



Berks Fiddle Fest Amateur Competition Rules

This is an amateur competition. Everyone competing should be considered of “amateur” status and does not make their primary living as a fiddle player and/or teacher.

1. Two Tunes recommended each one is 50% of your score. By only playing one tune, you will only receive 50% of highest possible total. Classical Violin pieces may be played, but will not count in the overall score.
2. Six minute time limit - Any fiddle style is permitted.
3. Playing “Orange Blossom Special” is NOT allowed.
4. Three age groups: Group 1- up to 12 years; Group 2 - 13 to 17 years; and Group 3 - 18 years and up.
5. If desired a single accompanist may be provided, if available, or you can use your own. No more than one accompanist, none on the fiddle, and only the fiddle contestant may play the melody. The accompanist may only play basic backup with no lead or solo playing.
6. No sheet music or electronic instruments allowed during the contest.
7. Contestant MAY NOT announce the name of the tune before playing. The Emcees will announce the tune.
8. Contestants are NOT allowed to say their name, any previous awards in any fiddle contest, or whom they took lessons from. They will be given a number for the judges to use in the contest. Names WILL NOT be announced on the stage at any time during the competition.
9. The contest will start at approximately 1:15pm with Group 1. Each group will be followed by approximately a 30 minute break, Cash awards can be mailed, other awards will not be mailed and must be picked up day of festival or by special arrangement with festival officials.
10. We do ‘blind’ judging. Our three judges are not facing the stage.
11. A third Tune should be planned in case of a “Fiddle-off”.

BERKS FIDDLE FEST 2026 - SEPTEMBER 20, 2026