

THE SOCIETY FOR YOUNG MAGICIANS IN MANITOBA

Rules for Close-up and Stage Competitions

1. Eligibility:

All contestants must be members in good standing of The Society of Young magicians (known as “The Young Member Program of The Society of American Magicians). **Proof of membership may be required.** Contestant’s age is as of the date of the-contest; and shall be 16 years and under, with the minimum age being 7 years.

2. Time:

The Time Limit for performances shall be a **maximum of seven (7) minutes**. The Time Penalty shall be the loss of one point per judge per minute to the maximum penalty of “Disqualification,” imposed entirely at the discretion of the Head Judge. There will be a two-minute set-up time allowed which does not count as part of the Time Limit. The timer starts upon: first gesture, first vocal sound, or start of music. The timer ends when: the performer indicates that they are finished, or leaves the performance area.

3. Categories:

Junior – ages 7 to 11;

Senior – ages 12 to 16;

The Contest Committee reserves the right to divide the contest into categories, and to place contestants in the appropriate category based on the knowledge of the contestant.

4. Judging:

Contestants are judged on: Degree of Difficulty, Skill/Technique, Presentation, Originality, and Audience Reaction. All scores and score sheets remain the confidential property of the Contest Chairman.

Critiquing for the contestants, for those who wish, will be provided after the awards ceremony. Should circumstances dictate, critiquing will be provided at a reasonable place and time to be determined.

5. Awards:

Announcement of awards will immediately follow the conclusion of the contest.

All contestants will receive participation recognition in some form. Traditionally, only the overall winner receives an “Award of Merit.”

6. Apparatus:

Performers are responsible for providing all props required for their act.

Close-up: One table and up to two (2) chairs, for seating around the table, will be provided. Use of the table and/or chairs is at the competitor’s discretion. The table supplied by the contest committee may not be modified in a manner that is permanent IE. removable additions are permitted as long as they are added during the set-up time and entirely removed immediately after the individual’s performance. Performers may only substitute their own table – no other set dressing may be added.

Stage: One table will be provided if required. If the supplied table is utilized then it may not be modified in a manner that is permanent IE. removable additions are permitted as long as they are added during the set-up time and entirely removed immediately after the individual’s performance. Additional, performer supplied, set dressing may be accommodated and should be indicated at time of registration.

7. Music/Sound/Introductions:

Music:

Close-up: Contestants may provide their own sound equipment in a portable form factor (eg. Smartphone or Bluetooth speaker) for the playing of music and/or sound effects and will provide their own cueing and operation.

Stage: Apparatus will be provided to play CDs and MP3s (such as smartphone or MP3 player) only. Mark your CD/device with your name and be sure it is “cued”; and/or list track(s) on a separate sheet. Technical compatibility and/or other difficulties are the responsibility of the contestant.

(Note: Label your property!) (Note: Do not write on a CD with a ball point pen.)

Sound:

Close-up: Performers may not use microphones.

Stage: Usually will have lavalier and/or stand-up microphones. Contestant supplied equipment will be accommodated if technically able (should be discussed prior to the event to confirm its viability) and should be indicated at time of registering for the contest.

Introductions:

Close-up: Contestants will be required to introduce themselves, unless the committee chooses to use an MC (as indicated in the contest announcement).

Stage: Competitors will be introduced by the MC.

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8. Lighting:

Close-up: All lighting is to be the same for all contestants. Special lighting request will not be accommodated.

Stage: Special lighting requests will be determined and accommodated by the contest chairman where possible.

9. Dangerous Magic:

NO FIRE shall be used by any contestant. This includes the use of Flash Paper, Flash Powder/String or any form of smoke machine or device.

DANGEROUS objects or dangerous magic apparatus as determined by the contest committee will not be permitted.

10: Live Animals:

Contestants using live animals or birds, of any kind in their act, must provide proper and adequate food, water, housing and care facilities. They must tend to their animals/birds at least once every hour. No animals or birds will be disposed of by any contestant at the contest, and all animals and birds will remain the property and responsibility of the said contestant. **All contestants using animals/birds shall indicate this at the time they register for the contest.**

11. Volunteers/Assistants:

The use of Volunteers/Assistants will be left to the discretion of the contestant.

Only contestants and their immediate assistants (if necessary) are permitted backstage.

12. The Magicians Code of Ethics insists that no one touches another magician's magic props and apparatus.

13. Contestant's Meeting:

A meeting of the contestants will take place immediately prior to the start of the contest at the contest site.

All contestants must check-in with the Contest Committee at this meeting. Contestants not present and registered at the start of the Contestant's Meeting will not be permitted to perform.

Close-up: the Contestant's Meeting will be approximately **30 minutes before the start of the contest.**

Stage: The Contestant's Meeting will be approximately **60 minutes before the start of the contest.**

14. Contestants/Contest Committee:

The contest committee reserves the right to change the time limit based on the number of contestants and the time restrictions allotted for the use of the facilities.

All contestants will perform as a "solo act" unless the rules for that particular contest has made provision for duo/special acts, etc. A solo act may-consist of a magician and their assistant(s), however, only the magician will receive any awards for the act which is judged on its entirety.

Special contests may be presented in place of the regular S.Y.M. Contests, isolating special areas, such as, comedy, manipulation, team acts, etc.

Failure to comply with all of the above may result in disqualification.

The contestants agree to abide by the decisions made by the Contest Committee and Head Judge which shall be final and binding.

Entry Deadline:

As determined by the committee.

This contest is being run to promote participation and fun in performing one's magic.

Membership

7 Minute Time Limit

Stage - microphone

Close-up - No microphone

No Fire or Dangerous Magic

Contests are Fun and Challenging

Contestant Meeting

Pre-Register

Tables/Props