

RULES & JUDGING CRITERIA ESTABLISHED AND PUBLIC Charlotte Blues Society 2018

The Blues Foundation encourages affiliates to use the IBC rules and judging/scoring criteria in their local challenges, but affiliates may use their own provided such criteria are established in advance and made public.

Charlotte Blues Society adopts these rules and criteria as experience has shown that acts that have competed under the IBC rules and scoring criteria in their local challenge are better prepared for competing in the IBC. In addition, CBS is requiring competitors to choose a blues song from the lists provided and perform within their set. Pay close attention to scoring info below on Blues content and originality when covering chosen song.

SCORING CATEGORIES AND DEFINITIONS

Blues Content:

The sound and feel of the music should be true to any of blues' sub-categories; traditional blues, country blues, soul blues, blues rock and/or contemporary blues. Judges will be listening for inspired and original song selections or *new takes on blues 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 CALCULATIONS:

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 Blues Content will be multiplied by four.
- 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/judge that an act may receive is 130.