



# Rules, Terms & Conditions

## Definitions

The **event date** is Sunday 1st March 2026. Doors will open at 3pm with the event running from 4pm to 9pm. The **venue** will remain open after the event for those that wish to stay and use the bar.

The **venue** is Strings Bar & Venue, 9 Bowling Green Lane, Newport PO30 1LL.

The **closing date** for applications is Sunday 19th October 2025.

The **organiser** is Homegrown Community Events C.I.C. (also referred to as '**we**').

**Participants** are those music artists taking part in the competition for the **prize**. Participants could be solo or groups.

The **prize** is a three-track recording and production by Calliope Studios in East Cowes and has a value of £1,000.

## Eligibility

1. All **participants** must be aged between 16 and 24 on the **event date**.
2. **Participants** must reside on the Isle of Wight (IoW). IoW residency includes those who live in on the IoW but study elsewhere, AND those who live elsewhere but study on the IoW.
3. **Participants** must unpublished prior to the **event date**.
4. The **organiser** is fully committed to inclusivity and welcomes applications from anyone qualifying under points 1 to 3 above regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual preference, or identity.
5. **Participants** can be solo performers or groups of no more than 6 individuals.



## Homegrown Community Events C.I.C. 2026 Festival of New Music

### Entry Requirements

6. It is free to apply. The seven applications selected to participate in the event will be charged £5 per individual: so a solo will pay £5 and a six-piece group will pay £30. The participation fee will be charged when the **participants** are announced and must be paid within 14 days.
7. Applications to participate must be received by 11:59pm on the **closing date**.
8. Each applicant must submit:
  - An entry form completed using our online form.
  - Two or three VIDEO recordings of songs. We accept that these may be made on a mobile phone or similar and not to a high standard. We are looking for song and playing quality, not recording quality.
  - A brief artist bio (max 200 words).
  - Contact information of a parent or legal guardian if the applicant is under 18 at the time of applying.
9. Applicants must confirm that the songs (music and lyrics) are their own, original work and that no other party has any claim to the rights in the material that the applicant would perform.
10. Applicants must commit to attend the event from noon to 9pm on the **event date** (though the actual arrival time may vary and will be communicated to **participants** nearer the time).

### Selection Process

11. The **organiser** will select, based on merit, seven **participants** from the applications. The **organiser's** decision is final.
12. **We** will endeavour to inform the selected seven **participants** before 31st October 2025 with the aim to announce the selection early in November 2025.

### Performance Requirements

13. Each **participant** will be given a 15 minute slot to perform three songs, There will be a 15 minute changeover between **participants**.
14. **Participants** must ensure their performances are suitable for an audience of all ages and cultures.
15. **Participants** must attend for the entire duration of the **event**.
16. **Participants** are expected to learn their material and not rely on music or lyrics on-stage.
17. Participants will not be allowed cameras, phones, tablets or other electronic screens on stage unless they are required to control necessary musical devices. This will need to be declared in advance. Filming from the stage will be prohibited.



## Conduct and Responsibilities

18. **Participants** must arrive on time - details to be provided in the lead-up to the **event**.
19. Professional conduct is expected at all times.
20. **Participants** who are under the age of 18 on the **event date** must be accompanied by an adult.
21. Any form of hate speech, discrimination, or inappropriate behaviour will result in disqualification.
22. Backline (drums, two guitar amps, bass amp, and all mics, mic stands, and PA including monitors) will be provided.
23. **Participants** must bring instruments (including instrument cables) and music stands if needed. Drummers must bring sticks, cymbals, and snare (also known as 'breakables'). We will liaise with all **performers** individually during the lead-up to the event.

## Permissions and Media

24. By entering, **participants** grant permission for their name, image, and performance to be recorded (including video) and used in promotional material.
25. Parental/guardian consent is required for **participants** under 18 on the date of application.

## Forfeit and Disqualification

26. Late or incomplete entries will not be considered.
27. If a **participant** is unable to attend the event, for example due to illness, then they will forfeit their entry.
28. Failure to comply with rules may result in disqualification.

## Voting and Prizes

29. A single voting slip will be provided to each ticket holder at the event.
30. No voting slips will be issued after the first **performer** has started. This helps ensure all **performers** are heard fully and that the public vote is based on merit.
31. No votes will be accepted until the final **performer** has finished.
32. Votes will be processed by the **organiser** and the result will be announced between 8:30pm and 9:00pm at the **event**.
33. The **prize** must be completed within six months of the **event** (by 31st August 2026).



Homegrown Community Events C.I.C.  
**2026 Festival of New Music**

34. The **prize** is not transferrable and no cash equivalent is available.

35. The **performer** will retain all rights in their own work including copyright and publishing rights.

## **Ticket Sales and Promotion**

36. All **participants** will be expected to promote the **event**.

37. The **organiser** is planning promotional activities in the few weeks prior to the **event** where **participants** would be encouraged to perform.

38. Tickets can only be bought through the **organiser's** electronic box office on TicketTailor which can be accessed via the **event's** website: <https://HomegrownMusicFestival-IoW.co.uk>