

## CONTEST RULES

**DIVISIONS:** A fiddler must enter the division for which he or she qualifies.

JUNIOR-JUNIOR (Age 12 & under)      JUNIOR (Age 13-18)      OPEN (Age 19-59)  
SENIOR (Ages 60 & over)      CHAMPION (All ages)

**TUNES:** Each fiddler will play 3 tunes in this order

**Waltz:** Any tune in 3/4 time

**TUNE OF CHOICE:** Jig, Clog, Schottische, Strathspey

**HOEDOWN:** A fast tune in 2/4 or 4/4 time commonly used for square or contra dances. (Reel, Fast Hornpipes, Polkas, Rags)

**THE TWIN:** Two fiddlers of any age will play together.

### JUDGING CATEGORIES:

**RYTHM & TIMING:** (25 pts.) The ability to set and maintain a steady, danceable tempo appropriate to the tune type and style.

**TONE & CLARITY:** (25 pts.) Notes played clearly, on pitch with good tone.

**EXPRESSION:** (25 pts.) The ability to move the listener by the tasteful use of phrasing and dynamics, and by putting some of their own style or personality into the music.

**AUTHENTICITY:** (25 pts.) The ability to play each tune in the style of its origin. The fiddler should have a respect for the structure of the tune and play it in its traditional style. Variation and ornamentation should emphasize the flavor of the tune, not detract from it.

**Additional Rules:** Fiddlers may play alone or with accompanists. The fiddler must lead at all times. In the event of a tie, there will be a one tune play off. The decision of the judges is final.