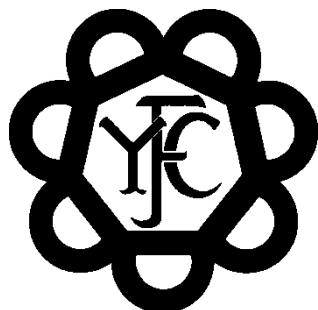


HEREFORDSHIRE FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS



Performing Arts Week 2026

on

Saturday 14th February – Saturday 21st February 2026

at

Kingstone High School, Kingstone, Hereford HR2 9HJ

COMPETITION RULES

End of Year Trophies



Hereford Times Efficiency Shield

With the exception of the De La Tour Davies competition, the overall results will count towards the Efficiency Shield – this is the overall competitions trophy for the year

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES

Please read carefully and follow instructions clearly in order to avoid any mistakes or confusion.

a) Closing date for entries to be received at the County Office is:

9PM ON MONDAY 5TH JANUARY 2026. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

We realise that some of the names on your form may change after this date. Providing the changes are notified to the competition Steward this will cause no problem.

b) All competing members must have a **VALID CURRENT MEMBERSHIP INCLUDING A PHOTO**. If new membership cards are required, the authorised membership forms must be received by the County Office no later than the deadline date above, along with the Entry Forms. Please note that all membership forms received at the office must be signed by the member, as well as a Parent/Guardian if under 18 and must be signed and dated by the authorised Club Officer.

c) One entry form is enclosed per Club. This is for completion and to be returned to the County Office by the deadline, you can make a copy for your records in the back of the booklet copy where the entry form is included or please ask for a spare form to fill in. You can also complete an online copy from email or the website.

All rules and entry forms are emailed to Club Chairmen and Secretaries in advance and posted out if not collected from the Office by a Club Representative.

d) Any trophies relating to this competition held by any Club member must be returned to the County Office by the above deadline date, along with the entry form.

e) Please make sure all competitors are aware of the competition rules. A timetable and running order will be agreed after entry deadline, please ensure any problem dates are included with the entry form.

f) **HELPING MEMEBRS WITH ADDITIONAL PHYSICAL or LEARNING REQUIREMENTS.** HFYFC seeks the inclusion of the full membership in its endeavours. Should a member require assistance to compete at a County Final due to any additional physical or learning requirements, every effort shall be made to ensure inclusion of any member with dignity, respect and confidentiality. HFYFC requests prior knowledge of assistance required in order to maximize the benefit to the individual.

HFYFC GENERAL RULES

These General Rules are to be adhered to for all HFYFC Competitions

1. The competitions listed herein are open to members of Herefordshire Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (HFYFC) holding a valid, current YFC membership. (Valid is classed as being fully processed and authorised and of the current year, a copy of the card can be a printed copy or electronic version shown on a device.)
2. Failure to produce a fully processed and authorised valid membership will mean that the member will be unable to compete in the competition.
3. Age ranges for competitions are as follows:
 - Senior – Open to members 28 years of age or under on 1st September 2025
 - Intermediate – Open to members 21 years of age or under on 1st September 2025
 - Junior – Open to members 16 years of age or under on 1st September 2025, and 10 years of age or over on the day of the competition.
4. Health and Safety requirements must be adhered to at all times
5. Competitors must act in accordance with HFYFC policies, where applicable.
6. No alcohol is to be consumed by competitors before or during the competitions. Any member judged to be under the influence of alcohol, or any other substance will not be permitted to continue with the competition and may be disqualified. Alcohol will also not be used or displayed in any competition (unless specified in the competition rules). Empty bottles can be used for display purposes only.
7. The use of mobile phones by competitors during competitions is prohibited.
8. A white coat must be worn where specified.
9. No competitor can enter the same competition in different age ranges.
10. All work must have been made by members in the last 12 months.
11. All work must be that of the competitor who has booked in, if the entry is being booked in by somebody else then the person booking it in must have a copy of the competitor's card.
12. The entry to a competition cannot have been entered into a previous HFYFC competition.
13. Club or County names must not be displayed on any part of entries or displays (unless otherwise stated in the specific competition rules) – *please be careful when using photographs including club tops.*
14. Where more than one entry per club is allowed in a competition, where applicable, only the points of the highest scoring entry will count towards the cups and trophies and overall results.
15. Competitors must arrive on time and report to the competition steward **before** the start time of the competition to book in with necessary equipment to complete the competition.
16. In the event of a conflict between the competition rules and the general rules, the competition rules will govern.
17. All staged items or exhibits must remain the responsibility of the competitor. Neither HFYFC nor the site host accepts any liability for loss, damage or theft of any item.
18. No staged items or exhibits can be removed before prize giving, at penalty of disqualification.
19. The Chief Steward and the Competitions Chairmen reserve the right to cancel or amend any competition rule at any time.
20. In all competitions the decision of the Chief Steward and the Competitions Chairmen will be final.
21. Unacceptable behaviour or questionable material by competitors or supporters which brings YFC into disrepute; or which may be deemed to adversely affect other competitors/performers will be penalised. This includes maintaining a respectful attitude towards all judges, stewards, officers and any other event helpers.

Deductions

22. Late entries

- a. Any entry received by the County Office after the date and time specified on the rules for the competition, will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, and the decision will come from the County Chairman and Competitions Chairman, on whether they can compete and if any deductions will apply to the club's score.
- b. The member partaking in the competition is still eligible to get a prize card and compete at the next round.
- c. The deduction will occur after the prize cards have been written out. The deduction will apply to any trophy handed out on the day, overall day scores and the end of year trophies.

23. Transferring of classes

- a. If a club wishes to transfer a member into a class (which previously had no entry) after the entries have been received by the County Office on the date and time specified on the rules for the competition a 25% deduction will incur for the CLUBS score. The member partaking in the competition is still eligible to get a prize card and compete at the next round. The deduction will occur after the prize cards have been written out and will apply to any trophy handed out on the day and the end of year trophies.

24. For entries not according to schedule

- a. 25% of marks awarded will be deducted for all entries that are not according to the schedule - This includes any exhibits oversize, missing items (recipe/photos etc). If there are multiple things wrong with the entry, there will only be one deduction of 25% applied.
- b. 25% is deducted from the total score given by the judge, but if they still place after a deduction is awarded the Competitor will still be eligible to gain a prize card with the deducted score and will still be eligible to qualify for the next rounds where applicable.

25. In competitions with time limits

- a. In competitions with time limits, the following marks will be deducted if the competitor overruns - (unless otherwise stated in rules – i.e., stock judging):

Competition Length	Penalty
Up to 30 minutes	5% of total marks per minute or part thereof
31 to 60 minutes	5% of total marks per two minutes or part thereof
61 to 120 minutes	5% of total marks per five minutes or part thereof
121 minutes and over	5% of total marks per ten minutes or part thereof

- b. The Competitor will still be eligible to gain a prize card with the deducted score and will still be eligible to qualify for the next rounds where applicable.
 - c. 5% is deducted from the total score given by the judge.
26. Any disagreements from clubs/competitors about markings or deductions must be made on the day of competition to the Chief Steward or Competitions team, and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
27. In the event that a deduction is applied for any reason and the subsequent mark results in a decimal place, if the decimal place is 0.5 or above, it shall be rounded up to the next whole number. If the decimal place is 0.49 or below, it shall be rounded down to the next whole number.

Checklist of Notable Dates in relation to these Competitions

Item	Deadline
Clubs Review Meeting	
Monday 5th January 2026	
Completed Entry Forms due in to County Office, including list of the cast, crew, producer, musicians, back stage helpers and chaperones, which will be used in the programme and for booking in entries. Only people appearing on this list will be able to gain entry to the back stage area and be admitted free of charge to the venue	9pm Monday 5 th January 2026
Body of Persons to be returned to the County Office	9pm Monday 5 th January 2026
2 x Copies of Original Script (and permission to adapt original scripts if applicable) – please confirm name of script writer	9pm Monday 5 th January 2026
Monday 12th January 2026	
Details of Technical Requirements (Lighting & Sound)/Stage Plan, Props List and any other technical information due in to County Office	9pm Monday 12 th January 2026
Notice in writing of any high risk or performances at height to be received	9pm Monday 12 th January 2026
Completed PRS song list for pre-recorded music being used	9pm Monday 12 th January 2026
Trophies to be returned to the County Office	9pm Monday 12 th January 2026
Monday 26th January 2026	
Any amendments to be updated with the County Office – last date	9pm Monday 26 th January 2026
Stage Plan, list of properties and set	9pm Monday 26 th January 2026
A copy of any pre-recorded music being used for the sound engineer, including sound effects. Format TBC	
Monday 10th February 2025	
Parental Consent Forms to be completed and sent into county office	9pm Monday 9 th February 2026
Tech Day	Sunday 15 th February 2026
Completed Risk Assessment returned to Stage Managers	Sunday 15 th February 2026
PAT Testing of ALL Electrical Equipment to be used at the venue to have been completed	Sunday 15 th February 2026

*PRS/Body Of Persons details and any stage plan/technical/sound/lighting requirements, are also needed for One Plus and Choir entries.

NFYFC Performing Arts Competition – Entertainments

REMINDER: Read in conjunction with **NFYFC General Rules**. Further information can be found at <http://www.nfyfc.org.uk/CompetitionsResources/competitionsresources>

1. ELIGIBILITY (including BACKSTAGE)

- 1.1 Open to one team per club. Mixed teams of up to 2 clubs will be allowed where a club is unable to enter a team of its own, and should submit one entry form between them.
- 1.2 All competitors must be 28 years of age or under on 1st September 2025 and 10 years or over on the day of the competition, and a full member of a club affiliated to NFYFC
- 1.3 A maximum of **eight** helpers who need not be of membership age but must still hold current associate membership cards will be allowed. These **8** helpers must produce membership cards on the day of the competition. These six helpers include make-up and dressing room helpers, but does not include the licensed chaperone.
- 1.4 There is no restriction to the number of helpers who are of membership age, all helpers who are visible on stage must also be in this age group, as must the Prompt if used - 28 years or under on 1st September 2025 and over 10 years on the day of the competition.
- 1.5 **Producer** each production must have **one** appointed; who must be a member or associate member.
- 1.6 **Team Liaison Person** each production must have **one** appointed; as a member of the cast. This person will make decisions on behalf of the team. This person will also be responsible for ensuring their cast leave the changing rooms tidy and ensuring no school items are missing or broken.
- 1.7 **Live Musical Accompaniment MUST** be performed by an in age YFC member(s) with valid membership card(s). They cannot be Associate Members. They can be sited on or off stage. Taped sound effects/music is permitted (HFYFC cannot be held responsible for the efficiency or quality of any sound system in any venue used).
- 1.8 **Parental Consent Forms-** All under 18s will require to complete parental consent forms, to be completed into the county office **BY 9PM MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2026**

2. PROCEDURE

- 2.1 An Entertainment may include straight singing, singing with movement, dancing of any kind, drama, sketches, humour- either visual or spoken (through anything of a dubious nature would be penalised)-magic or conjuring, instrumental performances, mime etc- the list is endless. But, like making a cake, these ingredients must be weighed and balanced, mixed and blended to make the whole performance.
- 2.2 A play is not to be included in Entertainments (A Play can be defined as following a story from beginning to end)

3. CONTENT/MATERIAL (TASTE/DECENCY)

- 3.1 Members are reminded that in taking part in the Performing Arts Competitions, material of a questionable nature will be penalised. Members are asked to bear in mind that they are performing to a family audience.
- 3.2 Producers/writers must carefully consider how taste, sexual matters, violence and strong language is dealt with. Every audience includes people of different ages (including young children), cultures, religions and sensitivities. Audience sensitivities and standards do vary widely, and producers/writers should be very mindful of this at all times.

4. TIMING

- 4.1 Performance time allowed will be 30 minutes. If the total time exceeds 30 minutes, teams will have marks deducted at the rate of two points per minute, or part thereof, from the overall score. A Minimum of 20 minutes or penalty of 2 points per minute or part thereof.
New Rule; There is a maximum of 5 minutes to set the stage and 5 minutes to clear the stage, teams will have marks deducted at the rate of two points per minute or part thereof overtime. This does not include unloading and loading of scenery, but the stage managers reserve the rights to deduct any points to clubs that are not seen activity loading and unloading.

- 4.2 A maximum of 35 minutes will be allowed for teams to use as they see fit to include technical preparations, and rehearsal time at **Tech Day on Sunday 15th February**. This time frame is subject to change dependent on entries, and to the notes in section 6.5 regarding performances at height and/or high risk.

5. SCALE OF MARKING: Potential 100 points

Variety and Balance

20

In an Entertainment, there are many types of performance that can be included, and these may be performed either by the whole company, by a group or, if available, by talented individuals. The choice is great, but a balanced programme should be varied, including many different items or elements, combining together around a main theme or idea which links the whole Show together

Originality and Entertainment Value

35

The value of an Entertainment is assessed by its variety, attack, and the life and zest it shows in achieving and maintaining a high standard. The Show should have originality and audience appeal. The items presented should be lively and varied and should move swiftly from one item to another, preferably linked by a main theme or idea. Design should be bold and colourful, and the Show should be presented with precision, speed and enjoyment.

Effectiveness and use of set

10

This covers such factors as stage setting, properties, lighting, costumes, make-up and sound effects. Adjudicators should appreciate the difficulties of presenting a performance under strange conditions in a strange hall. Within the limitations of the hall, the Adjudicator will look out for touches of detail, which give atmosphere to a production. They will also look for an appreciation of the value of lighting other than as a means of illumination. Credit will be given for the aptness of costume and make-up to the characters and the performance, as well as to the manner in which they have been designed and made.

Use of stage by Performers

10

This is exactly what the heading states. An Adjudicator will look for a production that involves all aspects of the stage through movement and grouping. The use of rostra and steps giving varying degrees of height adds another dimension to the stage. Not only does the space available run from stage left to stage right, from upstage to downstage, but elevation from rostra varies the levels available from high to low. Movement patterns and grouping shapes must vary and change as the show demands.

Overall Effect

25

This section is mainly concerned with the general impression made on the Adjudicator by the performance. Consideration will be given to the kind of Show presented, or the type of play chosen. With the latter, its dramatic merit, and the suitability of the play to the cast, will be judged. But, with both types of performance, the originality, the teamwork and the endeavour shown by the cast in their performance, as well as the standard attained, will be assessed.

6. USE OF THEATRE

- 6.1 Where published works are used within the production, the team **must** provide original copies of the script and the adapted script for use by the judges at all stages of the competition. If providing published scripts, do not photocopy scripts (original copies only) unless written authorisation has been obtained from the publisher and a copy of the authorisation accompanies photocopies. Similar letters of permission should be obtained for any cuts made in a script, or for the performance of extracts from full-length plays, which are still under Copyright Protection.
- 6.2 Team must send in 2 copies of the script/resume/plot (photocopies are NOT allowed) with their Entry Form **by 9pm on Monday 5th January 2026**. If any amendments/cuts have been made to the original, these must be highlighted with both the original wording and the new amendments. **To photocopy or reproduce copyright material by any means is to break the Law of Copyright and be liable to prosecution.**
- 6.3 ***It is the responsibility of the team to ensure the correct Royalties are paid for each performance.***
- 6.4 Where appropriate, Clubs must pay Royalties to publishers – A PRS form is included with this pack. This should be completed and returned to HFYFC **by 9pm on Monday 12th January 2026**.
- 6.5 Any performances at height or deemed to be high risk (i.e. use of silks or wires to suspend the performer) must be notified to HFYFC in writing **by 9pm Monday 12th January 2026**. The performance will then be agreed to by the Health and Safety Officer. HFYFC reserves the right to refuse to allow any activity deemed unsafe or too high risk.

- 6.6 Competitors to note that under no circumstances must live animals be used at any round of the competitions due to animal welfare and insurance purposes.
- 6.7 Use of Pyrotechnics, Flour, Smoke Machine, Dust, Water, Fogs and Aerosols is strictly forbidden at the HFYFC round of the competition.
- 6.8 **One backcloth only may be flown.** The flying and striking of backcloths shall be done in addition to the 60 minute platform time. Note that this is the **ONLY** set striking that shall be allowed outside of the 60 minutes.
- 6.9 Nothing is to be pinned, stapled or attached to the walls or fixings other than those provided on the stage area.
- 6.10 Teams are to submit a Stage Plan and list of set and props **by 9pm Monday 26th January 2026.**
- 6.11 Lighting and sound details must be sent to the County Office with the Entry Form **by 9pm on Monday 26th January 2026.** Teams who fail to provide this information will have to accept available sound and general lighting only.
- 6.12 Teams must supply a list of the cast, producer, musicians, back stage helpers and chaperones, which will be used in the programme and for booking in entries. Only people appearing on this list will be able to gain entry to the back stage area and be admitted free of charge to the venue.
- 6.13 Filming and photography is not permitted by supporters. Filming and Photography can only take place if you have full permission from everyone on stage (written parent consent from under 18's parents) and should not be placed on any social networking sites
- 6.14 There will be **NO** admittance to the auditorium or backstage whilst a team is performing. Access to the backstage area is only permissible by the wearing of an issued wristband

7. HEALTH, SAFETY & SAFEGUARDING

- 7.1 All productions **MUST**, as part of the competition, **submit on Tech Day** a detailed Risk Assessment of the production that covers all activities both on and off the stage. Teams entered are responsible for producing a Risk Assessment that is adequate and suitable for all activities within the production.
- 7.2 There are no marks awarded for the Risk Assessment, but if it is not forthcoming by Tech Day then the Stage Manager, Health and Safety Representative and Entertainments Task Group reserve the right to disqualify the team.
- 7.3 The Stage Manager, Health and Safety Representative and Entertainments Task Group reserve the right to refuse an activity which they do not believe to meet current safety standards, and to stop any production they deem to be unsafe.
- 7.4 All teams must abide by Health & Safety and Fire Safety Regulations of the venue. All stage scenery must be fireproofed. Copies of any venue regulations are included within these rules. Note this information should be recorded in your Risk Assessments.
- 7.5 All electrical equipment must be PAT tested by a competent electrician prior to the competition. PAT testing will be available at the Technical Day. Any equipment not tested will not be allowed in the building. Electrical items must not be left unattended in the venue.
- 7.6 **Body of Persons** – please note that for any members taking part that are still in school age, a Body of Persons Exemption licence form is required to be completed to include name, address, school and performance and chaperone details. This form is included in the entry pack and needs to be sent to the County Office along with the Entry Form by the deadline date of **9pm on Monday 5th January 2026.**
- 7.7 **Chaperones** – Each club must provide 1 licensed chaperone per every 8 school age members with minimum of two (or 1 to 6 if there are school age with extra requirements) Each club must provide the name of their appointed, licensed chaperone that must be present from the time that the team enters the venue until their departure from the venue. The chaperone must produce a valid chaperone licence from Herefordshire Council or evidence that an application for a licence has been made and is being processed. The decision of the HFYFC Safeguarding Officer as to whether sufficient evidence has been produced will be final. Chaperones may not take part in any other aspects of the performance.
Chaperones are also required to complete the NFYFC Online Safeguarding before carry out chaperone duties.
- 7.8 More information on the responsibilities of a chaperone and an application form can be found on the Herefordshire Council website at:
https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/directory_record/2014/chaperone_licence
An application form is also available from the county office.

- 7.9 All common passageways in the school are monitored by CCTV that also carries audio recording. This does not cover the hall or classrooms. By submitting Entry Forms, competing members are agreeing to having their images and voices recorded.
- 7.10 **Teams are reminded of their safeguarding responsibilities at practices and rehearsals as well as during the actual competition.**
- 7.11 **There is to be no filming or photos by any audience members at any time.**

HFYFC One Plus Competition

1. REPRESENTATION

Open to any number of teams per Club. Mixed teams of up to 2 clubs will be allowed where a club is unable to enter a team of its own and should submit one entry form between them. This competition is open to current members and out of age associate members too.

2. ELIGIBILITY

All competitors who are current Members or Associate members will be required to produce on the day of the competition their current, signed NFYFC membership card that has the members' photograph properly attached. Teams must note that competitors who are not members or associate members are not covered by the YFC insurance policy during the competition or in rehearsals for the competition.

An entry may consist either of competitors who are all 28 years of age or under on 1 September 2025 and 10 years of age or over on the day of the competition and full members of a Club affiliated to HFYFC or may contain Associate members (who are 29 years of age or older on 1 September 2025). Where Associate members are used, the number of under-28 members must be equal to, or more than, the number of Associates. An entry must consist of at least two people – there is no restriction on the maximum number.

3. PROCEDURE

Each entry is to present the visual arts in good taste and suitable for a theatre audience. Entries may include music, but the performance must include other aspects of the Performing Arts – for the avoidance of doubt this is not a singing contest.

Material of a questionable nature will be penalised. Producers/writers must carefully consider how taste, sexual matters, violence and strong language are dealt with. Every audience includes people of different ages (including young children), cultures, religions and sensibilities. Audience sensibilities and standards do vary widely and **teams must bear in mind that they are performing to a family audience.**

Live or pre-recorded music or accompaniment can be used and can be provided by Associate members or non-members. **Pre-recorded music must be submitted to HFYFC by Tech day, A PRS form may need to be completed for any accompaniment and should be included with your entry form, a PRS Form is included with this pack.**

Entries may include set and props, but these should be kept to the minimum and complex lighting and/or sound will not be permitted. **Please include a stage plan and list of set and props with your entry form.**

4. HEALTH, SAFETY & SAFEGUARDING

The Stage Manager, Health and Safety Representative and Entertainments Task Group reserve the right to refuse an activity which they do not believe to meet current safety standards, and to stop any production they deem to be unsafe.

All teams must abide by Health & Safety and Fire Safety Regulations of the venue. All stage scenery must be fireproofed. Copies of any venue regulations are included within these rules.

All electrical equipment must be PAT tested by a competent electrician prior to the competition. PAT testing will be available at the Technical Day on **Sunday 15th February 2026**. Any equipment not tested will not be allowed in the building. Electrical items must not be left unattended in the venue.

Body of Persons – please note that for any members taking part that are still in school age, a Body of Persons Exemption licence form is required to be completed to include name, address, school and performance and chaperone details. This form is included in the entry pack and needs to be sent to the County Office along with the Entry Form by the deadline date of **9pm on Monday 5th January 2026**. Any amendments or additions after this has been issued must be received by the county office no later than **9pm on Monday 26th January 2026**.

Chaperones – Each club must provide 1 licensed chaperone per every 8 school age members with minimum of two. Each club must provide the name of their appointed, licensed chaperone that must be present from the time that the team enters the venue until their departure from the venue. The chaperone must produce a valid chaperone licence from Herefordshire Council or evidence that an application for a licence has been made and is being processed. The decision of the HFYFC Safeguarding Officer as to whether sufficient evidence has been produced will be final. Chaperones may not take part in any other aspects of the performance. More information on the responsibilities of a chaperone and an application form can be found on the Herefordshire Council website at: https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/directory_record/2014/chaperone_licence An application form is also available from the county office.

Chaperones are also required to complete the NFYFC Online Safeguarding before carry out chaperone duties.

Teams are reminded of their safeguarding responsibilities at practices and rehearsals as well as during the actual competition.

Parental Consent Forms- All under 18s will require to complete parental consent forms, to be completed into the county office **BY 9PM MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2026**

There is to be no filming or photos by any audience members at any time.

Team Liaison Person each production must have **one** appointed; as a member of the cast. This person will make decisions on behalf of the team. This person will also be responsible for ensuring their cast leave the changing rooms tidy and ensuring no school items are missing or broken

5. USE OF THEATRE

- 5.1 Where published works are used within the production, the team **must** provide original copies of the script and the adapted script for use by the judges at all stages of the competition. If providing published scripts, do not photocopy scripts (original copies only) unless written authorisation has been obtained from the publisher and a copy of the authorisation accompanies photocopies. Similar letters of permission should be obtained for any cuts made in a script, or for the performance of extracts from full-length plays, which are still under Copyright Protection.
- 5.2 Team must send in 2 copies of the script/resume/plot (photocopies are NOT allowed) with their Entry Form **by 9pm on Monday 6th January 2025**. If any amendments/cuts have been made to the original, these must be highlighted with both the original wording and the new amendments. **To photocopy or reproduce copyright material by any means is to break the Law of Copyright and be liable to prosecution.**
- 5.3 ***It is the responsibility of the team to ensure the correct Royalties are paid for each performance.***
- 5.4 Where appropriate, Clubs must pay Royalties to publishers – A PRS form is included with this pack. This should be completed and returned to HFYFC **by 9pm on Monday 12th January 2026**.
- 5.5 Any performances at height or deemed to be high risk (i.e. use of silks or wires to suspend the performer) must be notified to HFYFC in writing **by 9pm Monday 12th January 2026**. The performance will then be agreed to by the Health and Safety Officer. HFYFC reserves the right to refuse to allow any activity deemed unsafe or too high risk.
- 5.6 Competitors to note that under no circumstances must live animals be used at any round of the competitions due to animal welfare and insurance purposes.
- 5.7 Use of Pyrotechnics, Flour, Smoke Machine, Dust, Water, Fogs and Aerosols is strictly forbidden at the HFYFC round of the competition.
- 5.9 Nothing is to be pinned, stapled or attached to the walls or fixings other than those provided on the stage area.

- 5.10 Teams are to submit a Stage Plan and list of set and props **by 9pm Monday 26th January 2026**.
- 5.11 Lighting and sound details must be sent to the County Office with the Entry Form **by 9pm on Monday 12th January 2026**. Teams who fail to provide this information will have to accept available sound and general lighting only.
- 5.12 Teams must supply a list of the cast, producer, musicians, back stage helpers and chaperones, which will be used in the programme and for booking in entries. Only people appearing on this list will be able to gain entry to the back stage area and be admitted free of charge to the venue.
- 5.13 Filming and photography is not permitted by supporters. Filming and Photography can only take place if you have full permission from everyone on stage (written parent consent from under 18's parents) and should not be placed on any social networking sites
- 5.14 There will be **NO** admittance to the auditorium or backstage whilst a team is performing. Access to the backstage area is only permissible by the wearing of an issued wristband

6. HEALTH, SAFETY & SAFEGUARDING

- 6.1 All productions **MUST**, as part of the competition, **submit on Tech Day** a detailed Risk Assessment of the production that covers all activities both on and off the stage. Teams entered are responsible for producing a Risk Assessment that is adequate and suitable for all activities within the production.
- 6.2 There are no marks awarded for the Risk Assessment, but if it is not forthcoming by Tech Day then the Stage Manager, Health and Safety Representative and Entertainments Task Group reserve the right to disqualify the team.
- 6.3 The Stage Manager, Health and Safety Representative and Entertainments Task Group reserve the right to refuse an activity which they do not believe to meet current safety standards, and to stop any production they deem to be unsafe.
- 6.4 All teams must abide by Health & Safety and Fire Safety Regulations of the venue. All stage scenery must be fireproofed. Copies of any venue regulations are included within these rules. Note this information should be recorded in your Risk Assessments.
- 6.5 All electrical equipment must be PAT tested by a competent electrician prior to the competition. PAT testing will be available at the Technical Day. Any equipment not tested will not be allowed in the building. Electrical items must not be left unattended in the venue.

7. TIMING

The permitted duration for the performance is a minimum of three (3) minutes and a maximum of six (6) minutes which will include setting, performance and clearing the stage.

The stage managers will be responsible for timing and procedure

6. SCALE OF MARKS AND PENALTIES

Originality	20
Presentation	30
Overall Effect	50
Total	100

Penalties – time deductions are two marks for each half-minute (or part thereof) over or under the allocated time.

7. AWARDS

Entries consisting of members only will be judged in a separate class to those which consist of members with associate members, unless there are less than four entries in total

HFYFC Prize cards will be awarded to teams placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in both classes.

As per the Competitions Committee AGM in October 2015, it was agreed that Clubs not entering the full Entertainments competition will be able to earn up to half of the points awarded to the Entertainments competition, towards the end of year trophies (under 26 category only).

Clubs entering the Entertainments competition are still encouraged to enter this competition, but they will not receive point towards the end of year trophies from this competition in addition.

HFYFC Shining Stars Competition

1. REPRESENTATION

Open to any number of teams per Club. Mixed teams of up to 2 clubs will be allowed where a club is unable to enter a team of its own and should submit one entry form between them.

2. ELIGIBILITY

A team shall consist of a minimum of one member and a maximum of 6 members, of each of whom must be 28 years of age or under on 1st September 2025 and 10 years or over on the day of the competition, and a full member of a club affiliated to NFYFC

Clubs may enter members in the “one plus”, “Shinning Stars” and “performing Arts competitions”, but the same material cannot be used.

3. PROCEDURE

To promote members’ interest and involvement in the presentiaiton and development of the visual arts e.g. Music, Dance, Theatre, Recitation, Comedy Reviews.

A minimum of one member, and maximum of 6 members, to present visual art/s in good taste and suitable for a theatre audience. Material of a questionable nature will be penalized. **Teams are reminded that they will be preforming to a family audience**

Live or pre-recorded music or accompaniment can be used and can be provided by Associate members or non-members. **Pre-recorded music must be submitted to HFYFC by Tech day. A PRS form may need to be completed for any accompaniment and should be included with your entry form, a PRS Form is included with this pack.**

All performances will be asked to perform in front the house curtains and will not have a full stage to use.

Performance is to be on the front apron (in front of the red curtain)

Parental Consent Forms- All under 18s will require to complete parental consent forms, to be completed into the county office **BY 9PM MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2026**

4. HEALTH, SAFETY & SAFEGUARDING

The Stage Manager, Health and Safety Representative and Entertainments Task Group reserve the right to refuse an activity which they do not believe to meet current safety standards, and to stop any production they deem to be unsafe.

All teams must abide by Health & Safety and Fire Safety Regulations of the venue. All stage scenery must be fireproofed. Copies of any venue regulations are included within these rules.

All electrical equipment must be PAT tested by a competent electrician prior to the competition. PAT testing will be available at the Technical Day on **Saturday 15th February 2026**. Any equipment not tested will not be allowed in the building. Electrical items must not be left unattended in the venue.

Body of Persons – please note that for any members taking part that are still in school age, a Body of Persons Exemption licence form is required to be completed to include name, address, school and performance and chaperone details. This form is included in the entry pack and needs to be sent to the County Office along with the Entry Form by the deadline date of **9pm on Monday 5th January 2026**. Any amendments or additions after this has been issued must be received by the county office no later than **9pm on Monday 26th January 2026**

There is to be no filming or photos by any audience members at any time.

Chaperones – Each club must provide 1 licensed chaperone per every 8 school age members with minimum of two. Each club must provide the name of their appointed, licensed chaperone that must be present from the time that the team enters the venue until their departure from the venue. The chaperone must produce a valid chaperone licence from Herefordshire Council or evidence that an application for a licence has been made and is being processed. The decision of the HFYFC Safeguarding Officer as to whether sufficient evidence has been produced will be final. Chaperones may not take part in any other aspects of the performance.

More information on the responsibilities of a chaperone and an application form can be found on the Herefordshire Council website at: https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/directory_record/2014/chaperone_licence
An application form is also available from the county office.

Chaperones are also required to complete the NFYFC Online Safeguarding before carry out chaperone duties.

Team Liaison Person each production must have **one** appointed; as a member of the cast. This person will make decisions on behalf of the team. This person will also be responsible for ensuring their cast leave the changing rooms tidy and ensuring no school items are missing or broken

USE OF THEATRE

Where published works are used within the production, the team **must** provide original copies of the script and the adapted script for use by the judges at all stages of the competition. If providing published scripts, do not photocopy scripts (original copies only) unless written authorisation has been obtained from the publisher and a copy of the authorisation accompanies photocopies. Similar letters of permission should be obtained for any cuts made in a script, or for the performance of extracts from full-length plays, which are still under Copyright Protection.

Team must send in 2 copies of the script/resume/plot (photocopies are NOT allowed) with their Entry Form **by 9pm on Monday 5th January 2026**. If any amendments/cuts have been made to the original, these must be highlighted with both the original wording and the new amendments. **To photocopy or reproduce copyright material by any means is to break the Law of Copyright and be liable to prosecution.**

It is the responsibility of the team to ensure the correct Royalties are paid for each performance.

Where appropriate, Clubs must pay Royalties to publishers – A PRS form is included with this pack. This should be completed and returned to HFYFC **by 9pm on Monday 12th January 2026**.

Any performances at height or deemed to be high risk (i.e. use of silks or wires to suspend the performer) must be notified to HFYFC in writing **by 9pm Monday 12th January 2026**. The performance will then be agreed to by the Health and Safety Officer. HFYFC reserves the right to refuse to allow any activity deemed unsafe or too high risk.

Competitors to note that under no circumstances must live animals be used at any round of the competitions due to animal welfare and insurance purposes.

Use of Pyrotechnics, Flour, Smoke Machine, Dust, Water, Fogs and Aerosols is strictly forbidden at the HFYFC round of the competition..

Nothing is to be pinned, stapled or attached to the walls or fixings other than those provided on the stage area.

Teams are to submit a Stage Plan and list of set and props **by 9pm Monday 26th January 2026**.

Lighting and sound details must be sent to the County Office with the Entry Form **by 9pm on Monday 12th January 2026**. Teams who fail to provide this information will have to accept available sound and general lighting only.

Teams must supply a list of the cast, producer, musicians, back stage helpers and chaperones, which will be used in the programme and for booking in entries. Only people appearing on this list will be able to gain entry to the back stage area and be admitted free of charge to the venue.

Filming and photography is not permitted by supporters. Filming and Photography can only take place if you have full permission from everyone on stage (written parent consent from under 18's parents) and should not be placed on any social networking sites

There will be **NO** admittance to the auditorium or backstage whilst a team is performing. Access to the backstage area is only permissible by the wearing of an issued wristband

HEALTH, SAFETY & SAFEGUARDING

All productions MUST, as part of the competition, **submit on Tech Day** a detailed Risk Assessment of the production that covers all activities both on and off the stage. Teams entered are responsible for producing a Risk Assessment that is adequate and suitable for all activities within the production.

There are no marks awarded for the Risk Assessment, but if it is not forthcoming by Tech Day then the Stage Manager, Health and Safety Representative and Entertainments Task Group reserve the right to disqualify the team.

The Stage Manager, Health and Safety Representative and Entertainments Task Group reserve the right to refuse an activity which they do not believe to meet current safety standards, and to stop any production they deem to be unsafe.

All teams must abide by Health & Safety and Fire Safety Regulations of the venue. All stage scenery must be fireproofed. Copies of any venue regulations are included within these rules. Note this information should be recorded in your Risk Assessments.

All electrical equipment must be PAT tested by a competent electrician prior to the competition. PAT testing will be available at the Technical Day. Any equipment not tested will not be allowed in the building. Electrical items must not be left unattended in the venue

Teams are reminded of their safeguarding responsibilities at practices and rehearsals as well as during the actual competition.

TIMING

Time Allowed will be 6 minutes including setting and clearing of the stage.

Penalties: Up to 15 seconds- 2 penalty Marks up to 30 seconds overtime- 5 penalty marks, a further 5 penalty marks will be deducted for every 15 seconds thereafter.

SCALE OF MARKS AND PENALTIES

Entertainment Value	40
Presentation	30
Originality	20
Overall Effect	10
Total	100 marks

7. AWARDS

HFYFC Prize cards will be awarded to teams placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd.