



**YOUTH WORK IRELAND
VARIETY PROGRAMME 2010**

RULEBOOK



INTRODUCTION

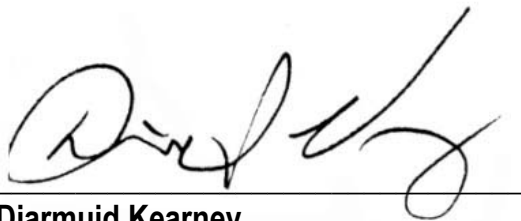
Youth Work Ireland is once again proud to continue to support the Variety Competition. Each year young people throughout the country have a marvellous opportunity to express themselves through dance and song, drama and comedy.

The National Variety Competition creates real opportunities for young people, whatever their abilities to gain confidence. Participation at Regional, Area and National levels ensures that young people from many different parts of the country have opportunities to meet and enjoy each other's company and talent.

This rulebook is intended to support young people and their leaders in preparing for their participation in this event and to ensure the smooth running of the Regional, Area and National finals of the Variety Competition. The rulebook has been developed following on from previous successful National Variety Competitions and was developed by many volunteers and youth service staff.

Youth Work Ireland's Variety Competition is there to provide opportunities to display talents and gifts possessed by young people and ensure that through their participation they have loads and loads of fun. I wish the participants, leaders, supporters and organiser's sincere best wishes for this year's Variety Competition and in true theatrical style I do hope all will *"break a leg"*

Good luck.



Diarmuid Kearney
Chief Executive



GENERAL RULES

THE FOLLOWING RULES APPLY TO AREA FINALS AND NATIONAL VARIETY SHOW

1. The competition is open to all full and associate member services of Youth Work Ireland.
2. Only members of clubs and projects affiliated to Youth Work Ireland's local youth services may participate in a Variety Show event.
3. Participants entering Variety Show 2010 must be over 11 years of age and under 19 years of age on 1st January 2010. This rule also applies to off-stage accompaniment.
4. Each Local Youth Service may submit one entry only for each of the ten categories.
5. An individual may participate in only one of the ten categories.
6. All regional entries must be accompanied by the name of the Regional representative and must be received at National Office by **18th January 2010****.
7. All participants in the Variety Show are required to conduct themselves in an acceptable manner at all times on and off stage. **RESPECT: between young people themselves, with each other, leaders, regional representatives, members of the Variety Working Group and for the property in the venues for the variety shows.**

RESPONSIBILITY: Each individual young person is responsible for his/her own behaviour:

- There must be no alcoholic drink or drugs or illegal substances in use during the day.
- Participants must respect the adjudicators and their decisions.
- Each club is responsible for their club members whether as performers or audience members on the day as defined by Child Protection guidelines.

- **Every participant is in the care of their leader for the day and must respect their leaders decisions.**

Any disciplinary action taken will be at the discretion of the Variety Show Committee.

8. Each participating youth service will be required to appoint a Regional Representative to liase between the organising committee and their own leaders/members during participation in the programme at Area finals and the National final.
9. The lighting, sound and other stage facilities for the Variety Show are those supplied and operated by the organising committee for all participants.
10. There will be a time limit for each category. An independent time keeper will be appointed. Failure to adhere to the time limit will result in a deduction of marks. 5 marks per minute or part thereof will be deducted.
11. The content of the material and costumes used during the show must be suitable for the audience attending.
12. The adjudicator's decisions are final.
13. **No naked flames, candles, sparkers, incense, flammable material or hay/straw are allowed as part of props.** (Fire and Safety Regulations). Live animals are not permitted on stage.**
14. Where there is a group entry, a substitute name may be submitted in the event of a mishap, accident or unforeseen circumstances subject to ratification of the Variety Committee.
15. If due to unforeseen circumstances your group is unable to attend an Area Final or the National Final, please contact your local representative or any of the variety committee.
16. Wildcards – The committee reserve the right to include a wildcard entry in any category following consultation with the relevant adjudicators on the day



CATEGORY GUIDELINES

GROUP SINGING

Groups must sing two songs of contrasting type. Groups are not required to have musical accompaniment but may have if they so wish. Musical accompaniment is limited to not more than three additional people who must play off-stage and must be affiliated members of the youth club. The use of electrified instruments, mains or battery operated, is permitted. At least half of the group must be singing in both songs. The use of taped or other pre-recorded music is not permitted as accompaniment. Newly composed songs and music are welcome. The maximum number in any group is seven people and the minimum number is two. **Time: Maximum 6 minutes in total**

SOLO SINGING

The singer must sing two songs of contrasting type. The singer is not required to have musical accompaniment but may have if they wish. Musical accompaniment is limited to one person who can play on stage and must be affiliated member of the youth club. The use of electrified instruments, mains or battery operated, is permitted. The use of taped or other pre-recorded music is not permitted as accompaniment. Newly composed songs and music are welcomed. **Time: Maximum 6 minutes in total**

DRAMA PIECE

The emphasis in a drama piece should be placed on acting and production. The use of musical instruments is permitted (electrified and acoustic) as is the inclusion of song and dance during the piece. The use of pre-recorded music is also permitted. Each act has 30 seconds to prepare the stage or carry out their props. Only hand props, which must be fully assembled before being brought on stage, are allowed (e.g. assembled back drop, tables, chairs, etc). The group must consist of at least two people and no more than seven people. Content to be suitable for all age groups and should not contain distasteful language or gestures. Failure to adhere to this can result in disqualification. THIS SECTION MAY TAKE THE FORM OF AN EXTRACT/ EXCERPT FROM A RECOGNISED DRAMA PIECE OR AN ORIGINAL PIECE

Time: Maximum 8 minutes in total

SOLO INSTRUMENTAL

The musician is required to perform two pieces of music, which must be of different character. The use of electrified instruments, mains or battery operated, is permitted. However, the use of pre-set synthesised background or pre-recorded music is not permitted**. Newly interpreted or newly composed pieces of music are welcome. **Time: Maximum 5 minutes in total**

GROUP INSTRUMENTAL

The musicians are required to perform two pieces of music, which must be of different character. The use of electrified instruments, mains or battery operated, is not permitted. The use of pre-set synthesised background or pre-recorded music is not permitted**. All members of the group must participate in both pieces of music. No individual piece of music shall be longer than four minutes. Newly interpreted or newly composed pieces of music are welcome. The group must consist of at least two people and no more than seven people. **Time: Maximum 5 minutes in total**

SPOTLIGHT

The Spotlight caters for some acts that do not fit into any of the other categories. Examples of Spotlight are Story Telling; Poetry Recital; Individual 'stand-up' Comedy; Magic Act; Impersonators; Juggling Act; Ventriloquist etc. It does not however, include rock bands or Irish dancing. The act may not exceed 5 minutes duration, which includes setting up and removal of any hand props. The maximum number of participants is 2 and the minimum is 1.

Time: Maximum 5 minutes in total

SHOW DANCE

The use of space, choreography, choice and interpretation of music, presentation and costume will be taken into consideration by the adjudicators. All forms of "Show Dance" i.e. jazz, modern, ballet, creative and traditional dance are welcome. ***No form of Hip Hop dancing is allowed.** Music may be pre-recorded (tape, CD) or live. Live musical accompaniment is limited to not more than three additional people who must play off stage and must be affiliated members of the youth club. Some type of footwear is recommended, if one dances barefoot one does so at their own risk. The maximum number

of participants in the dance is ten and the minimum is three. **Time: Maximum 4 minutes in total**

DUAIS NA GAEILGE

Entries “As Gaeilge”, will participate in this separate category. These entries will take the form of poetry recital or storytelling. The maximum number of participants is two; the minimum is one.

Time: Maximum 5 minutes in total

COMEDY SKETCH

In a comic sketch, special emphasis should be placed on light heartedness and on the delivery of gags both visual and verbal. Each act has 30 seconds to prepare the stage or carry out their props. Only hand props, which must be fully assembled before being brought on stage, are allowed (e.g. assembled backdrop, tables, chairs etc.). The maximum number of participants is 7 and the minimum is 3 and the **time allowed for comedy is 5 minutes**. The content must be suitable for all age groups and should not contain distasteful language or gestures. Failure to adhere to this can result in disqualification.

Time: Maximum 5 minutes in total

CREATIVE DANCE

This category is for male and / or female dancers. Maximum number of dancers is two. Creative dance has to be a minimum of 2 minutes long and a maximum of 4 minutes. **It can incorporate any form of dance movement but must be a creative / original item.** All forms of music will be accepted. Dancers can use ribbons, masks, lengths of material or other props and costumes etc in keeping with the theme piece of music and dance. Music may be pre-recorded (tape / CD) or live. Live musical accompaniment is limited to not more than three additional people who must play off stage and **must be affiliated members of the youth club.** Some type of footwear is recommended, if one dances barefoot one does so at their own risk.

Time: Minimum of 2 minutes and a maximum 4 minutes in total

***Definition of a Variety Show hand prop:** any prop that is hand held or freestanding and is easy to transport on and off stage.

BANNER COMPETITION

We all love to support our teams, and this category is designed to promote art in the club and is an event for club members who are not competing in the Variety Show. This category has no entry fee and the only stipulation is that the banner must be designed and made by members of the club. It is your choice what you put on the banner; previous ideas have included club details, reference to the act that the club is taking part in etc. ***The Banners will be adjudicated at the Variety Final*** but it would be lovely to get a preview at the Area Finals. So get out the cloth, paints needle and thread and have some fun.

MARKING SYSTEM

SOLO SINGING

Tonal Quality	30
Phrasing	10
Originality	10
Entertainment	50

GROUP SINGING

Tonal Quality	20
Harmony	20
Phrasing	10
Originality	10
Entertainment	40

SHOW DANCE

Use of Stage	15
Timing	15
Presentation	10
Originality	20
Entertainment	40

CREATIVE DANCE

Use of Stage	15
Timing	15
Presentation	10
Originality	20
Entertainment	40

DRAMA PIECE

Production	20
Acting & Content	20
Interpretation	20
Entertainment	40

DUAIS NA GAELIGE

Entertainment	40
Diction	30
Presentation	20
Originality	10

COMEDY SKETCH

Production/Timing	20
Acting & Content	20
Creativity & Originality	20
Entertainment	40

SOLO INSTRUMENTAL

Intonation & timing	30
Technique	20
Originality	10
Entertainment	40

GROUP

INSTRUMENTAL

Intonation and timing	30
Technique	20
Originality	10
Entertainment	40

SPOTLIGHT

Presentation & Production	30
Timing	20
Originality	10
Entertainment	40

GUIDELINES FOR HOSTING AREA EVENTS

The host region will receive a grant and they will have to provide all services listed below and pay for them out of the budget allocated (receipts will be required).

Booking Hall

- Dressing rooms (ie Green Rooms)
- Curtain for front of stage with a few foot space
- Access to both sides of stage for acts coming in both sides
- Early opening
- Darkened Hall (as show will be during daylight hours)
- Please ensure Hall is heated

The following should also be provided:

- Direction signs
- Coach parking
- Stewards for vehicle parking
- Stewards for doors and inside of hall
- Refreshment facilities
- People to make and provide refreshments at interval for Leaders
- Tuck Shop/Chip Van for Youth Club Members
- Sound and Mics (3 stand up and one roving)
- Host Region will not be responsible for appointing adjudicators

VARIETY SHOW COMMITTEE

Geraldine Moore
Co-Ordinator of Programmes
Youth Work Ireland

Tel: 01 8584500

Paul Gralton
Director of Federal Services
Youth Work Ireland

Tel: 01 8584500

Julia Mulligan, (*Volunteer*)
Donegal Youth Service

Tel: 086 8702160

Siobhán O'Connor, **Kerry Diocesan Youth Service**, (*Volunteer*),

Ray Quigley, **FDYS Youth Work Ireland**, (*Volunteer*)

Declan Real, **Limerick Youth Service**, (*Volunteer*)

Liz Dermody, **President of Youth Work Ireland**

****DATES FOR 2010**

Last date for DETAILED ENTRY FORMS and REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES NAME
to be submitted to National Office: **18TH JANUARY 2010**

AREA EVENTS

Area 1 = TBC

Area 2 = TBC

Area 3 = TBC

NATIONAL FINAL = TBC

****These dates are correct at time of print, but may be subject to change.
You will be informed immediately of any changes.**



Youth Work Ireland

NATIONAL VARIETY SHOW INITIAL BOOKING FORM

Please tick the relevant boxes for the categories that you anticipate your youth service will enter in the area finals.

- At this early stage we are not looking for the names of clubs representing your region, just the number of teams that will be in each event at the area finals.
- Once the local variety competitions at county level have been completed please complete the more detailed entry forms.
- The initial booking form is to be returned no later than **11th December 2009**

GROUP SINGING	<input type="checkbox"/>
SOLO SINGING	<input type="checkbox"/>
DRAMA PIECE	<input type="checkbox"/>
SOLO INSTRUMENTAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
GROUP INSTRUMENTAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPOTLIGHT	<input type="checkbox"/>
SHOW DANCE	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUAIS NA GAELIGE	<input type="checkbox"/>
COMEDY SKETCH	<input type="checkbox"/>
CREATIVE DANCE	<input type="checkbox"/>

NATIONAL VARIETY SHOW

- **THE NATIONAL FINALS WILL TAKE PLACE ON**
- The entry fee per team is €25. The Local Youth Service will be invoiced from National Office.
- **Entries received after 18th January 2010 will not be included in the draw for the Area Finals. (This will be strictly adhered to)**

€_____ entry fee for _____ teams. (€25 per team)

Signed:_____ **Date:**_____

Regional Contact for Youth Work Ireland's Variety Show.

*Forms should be returned no later than **18th January 2010** to:*

GERALDINE MOORE
Co-Ordinator of Programmes
Youth Work Ireland
20 Lower Dominick Street, Dublin 1.
Email: gmoore@youthworkireland.ie
Tel: 01-8584500, **Fax:** 01-8724183