

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S RURAL INSTITUTES
ANSTRUTHER-GRAY DRAMA COMPETITION

RULES

FEDERATION ROUND

1. The competition will be held in the North and South on alternate years, and the areas will be as follows:

North: *Central, North, West Highland and North-East*
South: *South-East and South-West*
2. The closing date for the receipt of firm Federation entries is **Friday, 12 December 2008.**
3. If necessary drama teams can be made up with members from a maximum of three Institutes from the same Federation. The Finalists for the Anstruther-Gray Competition will be chosen from the teams with the highest marks gained in Federation Drama Festivals. Federations which are unable to run their own Drama Festival may (by agreement) join up with teams in an adjoining Federation, or they may be selected as the result of a performance conforming to Festival Rules and marked by a qualified drama enthusiast, or from marks gained in SCDA District Festivals in the team's district. Written adjudication for such teams must be forwarded to Headquarters immediately after the performance. Teams must not be adjudicated in any of the above by the adjudicator of the Anstruther-Gray Final, whose name will be announced well in advance.
4. The dramatic work offered must be a one-act play or an extract from a longer play. All actors must be SWRI members.
5. No play or extract may contain fewer than three characters appearing and speaking.
6. No member of the cast (including the production team) should be hired by the Institute for the Competition, or be paid a fee for their involvement in the Competition.
7. Entrants are reminded that if children under 16 are included in the cast, it is necessary to obtain a permit for their appearance from the Local Education Authority.
8. The play presented must not be less than 18 or more than 50 minutes in performance. Should any time be spent in changing a scene in the course of the performance, this will count as part of the time allowed under this rule.
9. Ten minutes are allowed for each team to set (i.e. bring all props, furniture and flats from the wings) and five minutes to strike (i.e. completely clear the stage).
10. Penalties for not conforming to the allotted times for performance, setting and striking are as follows:-
 - up to 1 minute - deduction of 1 mark
 - up to 2 minutes - deduction of 2 marks
 - up to 3 minutes - deduction of 3 marks
 - up to 4 minutes - deduction of 4 marks
 - up to 5 minutes - deduction of 5 marks
 - **more than 5 minutes – disqualification**
11. The Author's royalty must be pre-paid for each round of the competition. If required, the necessary licence fees for recording (record or cassette) must be pre-paid by the teams. The royalty fee is not reimbursed by Headquarters. Teams should be aware that there could be conditions on performing one act from some longer plays. Consult the publishers in such a case.
12. In case of illness or unforeseen circumstances, any part should be read if the team is committed.
13. Preliminary Performances should be completed and information about winners sent to Headquarters by **Friday, 6 March 2009**, so that selected teams can be notified. A copy of the winner's script should be sent with this information, or as soon as possible afterwards.

NATIONAL FINAL

14. The Final of the Anstruther-Gray Competition will be held in Spring and the Trophies awarded are: 1st - the Anstruther-Gray Challenge Cup; 2nd - The Challoch Cup; 3rd - The Smith Salver; Best Individual Performance - The Scottish Home & Country Quaich (The Magazine Trophy); and Highest Marks for Production - The Morebattle Salver.
15. Number of teams in the Final. Normally this will be according to the number of entries received by the closing date. The Education Committee, however, reserves the right to exercise some form of elimination should the number of entries prove unmanageable.
16. A Federation with **four** or more teams at its own level is entitled by proportional representation to submit the **winner** and **runner-up** to the final. Less than four teams at Federation level allows one team to the final.
17. The play entered for the contest must be the same at both Preliminary and Final stages. No change of play, speeches, characters or cast is allowed, except by special authority from the Education Committee.
18. The names appearing on the programme details form (C) must be the actual names of the individuals. Headquarters should be advised **immediately** if there are any subsequent change of name(s) after this form has been sent in to Headquarters.
19. Teams will be given a stage plan and lighting details of the Final venue. Teams must return their own props and lighting plot forms in good time to alert the stage and lighting directors to any special effects required.
NB Dressing room provision, e.g. classrooms, may not have mirrors – you may need to take your own.
20. The Stage Director has been appointed by the Education Committee to oversee all matters referring to the stage. His decision on all matters relating to the stage in its widest sense shall be final and binding on all teams.
21. The responsibility that the lights and scenery are correctly set, that the scenery is set and struck within the allotted times and that the curtain is raised and lowered at the proper time, rests with the team concerned. The curtain may only be raised with the consent of the Stage Director.
22. ***Testing of stage facilities:*** The teams shall each be afforded a specified time before the contest to test lighting, stage facilities and acoustics. The period allotted may be used in any way the team desires. The Stage Director shall see that the teams adhere to their allotted time.
23. Teams should have a member on hand throughout the performance to cue any sound effects or lighting changes for the stage crew.
24. The Author's royalty must be pre-paid and the receipt submitted to Headquarters before the performance. The royalty fee is not reimbursed by Headquarters.

EXPENSES/GENERAL

25. At the preliminary stage of the competition, no expenses are paid by the Education Committee. Such expenses must be the responsibility of the team or its Federation. Headquarters will only pay 50% of travelling expenses for the cheapest form of transport for team members and props to the Anstruther-Gray Final. Claims must be made within **21 days** after the event. Headquarters will reimburse cost of engraving of trophies. Please send claim with receipt to headquarters within six weeks of the event.
26. If necessary, a small sub-committee may be formed to assist with arrangements for the Final.
27. The Education Committee has the right to invite a team or teams to perform in a Festival on a non-competitive basis to fill out an evening's entertainment if necessary.
28. The decision of the Education Committee of the SWRI is final on all matters arising out of these Rules, or not provided therein.

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