c)(3) charitable corporation, formed to
educate about and perpetuate fiddling as an
art form and cultural treasure

ACCOMPANIST CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

CONTEST RULES

1. The Accompanist Championship is designed to recognize and reward fiddler accompanists. Competitors in this competition may not also compete in the Grand Master Fiddler Championship or in the Grand Master Fiddler Traditional Championship. There are no restrictions regarding age and no groupings.
2. Acceptable instruments for this category include four string tenor guitar, six string guitar, and piano only.
3. No electric instruments (except piano) are permitted and contestants may not play "lead". This is NOT a picking or solo competition.
4. The contestant may use one fiddler of their choice for their performance.
5. No songs of any style are banned, anything goes.
6. For your information, the judges will be sitting in front of the stage to watch the performance.
7. In the accompanist presentation, they may play ONE OR TWO tunes of any style they choose. The contestant should play rhythmic music that enhances and supports the fiddling. **The judging criteria is as follows: In the judge's determination: a) does the playing enhance and support the fiddle playing; AND b) if the judge were playing the tune would that performance help them play to their best potential. Keep this in mind and don't assume you have to play normal fiddle contest tunes!**
7. **THERE IS NO TIME LIMIT.**
8. There is one round of competition.
9. Contestants should be ready to complete when called to the stage. Contestants will be required to begin their first tune within 30 seconds from the time they are announced to the judges. Consideration will be given for broken strings, switching instruments, etc. Violation of this rule will result in loss of 30 points and/or disqualification.
10. In the event a contestant breaks a string, they will be allowed to restart their tune. If they continue, the tune will be scored as is. If their accompanist breaks a string, the contestant has 30 seconds to decide whether to stop and restart the tune or continue. Any stoppage after this 30 second grace period will result in the tune being scored as is.
11. The decision of the judges is FINAL. Any contestant or accompanist who harasses, threatens or verbally abuses a judge will first be warned and next be expelled from the contest for the current and next year.
12. Upon contestant registration, all commercial recording, photo and video rights during the contest are reserved and shall become the property of the Grand Master Fiddler Championship.

Last revised: June 24, 2010