

**STANDARD RULES & GUIDANCE for all competitors**

**Wednesday, 1st October, and Thursday, 2nd October 2025**

1. All competitions are OPEN. Competitions are not restricted to residents within the Lochalsh area.
2. Piping Competitions will be held on the evening of Wednesday, 1st October, at Kyle Primary School.
3. All other competitions will be held at Plockton High School and Hostel on Thursday, 2nd October. As a rough guideline, the order and venues of competitions is **likely** to be as follows:-

|  |  |  |
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| Venue | Competitions | Starting |
| High School Hall | Action Songs  Drama  Choirs  Music Groups  Individual instrumental | 0930 (approximately) |
| Hostel Canteen | Singing groups  Duets  Solo singing | 0930 (approximately) |
| Hostel TV room | Verse Speaking Groups  Individual verse speaking | 0930 (approximately) |

1. All entries for oral, vocal, drama and instrument competitions (with copy of own choice words and music) and work for art and literature competitions should be sent to Entry forms should be submitted by email to the Mod Secretary ([bi.smith@btopenworld.com](mailto:bi.smith@btopenworld.com)),

**no later than 17th September, 2025**. This allows time for the programme to be ready in time for the Mod. A copy of the programme will be emailed to competitors and schools as soon as possible.

1. All spoken, sung and written matter must be in Gaelic.
2. A competitor must not sing the same song in more than one competition.
3. Conductors/Teachers/Tutors must not sing with their choirs/groups
4. For all competitions – the version of the melody provided on sheet music should be sung as written, but the rhythms of the notes can be sung taking account of Gaelic stresses and dialect variations.
5. Keys for singing – it is up to the competitor to decide in which key they should sing, depending of the vocal range they have.
6. Competitors can be provided with a starting note and or chord, enabling the competitor to be quite sure on which note they are about to sing.
7. Apart from instrumental competitions on Thursday, 2nd October, competitors are not allowed to refer to words or music during a performance.
8. If a competitor is likely to be late for a competition, the chairman of the event must be informed in good time. In such cases, adjudicators will delay closing a competition until all competitors (who have informed the chairman of their delay) have been given a fair chance to perform.
9. Gaelic Adjudications will be marked according to:-

knowledge of piece of poetry or song; expression; presentation; diction; pronunciation; dialect; Gaelic stresses; overall performance.

Music Adjudication will be marked according to:-

intonation; vocal or instrumental technique; phrasing; interpretation; diction; presentation; overall performance.

The usual range of marks is from 82 – 94

The range may be extended either way, ie, higher for an exceptional performance, or lower if the performance falls short of the expected standard

In all cases the decision of the adjudicators shall be final.

Medals will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize-winners in individual competitions.

Adjudication sheets can only be collected from the administration table, as some trophies are awarded over several competitions.

1. Protests against the eligibility of a competitor must be made to the Mòd Secretary before the judgements are announced (or where possible, before the competition has been started), must be in writing, and must contain a clear statement of the condition infringed and the alleged disqualification. Protests can only be entered by those interested as competitors in the particular competition in connection with which the protest is raised.

15 Primary School Pupils attending the Mòd should at all times be under adult supervision.

Any queries, including suitability of music, should be addressed to the Mod Secretary:-

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