



RULES and JUDGING GUIDELINES

CHAMPIONSHIP AIMS

- To encourage magicians to strive for the improvement of their own skills and to contribute to the general advancement of magic as an art.
- To promote magicians in an acknowledged performance opportunity.

CAPE JUNIOR MAGIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

- All Junior Magicians who satisfy the following requirements are eligible to enter the Cape Junior Magic Championships:
 - Age on 1st January of the year of the contest must be 19 years and under
 - Have been selected to compete via pre-selection round (Annual Contest) and relevant criteria.
- A contestant who has been awarded the Cape Junior Magician Championships Close-up Magic Champion or Stage Magic Champion previously is not allowed to compete again with essentially the same act.
- All contestants, as a right of competition, agree to abide by and be bound by these Contest Rules and Judging Guidelines.
- The Championships Committee will select at least 4 (FOUR) finalists who will be eligible to perform in the finals. At the discretion of the Judges and / or the Championships Committee this number may vary.

SA MAGIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Contestants will have fulfilled the selection criteria as mandated by the Championship organisers. This may include pre-selection events, video entries or other criteria.
- A contestant who has been awarded first place in a previous SA Magic Championships is not allowed to compete again with essentially the same act.
- All contestants, as a right of competition, agree to abide by and be bound by these Contest Rules and Judging Guidelines.
- The Championships Committee will select at least 4 (FOUR) finalists who will be eligible to perform in the finals. At the discretion of the Judges and / or the Championships Committee this number may vary.
- Magicians under the age of 19 must abide by the Cape Junior Magic Championships rules and regulations, selection processes and criteria.
- Junior Magicians are eligible to compete in the SA Magic Championships alongside the Cape Junior Magic Championships. Both Junior and Senior contestants will be eligible for SA Magic Championships awards.
- Contestants will be divided into Junior and Senior performance groupings, but each category (stage magic and close-up magic) will be judged by the same panel of judges.

GENERAL

1. ACT CATEGORY

- **CLOSE-UP MAGIC** – employment of any magical effects which can be appreciated by the audience in a close-up setting.
- **STAGE MAGIC** – employment of any magical effects which can be appreciated by the audience in a stage setting.

2. ACT TIME

- The minimum time allowable for the presentation of an act is 5 minutes – acts shorter than 5 minutes will not be considered for a place.
- The maximum time allowable for the presentation of an act is 10 minutes. Acts

which run over time will be penalised – 10 seconds grace will be given to end off the act / leave the stage. Thereafter, at the discretion of the Judges, a contestant considered not to have ended their act will be disqualified.

- You will have up to 3 minutes to set your stage while the act before clears.

3. OTHER DETAILS

- Contestants must report ready to perform to the Contest Chairman at least 1 hour before the start of the contest.
- Contestants must supply their own apparatus, assistants and music. Equipment for playing music and a public address system will be available for use by the contestants. Please indicate on your application form.
- The order of performance will be determined by the drawing of lots.

4. JUDGING

- Contestants shall be judged by a panel of Judges of 4 or more members selected by the Championships Committee. Judges will be qualified in their field of marking.
- Judging will take place in accordance with the guidelines in the 'Standards of Judging' below.
- The Judges will select a winner and a runner-up.
 - The use of 'Blue Material', by patter or implication, is discouraged and may, at the Judges' discretion, be cause for reducing the score or for disqualification of the act.
 - Undue touching, humiliation or harassment of audience volunteers may, at the Judges' discretion, be cause for reducing the score or for disqualification of the act.
- The Judges may, at their discretion, withhold an award if, in their opinion, no act conforms to the high standards associated with the Championships. Conversely, judges may choose to make special awards as they see fit.
- The decision of the Judges shall be final.

5. STANDARDS OF JUDGING

Judges will score each contestant on a point system, using the following as their guide:

Visual impact: 0 – 10 points

The general appearance of performer and props - Encompassing the dress and personal appearance of the performer for the part portrayed. The eye appeal and attractiveness of the props, magical equipment and articles used in the act.

Presentation and Presence: 0 – 20 points

The personality projected by the performer, the correct use of speech or music (if any), execution of movement and general presence including grace and poise. Also considered should be the handling of audience volunteers, (if any).

Magical Ability and Technical Skill: 0 – 30 points

The overall magical ability and technical skill of the performer: taking into account the appropriate selection of magical effects, the proper routining thereof and, considering also the intricacy of the material employed, the professional manner achieved.

Originality: 0 – 10 points

The original or unusual manner or method of presentation or routining – something different - a new idea in the presentation of one or more standard effects.

Entertainment Value: 0 – 30 points

The visible evidence of the audience's reaction, appreciation and overall enjoyment of the mystery and material employed in the act.