



2026 Battle of the Bands

Official Rules & Performer Guidelines

Hosted by The Basement Door

Participation in the 2026 Battle of the Bands confirms acceptance of the following rules and conditions.

1. Eligibility & Registration

- All band members must be registered via the official website: www.thebasementdoor.org
- All performers must be aged 15–20 years at the time of the event (exceptions may be granted at the organiser's discretion).
- Bands and individual members must not be signed to any professional record label or management company.
- Once a heat date has been allocated, it cannot be changed.
- All band members must remain onsite once performances have begun.

2. Equipment & Backline

To ensure fairness, consistency and smooth changeovers:

Provided Backline (must be used by all bands):

- Full drum kit (excluding breakables)
- Cymbal stands
- Two guitar amplifiers
- One bass amplifier

Bands Must Provide:

- Drum breakables (cymbals, snare, sticks, etc.)
- Any specialist pedals or small accessories
- Keyboard and stand (if required)

No major substitutions to the shared backline are permitted without prior approval.

3. Performances & Conduct



The event promotes encouragement, professionalism and positive community spirit.

All performers must:

- Be supportive and encouraging to other bands and artists.
- Clear the stage promptly after their set.
- Show respect to volunteers, staff, sound engineers and fellow performers at all times.
- Treat all equipment (their own and others') with care.
- Avoid rudeness, disruptive behaviour or unsportsmanlike conduct.

Rudeness, deliberate disruption or disrespect may result in score deductions or disqualification.

4. Content Standards

The Battle of the Bands is a mixed-age event.

- Swearing in songs or stage talk is not permitted.
- Lyrics and performance content must be suitable for a family audience.
- Excessive inappropriate language or behaviour may result in:
 - Score reduction
 - Immediate disqualification

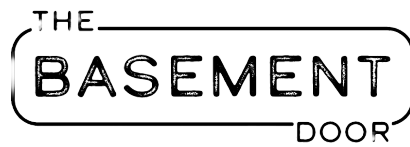
5. Sound Checks & Technical Control

- All sound checks will be conducted by the official Basement Door sound engineer.
- Only authorised technical staff may operate the sound desk.
- Artists must arrive on time for their scheduled sound check.
- Failure to attend on time may impact sound quality and scoring.

6. Alcohol, Smoking & Substance Policy

- No alcohol may be brought onto the premises.
- No band member may consume alcohol backstage.
- Performers may only purchase alcohol after their performance and only if aged 18+.
- Smoking and vaping are prohibited inside the venue.
- Illegal substances are strictly forbidden and will result in immediate removal.

7. Health & Safety



All venue safety regulations must be followed:

- Fire exits must remain clear.
- Electrical sockets must not be overloaded.
- Cables must be properly secured and not left loose on the floor.
- Nothing may obstruct emergency access routes.
- If the fire alarm sounds, the building must be evacuated immediately.
- The assembly point will be communicated upon arrival.

Failure to follow safety procedures may result in removal from the event.

8. Insurance & Liability

- The venue holds Public Liability Insurance.
- The Basement Door is not responsible for loss, theft or damage to personal equipment or belongings.
- Performers are responsible for their own instruments and property.

9. Venue Protection & Prohibited Items

To protect the premises:

- Nothing may be fixed to walls, ceilings, doors or fixtures.
- The following are strictly prohibited:
 - Party poppers
 - Silly string
 - Helium balloons
 - Glitter or confetti
 - Decorative adhesive tape
 - Similar "party" materials

Damage to the venue may result in liability for repair costs.

10. Event Management Rights

The Basement Door reserves the right to:

- Amend event arrangements where necessary.
- Cancel or terminate participation in cases of:
 - Severe disturbance
 - Property damage
 - Breach of these rules
 - Justifiable complaints from neighbours or venue management

All organiser decisions are final.