MO Blues Jam Guidelines for Musicians

1. **You must sign up to play –**

    • **Listen for your name to be called and know what position you are on the signup sheet**

2. **The host/emcee will coordinate the jam groups and rotation of musicians**

3. **Be ready to take the stage when your name is called -**

    • **Have your instrument ready to play**
    • **Be in tune**
    • **Have other accessories prepared/staged ahead of time**
    • **Bring an instrument cable, extra strings, picks and drumsticks**

4. **Have respect and be courteous to all performers on the stage -**

    • **We are there to have fun, learn and enjoy the company of other blues artists/enthusiasts**
    • **Mistakes are OK**
    • **Performers are all different**
        • **Style**
        • **Experience and skill level –**
    • **MO Blues strives to accommodate all musicians at the sponsored jams.**

5. ***Be mindful of your stage volume-***

    • **This can be a positive or a negative effect for everyone involved with the show**

- *Performers* –

  <u>Amplified Instruments</u>
  - **Turn up a little when it is your turn to solo and then bring it back down**

  <u>Percussion</u>
  - **Quite often the instrument volume is determined by the volume of the percussion. Play to the venue size**

6. Play songs that everyone can pick up on and play –

- **This is a <u>*BLUES JAM*</u> - <u>*Play the Blues*</u>**
- **Avoid playing original material or complicated/unfamiliar songs**
- **When in Doubt - Keep it simple**
- **Announce the key and chord structure/pattern**
- **Play <u>*NICE*</u>**
  - **Everyone should have a chance to take a solo**
  - **Wait for your turn to solo**
  - **Be a good supporter and backup/rhythm section**
  - **Show extra respect the equipment of others**
  - **Being heavily intoxicated does NOT enhance your performance - It is not safe or courteous for you, the performers, equipment, patrons and the venue**

- **<u>MO Blues reserves the right to deny or limit participation</u>**

7. Be courteous to the venue and staff

- **Please tip your wait staff**
- **Be a good customer -**
  Enjoy all the hospitality provided at the venue – *Remember* - Food and Beverage sales paired with tips are how the venue and its employees make their living