

20
9 JUL - 2 AUG
26

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS
WMC 2026



General Terms & Conditions of the World Music Contest Kerkrade 2026

1. Please review all the General Terms & Conditions on this page and then follow the instructions on how to enter the WMC contests on the application page, which will also contain a link to the My WMC Portal, as well as information about the Rules & Regulations of the various contests and any other details.
2. Please note that all fees are non-refundable after November 1, 2025, and must be paid in EURO. WMC does not account for or hold any liability for any participants' bank fees and charges that may arise due to currency conversion, foreign exchange transactions, or non-sufficient funds (NSF) transactions.
3. Applicants will receive a refund should their application to enter the competition be denied. A €50 administrative fee will be charged.
4. After the deadline of November 1, 2025, no more applications will be considered for participation in WMC 2026.
5. WMC is not responsible for and shall not be held accountable for:
 - a) lost, late, delayed, damaged, incomplete, illegible, unintelligible, or misdirected entries;
 - b) telephone, electronic, hardware or software, network, internet, or computer malfunctions, failures, or difficulties of any kind;
 - c) failed, incomplete, partial, corrupted, or delayed computer transmissions.
6. WMC reserves the right to issue a formal invitation to amateur bands and ensembles, granting them immediate entry to the contests. Direct invitations to bands and ensembles are justified by their public interest in preserving the international character of the event.
7. In the event of force majeure in the broadest sense of the word, including but not limited to strikes, fire, bad weather, epidemics, etc., WMC has the right to postpone the event to a later date or cancel it.
8. WMC will define and limit available slots per division in the Concert Contests and the Championship Division of the Marching and Show Contests.
9. WMC reserves the right to cancel contest days based on the number of registrations.
10. The artistic managers will decide who will take part in the WMC contests, considering the quality and artistic background of the band or ensemble based on their registration.
11. By submitting an entry form, each entrant, parent, or legal guardian (if the entrant is a minor) authorizes the use of the participant's name, photo, audio, and/or video recordings for publicity and advertisement purposes related to WMC.

12. WMC is not responsible for and shall not be held accountable for any printing or typographical errors in any materials associated with the competition.
13. Prizes and awards are non-assignable/non-transferable. Cash awards are paid in EURO, with any necessary currency conversions to local currency being at the winner's expense. All federal, state, provincial, autonomous, and local taxes are the sole responsibility of the winners.
14. WMC is not responsible for and shall not be held accountable for any claims, suits, actions, liabilities, injuries, losses, or damages of any kind in connection with the competition or resulting from acceptance, possession, or use of any prizes and awards.
15. WMC (or a third party employed by WMC) is authorized to record, videotape, film, broadcast, or photograph any contest concerts or events for any purpose, without payment of any fee. All rights, including copyright in such media, shall vest in and be owned by WMC in perpetuity. The use of this material by WMC for purposes such as marketing and promotion, including but not limited to national and international broadcasts, includes the rights to reproduce and edit footage. Participants have no right to royalties arising from recordings made during any part of the contest, as well as radio, internet, or TV broadcasts of the event. Participants and visitors transfer any copyright and/or portrait rights to WMC without restriction.
16. Photographs or video recordings cannot be made by any other parties without prior written permission from WMC.
17. No commercial or non-commercial entity shall use the logo or other distinctive elements of the WMC without prior written permission from the WMC organization.
18. By entering this contest, each entrant, parent, or legal guardian (if the entrant is a minor) agrees to accept these rules and be bound by the decisions of WMC, its judges, and staff, which are final and binding in all matters.
19. Please acknowledge and agree to fully abide by the rules, regulations, terms, and conditions of this contest. Agree to observe all procedures and obey all instructions given by a member of the WMC team and/or any location staff (volunteers) in connection with the contest and the management of the locations, including fire safety and security arrangements in those locations.
20. All contest concerts are open to the public.
21. Participants are responsible for their own as well as their accompanists' travel and accommodation expenses, even when using WMC Travel.
22. Obtaining appropriate travel documents, visas, and insurance is the sole responsibility of each participant. WMC accepts no liability of any kind whatsoever for any personal illness or injury sustained by the participant, nor for loss or damage to a participant's belongings during transit or while at WMC. Medical costs, of any nature, will not be reimbursed by WMC.

23. WMC requires all participating bands and ensembles to comply with copyright laws and fees regarding performance and/or use of arrangements of copyrighted music, visual images, and other materials, as well as the use of copyrighted audio, spoken text, and display of copyrighted words and images. If a copyright violation is found, disqualification may occur.
24. All participating bands and ensembles are required to secure permission to arrange all music involved. WMC stresses that participants do not ignore the Permission to Arrange requirement to participate in a WMC contest or event.
25. Bands and ensembles are required to upload their program (including scores) via the online portal. Please note that the submission above is only a declaration of a band's repertoire so that copyright compliance can be tracked. Submitting your information is NOT a request for Permission to Arrange.
26. Spoken Word / Literary Copyrights – Spoken word, including movie quotes, and literary quotations, may contain copyrighted content. Participants should ensure that the band or ensemble has permission to use any copyrighted words in their show.
27. Visual Arts - Visual pieces of art, including photographs, are most likely copyrighted. Participants should ensure that they have permission to use any copyrighted visual image in their show.
28. If bands or ensembles do not secure licensing prior to their performance, they may incur substantial penalties and be liable for any infringement of copyrighted materials. These penalties can potentially reach thousands of euros for each song/music infringed.
29. WMC is a non-political event. All participants, including WMC, shall ensure that no organization, institution, political cause, or other cause, shall be promoted, featured, or mentioned directly or indirectly during the contest.
30. No live animals shall be allowed on stage or on the festival grounds.
31. The lyrics and/or performance of the songs shall not bring the contest and WMC as such into disrepute. No lyrics, speeches, gestures of a political, commercial, or similar nature shall be permitted during WMC. No swearing or other unacceptable language shall be allowed.
32. The participants shall at all times respect WMC Values and ensure that no contestant, delegation, or country is discriminated against or ridiculed in any manner.
33. Participants and visitors are not allowed to bring food, glassware, pets, (folding) chairs, stools, inflatable objects, umbrellas and parasols, selfie sticks, drugs, fireworks, (fire) weapons, dangerous objects, and professional camera equipment to the performance venues.
34. These General Terms & Conditions are governed by Dutch law.
35. Any disputes, of whatever nature, that may arise between a participant and WMC as a result of (the use or application of) these General Terms & Conditions and/or related agreements, will be submitted exclusively to the court in Maastricht, Netherlands.

General information

info@wmc.nl

0031 45 545 50 00

Address

Niersprinkstraat 8

6461 AS Kerkrade, the Netherlands

www.wmc.nl

