



## Welcome to the **Charlotte Blues Society 2019 Blues Talent Competition**

**The winners in Band and Solo/Duo will represent CBS at the**

**The 34th International Blues Challenge** January 22-26, 2019 in downtown Memphis, TN, taking place in the Historic Beale Street Entertainment District

There are two categories in which acts may compete

- Solo/Duo Competition Sunday September 2, 2018 The Rabbit Hole, Charlotte NC
- Band Competition Sunday October 7, 2018 The Rabbit Hole, Charlotte

**Entry fee** is \$40 per Act, which includes Band affiliation / membership in the Charlotte Blues Society. The membership covers all band members for one year and offers each all the privileges awarded any member of Society.

### **Eligibility**

An Act is eligible as long as it, or any member of the act, has never received a Blues Music Award nomination.

An Act may enter the IBC a *maximum of 3* times, *after which they are no longer eligible.*

An Act may *not* participate in the IBC in three (3) consecutive years. i.e., there must be a break of at least one year after competing in a first or second IBC.

The Blues Foundation reserves the right to determine what constitutes a new act on a case by case basis. (e.g., a band leader would not be eligible for another 2 attempts by changing one or two back up musicians and changing the band's name. Similarly, a solo musician could not enter the solo/duo category after 2 attempts by adding a partner to form a duo)

A musician may not compete in the band category and the solo/duo category in the same year at the IBC, even if the musician represents a different affiliate in each.

Affiliates may set their own rules regarding musicians playing in more than one act in their local challenge.

Any act, band or solo/duo, that has won first place at the IBC in Memphis may not enter a challenge in that same category in the future.

An individual musician who has won the IBC as a solo performer may not re-enter as part of a duo, nor can a member of an IBC winning duo then enter as a solo performer.

The winning act in a particular category in the local challenge must enter in that same category for the IBC, i.e., if a band wins the local challenge, one or two musicians from the band cannot enter the solo/duo category at the IBC.

Acts may enter the challenge of any affiliate within 250 miles of the home affiliate. Acts are not permitted to enter more than 2 affiliates in competition year.

Affiliates may establish their own regional boundaries as long as those boundaries do not exceed The Blues Foundation's 250 mile radius.

Acts may be invited to participate in the challenge, but they may not be "pre-selected" and must compete in a fair event.

Act will perform a 20 minute set. Please see timing procedure information listed on page 6.

If a winning act withdraws before registering for the IBC, affiliates may send the act that placed second in the local challenge. If the act withdraws after registering for the IBC, a replacement may not be entered.

All members of the winning act must attend the IBC. Should unexpected circumstances arise (i.e., illness, family emergencies, etc.) no more than one member or any band may be replaced.

The winner of each category will go on to represent the Charlotte Blues Society in the Blues Foundation's 2019 International Blues Challenge (IBC) in Memphis, Tennessee to be held January 22-26, 2019. The **CBS Solo/Duo Competition** will be held at The Rabbit Hole, 1801 Commonwealth Ave, Charlotte on the following date: Sunday, September 2th Noon-3pm. **CBS Band Competition** is Sunday October 7th at Rabbit Hole, 1801 Commonwealth Ave, Charlotte, NC 7-9:30 pm. The Solo/Duo Registration is between May 15 and August 15, 2018 (5pm, eastern time) Band Registration is between May 15 and September 1, 2018 (5pm, eastern time) Registration may be submitted via email to [CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com](mailto:CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com)

Submissions and payment must be received NO LATER THAN deadline for each category. Paper entries must be post marked NO LATER THAN deadline in each category and mailed to: Charlotte Blues Society P. O. Box 32752, Charlotte, NC 28232-2752



## Entry Form

The undersigned hereby attests that all competitors listed on this registration form are in fact 18 years of age or older. That all competitors including the Spokesperson for the individual(s) listed on this registration form and identified by real or stage name and herein referred to as the Act. The Act is defined as a soloist or individuals performing together. The undersigned Spokesperson further attests that each person identified as a member of the Act has not appeared on a final Handy/Blues Music Award ballot and the Act has not competed at the Memphis IBC the previous two years representing a Blues Society and/or affiliate, nor competed at the Memphis IBC a total of 3 years. It is further agreed that the undersigned Spokesperson has thoroughly read and understood the eligibility requirements. It is agreed by the Spokesperson that he/she and each member of the Act, do hereby exempt from all liability the Charlotte Blues Society and all persons, organizations and companies that are directly or indirectly associated with the Charlotte Blues Society's 2018/2019 competition, or International Blues Challenge competition. It is further agreed by the Spokesperson that he/she and each member of the Act listed on this registration form permits the Charlotte Blues Society the right to make use of his/her names, voices, pictures, visages, and other likenesses of the Act, for the purpose of advertising and promoting the Charlotte Blues Society. The Spokesperson further agrees, that should their Act be the winner they agree to sign a contract with the Charlotte Blues Society regarding acceptance of monies to offset expenses in Memphis and for their performance at the IBC in Memphis, and the return of such Charlotte Blues Society – IBC Entry Form (Revised 5/15/2018) funds should winning Act elect not to participate in the IBC in Memphis

NAME OF ACT: \_\_\_\_\_

Spokespersons Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Are you registering as a "**BAND**" or "**SOLO / DUO**" act?

**Band** – any act with three or more musicians. Vocalists are counted as musicians for the purpose of this competition. Both electric and acoustic instruments are allowed.

**Solo/Duo** – any act with one or two musicians. Vocalists are counted as musicians for the purpose of this competition. Both electric and acoustic instruments are allowed.

(Circle One) **BAND**      **SOLO / DUO**

**Name of Act** \_\_\_\_\_

**Song Choice** from supplied list: \_\_\_\_\_

Member names and instrumentation of ALL performers in your act:

Name	Instrument
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Biography of your act (200 words or less)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Stage Setup Requirement (Circle all that apply)

**Please include a stage plot with your entry**

1 Vocalist      2 Vocalists      3 Vocalists      4 Vocalists      5 Vocalists

1 Guitarist      2 Guitarists      3 Guitarists      1 Bass Player      2 Bass Players

1 Drummer / Percussionist      1 Drummers / Percussionists      1 Harmonica Player

1 Keyboard / Piano Player      Other Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual or Band Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Questions / Comments

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned spokesperson, hereby acknowledges that each member of the Act is knowledgeable of and agrees to abide by the terms herein stated and the rules of the challenge as set forth by the Charlotte Blues Society.

Name: (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS**



## Charlotte Blues Society Talent Competition ~

### Timing Procedure

#### Duration:

**Elimination Round** – The timed performance will last 20 minutes. Timing will begin when the announcer states the name of the performer. At this point, you will have exactly 15 minutes to perform.

After 15 minutes, a “5 minute” warning will be flashed.

After 19 minutes, a “1 minute” warning will be flashed, and the performer can now stop at any time.

#### Official Time Keeper:

The Official time keeper will be positioned in front of the stage and will be the only recognized keeper of time

#### Band Time Keeper:

This person will acknowledge the Official Time Keeper's signals. If the Official Time Keeper feels eye contact has not been made with this person, the warning sign will be placed on stage.

#### Overtime:

##### **DO NOT GO OVERTIME.**

This severely affects any chance of The Act placing.

One point will be deducted from the final weighted score for EACH 10-second overtime.

Exceeding one minute of overtime will result disqualification.

## **Scoring**      procedure CBS/IBS Challenge September 2 2018 , October 7 2018

The Blues Foundation established scoring criteria.

### **Categories include Talent Vocal, Blues Content, Stage Presence and Originality.**

1. **Blues Content:** Everyone has his or her own interpretation of what is and is not Blues. Thus, any given three-judge panel will include members with varying opinions of Blues, covering the spectrum of Blues whenever possible, from the most traditional to soul/blues and rock/blues. Bands should pick material carefully. At the Memphis semi-finals and finals, the judges are Blues professionals, not a bar crowd, and are likely to be unimpressed with song selections that are uninspired. (Call this—with all due respect to Sir Mack Rice and Wilson Pickett—the “no Mustang Sally rule.”)

2. **Vocals:** The acts vocal skills.

3. **Talent:** The acts instrumental skills.

4. **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.

5. **Stage Presence:** Over the years, the quality of talent has risen so dramatically that we no longer consider this an “amateur” competition. Most contestants have performed on stage enough to know that they are not simply playing music, but putting on a show. This category rates how “sellable” a band may be.

To reflect the relative importance of each category in the success of a band, a band’s score in each category is weighted. Raw scores for Blues Content is multiplied by four, Originality by three, Talent and vocals and Stage Presence are multiplied by two. The total in each category represents the Weighted Score for that category. Total possible weighted score is 140.

### **Penalty Points**

An ACT will be penalized one point from its Total Weighted Score (see below) for each ten seconds that it runs overtime. There is no penalty for using less than the allotted time.

## **Judging Criteria**

- 1.** The weighted multipliers will be Blues content (4); originality (3) talent, vocals and stage presence (2). Description of each of these are listed on the prior page.
- 2.** Each judge will indicate his or her Raw Score (a whole number between 1 and 10) in each category and turn that information over to the scorekeeper
  - 1-3** – Typical of a beginning blues band.
  - 4-5** – Typical of a local weekend band.
  - 6-7** – Typical of an advanced local band but not yet ready to headline a major blues club.
  - 8-9** – Typical of the quality of blues artists who headline major clubs.
  - 10** – Typical of those who play the main stage at major festivals such as the LRBC or King Biscuit Blues Festival.
- 3.** The scorekeeper will multiply the Raw Score in each category by the established multiplier to get each judge's Weighted Score in each category for each act.
- 4.** The Weighted Scores from each category for an act are added together to determine the acts' Total Weighted Score for each judge.
- 5.** Any penalty points will then be deducted to obtain the act's Net Weighted Score for each judge.
- 6.** After all acts have been judged and each act's Net Weighted Score for each judge calculated, each act will then be ranked for each judge based on that judge's order of scores, with the act receiving the judge's highest Net Weighted Score being given a ranking of 1, and so on for that judge. So, in a competition with five acts, for example, each judge ends up with the acts ranked 1 – 5 based on each judge's personal scoring habits. This results in the acts' Final Ranking Number for each judge.
- 7.** In the case of a tie, the scorer shall calculate the sum of all Net Weighted Scores from all judges for the tied acts. The band with the higher sum of Net Weighted Scores wins.



## CHECKLIST:

DID YOU...

Pay registration Charlotte Blues Talent Competition , \$40 per Act? \_\_\_\_\_  
(online/or check mailed with registration made payable to Charlotte Blues Society)

Provide CBS with the names of band members ? \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out the complete Entry Form? \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out the biography? \_\_\_\_\_

Email CBS or attach a high quality band photo (300dpi) jpg or pdf to  
CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com \_\_\_\_\_

Email or attach a video or audio with entry? \_\_\_\_\_

Sign and date the registration form? \_\_\_\_\_

include your stage plot with entry form? \_\_\_\_\_

Select a song from the list? \_\_\_\_\_

If you did not pay your IBC Act registration fee via our online store, please mail checks to: Charlotte Blues Society P. O. Box 32752, Charlotte, NC 28232-2752 All payments and entries must be postmarked NO LATER THAN dates specified for each category. Thank you for entering the Charlotte Blues Society Charlotte International Blues Challenge & Good Luck!