



2026 Battle of the Bands

Judging Guidelines

Hosted by The Basement Door

Performance Requirements

Each band must perform **three songs**:

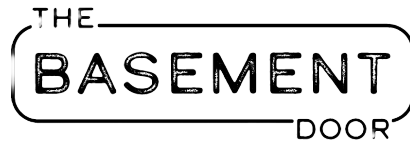
1. **One original song**
2. **One cover song**
3. **One additional song of their choice**

Bands must attend scheduled soundchecks, adhere to set times, and maintain professional conduct throughout the event.

Scoring Overview

Judges score each band out of **100 points** using the following categories:

Criteria	Points
Technical/Musical Proficiency	30
Performance/Audience Engagement	30
Preparation/Act Construction	20
Creativity/Originality	20
Total	100



Judging Criteria Explained

Technical/Musical Proficiency – 30 Points

- Skill and control on instruments/vocals
- Timing, tuning, and accuracy
- Cohesion and balance as a band
- Quality of musical execution

Performance/Audience Engagement – 30 Points

- Stage presence and confidence
- Energy and enthusiasm
- Interaction with audience
- Overall live performance impact

Judges should assess engagement effort, not audience size.

Preparation/Act Construction – 20 Points

- Evidence of rehearsal and planning
- Smooth transitions between songs
- Equipment readiness
- Effective use of set time

Creativity/Originality – 20 Points

- Distinctive musical style
- Creative interpretation of material
- Original artistic expression
- Willingness to take risks



Penalties & Deductions

Applied after scoring:

Infraction	Deduction
Late to soundcheck	-5 points
Setup delay impacting schedule	-5 points
Exceeding time slot	-5 to -10 points
Offensive/inappropriate behaviour	-10 points or disqualification

Event organisers retain final authority on penalties.