



BATTLE OF THE BANDS RULES

Age Requirement

- All band members must reside in the United States.
- Any band members under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian sign a waiver prior to the Battle of the Bands.

Music Submission for Entry

- Post a video or audio recording of your entire band playing a song (see song criteria below) on one of the following social media platforms: YouTube / Facebook / SoundCloud / ReverbNation
 - Only 1 Original song per entry.
 - Be sure that your social media post is set to Public, or our judges will not be able to see it, and your entry will not be considered.
 - Copy the URL link to your entry and email it to: info@saloonstudioslive.com. We will post all valid links meeting the song criteria to our Facebook page.
- Submit your Electronic Press Kit (EPK) (if available) along with your entry.
- Application form and entry materials must be submitted at least 30 days before the scheduled event.
- Our panel of judges will review all entries, and select 6 finalists to perform in the competition
- Contestants MUST be available to play for the judges at their assigned time on the event date.. (Assigned time slots will be between 11am & 5pm.)
- There is no limit to the number of bands who may apply for the competition. Submitted demos will be posted online for possible selection.
- See entry form for submission options. Entry forms can be downloaded at saloonstudioslive.com.

Competition Size

- Contest will be limited to 6 bands maximum.

Equipment Requirements

- Saloon Studios Live (SSL) will provide all Front-of-House (FOH) sound and stage floor monitors including microphones and stands.
- SSL will provide qualified techs to engineer sound and manage stage.
- All musicians are required to provide their own guitars, basses and any percussion and horns.
- Any special requirements should be listed on the application form & approved by the SSL Production Manager prior to the event. Contestants are encouraged to use backline equipment supplied by SSL which includes:
 - 5-piece drum kit with hat, ride and crash cymbals and all necessary microphones. A boom microphone stand for drum vocals will be provided.
 - Any changes or requirements other than minor adjustments to the kit would need pre approval by SSL Production Manager. Drums will not be relocated from the house drum riser for any reason.
 - SVT bass amp with 8x10 cab, Gallien Kruger 750 bass amp with (2) 4x10 cabs.
 - Hammond KX5 and Leslie tone cabinet.
 - Korg, Kurzweil, Moog, Yamaha and Nord keyboards with stand are available.
 - (1) Fender Hot Rod Deluxe, (1) Fender Hot Rod Deville (1) Fender Tweed Twin (great harmonica amp) (1) Mesa Boogie 5-50+ with 2x12 celestion cab (1) Marshall Astoria with 4x10 cab. (1) Fishman Loudbox acoustic guitar amp. Guitarists or others are required to provide any pedals and effects they wish to use.
- With no exceptions; all bands/performers will submit accurate and up-to-date stage plot to SSL Production Manager prior to the event. The stage plot must show all vocalists, instrumentalists, keyboard and percussion microphone/monitor requirements.
- All bands and performers will present a 100% live performance without any backing tracks or prerecorded material being used. No exceptions. This is a talent contest.

Entry Fee

- There is no fee to enter the Battle of the Bands competitions.

Merchandise

- Bands may sell merchandise in the musician merchandise booth area. Please have at least one member or representative for your band at the booth at all times. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Pre & Post Performance Rules

- Bands are not allowed to enter the dressing room / staging area until 20-minutes prior to their performance.
- Bands must be prepared to vacate the dressing room / staging area no later than 5 to 10 minutes immediately after their performance.
- Bands or personnel will not be permitted on stage or to make any distracting sounds prior to the allotted set up time of their performance.
- Bands / performers will promptly gather their personal instruments and vacate the stage immediately at the end of their performance.
- Twenty (20) minutes are allotted for set-up and Five-to-Ten (5-10) minutes are allotted for tear-down between sets, please plan accordingly. Up to 10 points can be deducted from the judges' raw score for delays in set changes.
- All Bands must participate for at least 1 hour in the after show "meet and greet".

Performance Rules

- On the day of performance, band members must be dressed in clothing free from obscenities and questionable phrases or products. Political content of any kind will also not be tolerated. This is a family-oriented event and therefore, only activities, language and apparel suitable for families will be permitted.
- Battle of the Bands finalists (6) bands must play a minimum of 4 songs, two of which must be original material.
 - If your band fails to provide the required amount of original material listed, this infraction will result in immediate disqualification.
- Each band's set must fill approximately 25-30 minutes but must not exceed 30 minutes.
 - For every minute exceeding the 30-minute limit, the band will be penalized 6 points from their total score.

Misc Rules

- All competing bands are strongly encouraged to partake in ticket sales for the advantage of crowd applause, which will be one of the criteria for which judging is based.
- Any distasteful behavior, and or damage to SSL property will result in an automatic disqualification. SSL will not be held accountable for any broken equipment, injuries, or any other negative occurrences outside of our staff's control.
- All bands agree to have their name, voice, and/or likeness used in any advertising or broadcasting material relating to this contest without compensation or rights to royalties for such use.
- The use of any illegal substances will not be tolerated. If any band member is suspected to be under the influence of an illegal substance, the entire band will be disqualified and the proper authorities will be notified.

- While one band is playing, the next band may start getting ready to set up outside the staging area but may not enter the dressing room/ staging area while occupied by the currently performing band. And please, do not be disruptive, distracting or disrespectful to the band on stage so they can focus on the judges and the crowd.

Winner Selection

- Each judge will be given a scoring sheet for the band. There will be a place for judges to write comments. Once the competition is over, bands will have the opportunity to obtain the scoring forms from the event coordinator
- Two acts; first place and second place winners, will be selected from all contestants to perform at the Music on The Mountain Festival on September 12, 2020. The winners will be publicly announced on August 20th.
- The winners of the Battle of The Bands will be asked to play an encore after the final judgments for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Please have a second set prepared in the event of VICTORY! (“covered and original track” rules do not apply in the encore; material can be chosen at band’s discretion).
- One additional finalist will be decided “Crowd Favorite” based on the number of Likes & Shares on the Saloon Studios Live Facebook Wall.

Scoring Categories and Definitions:

- Music Content: The sound and feel of the music should be true to the festival theme and its genre: (ie, blues/jazz, country, rock or bluegrass/americana).
- Judges will be listening for inspired and original song selections or new takes on standards. Creative reach is encouraged.
- Originality: Original work is encouraged. Cover tunes are allowed but playing the recorded rendition lick by lick is discouraged, will not be looked upon favorably by the judges, and will be reflected in scoring.
- Acts must indicate if their songs are their own original material (this can be done at the start of the set or before each song as appropriate) and/or identify the covers that they are playing and acknowledge the originator.
- Vocals: The act’s vocal skills to include concepts of tone, musicality, meaning, and expression.
- Instrumental Talent: Ability level on all instruments featured within the act.
- Stage Presence: The ability to command the attention of the audience by the impressiveness of one’s manner and appearance on stage. Judges will consider how an act connects with and engages the audience in the music. Proper use of microphones and amplification will be considered.

Basic Scoring Calculation:

- Judges will score acts on a 10-point scale, with 10 points being the highest score received and 1 point being the lowest. The following weights will be used in calculating final scores:
 - Raw scores for Genre context will be multiplied by four
 - Raw scores for Originality will be multiplied by three
 - Raw scores for Talent and for Vocals will be multiplied by two
 - Raw scores for Stage Presence will be multiplied by two
 - The maximum Total Weighted Score an act may receive is 130.

Penalty Points:

- An act will be penalized one point from its Total Weighted Score for each of the following:
 - Failing to acknowledge that a song is a cover and/or not giving credit to its originator
 - Each ten seconds that it runs overtime during a competition performance
 - Finishing 3 or more minutes before its allotted performance time expires
 - Showing up late and/or missing Orientation
 - Not being ready to perform at stated time

Ticket Sales

- Each competing band receives three complementary tickets in order to gain awareness and build their fan-base for the show. All other tickets will be full price for the rate of \$25 General Admission and \$40 VIP (limited seats) which includes waitress service.

Prizes

- One first place and one second place winner will be selected from each competition.
 - First Place: The winning band will be awarded an *8-hour recording session for a 3-song demo at Saloon Studios (including raw audio and video) plus a \$1,500 gift certificate for musician's gear.
 - Second Place: *Recording session (4 hours) including raw audio and video plus a \$500 gift certificate for musician's gear.
 - *Recording sessions must be scheduled within 2 weeks following the competition. If no attempt is made to book a session, then that portion of the prize will be forfeited.
- The first and second place winners will perform at the Music on The Mountain Festival on September 12, 2020 and participate for at least 1-hour in the after party "meet and greet" with fans.