

CRITERIA FOR THE 2018 BILLTOWN BLUES CHALLENGE AUDITIONS

1. **All performers** in both the **band** and **solo/duo** competition **must** be present to sign in at the Genetti Hotel no later than **3:00 pm**. Upon signing in there will be a meeting with all participating artists.
 2. All participating acts **can not** advertise/promote any information pertaining to competing in the BBA auditions through any/all social media before receiving the acceptance package in the mail.
 3. A Billtown Blues Committee Member will oversee the loading of the handicapped elevator to avoid overloading and damage, if use is permitted. If not, equipment will be transported using the kitchen ramp.
 4. Only band members with equipment/instruments are to use the handicap elevator. **All band guests please use Main Ballroom Entrance.**
 5. "Due to limited seating everyone except performing musicians must pay the admission fee and should report to the admission table upon arrival."
 6. All performers are fully responsible for their own equipment. **The BBA will not be held responsible or liable.**
 7. The only compensation for ALL participating musicians at this event is a ticket to the 29th Annual Billtown Blues Festival on **Sunday, June 10, 2018**.
- In accordance with the new rules and criteria set forth by the Blues Foundation for affiliated Blues Societies we must implement this point reduction system:**
8. **There will be a 1 point deduction per each band member being late for the 3:00 pm check in/orientation**
 9. **There is a 1 point deduction for very 10 seconds over allotted time.**
 10. **There will be a 1 point deduction for being 3 minutes or more under allotted time.**
 11. **There is a 1 point deduction for failing to acknowledge a song is a cover and not giving credit to its originator.**
 12. Each solo/duo act will perform a **25 minute set** with a 5 minute change over.
 13. Each band will perform a 25 minute set with a 10 minute change over.
 14. All performances will be judged in the categories of blues content, talent, vocals, originality and stage presence in accordance with IBC rules. (www.blues.org)
 15. All performers must bring their own instruments.
 16. There will be universal drum kit set up for all to use. Drummers are welcome to bring their own kick pedal, cymbals, snare and throne.
 17. The BBA will provide backline for bass rig and drums only. (**drummers please refer to line #12**)
 18. Piano/organ and guitar amps will **NOT** be provided.
 19. **Guitarists: Guitar amps are to be 15-20 watt amps!**
 20. A stage plot and input list must be received by Tom & Lori Butler at hoboblues@comcast.net, no later than **Friday, February 23, 2018**.
 21. We will not except changes to the stage plot and input list after **Friday, March 2, 2018**.
 22. All performers must be present during the counting of the votes.
 23. The winners of both the band competition and the solo/duo competition will perform on the main stage at the 29th Annual Billtown Blues Festival on **Sunday, June 10, 2018**.
 24. **The winner of the band and solo/duo will be eligible to compete in the International Blues Competition (IBC) in Memphis, TN in January 2019 and are required to write about their IBC experience for the Billtown Blue Notes Newsletter Spring Issue. DEADLINE IS ABSOLUTELY NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2019.**
 25. **All** Audition concert performers are not eligible to vote and will not receive a ballot.