

TOYOTA COUNTRY MUSIC BUSKING CHAMPIONSHIPS TAMWORTH 2025

TERMS AND CONDITIONS



REGISTRATION

Registration is compulsory to busk at the Toyota Country Music Festival Tamworth 2025.

A musical busker is an entertainer who provides impromptu performances for the public by playing a musical instrument and/or singing in public places.

In order to receive a permit for busking, you must fit the description of a musical busker as stated above. If your act is not considered busking, permits for street artists and entertainers or trading are available from www.tcmf.com.au

Persons found to be acting outside of this description who have obtained a permit under false pretences will have their Busking Permit removed immediately and will not be eligible to obtain any other permit for the Tamworth Country Music Festival.

Buskers are entitled to sell their own merchandise. Only merchandise relevant to the registered buskers and disclosed on the Busking Registration Form and approved by Tamworth Regional Council may be sold.

SITE ALLOCATION AND EXCLUSION ZONES

Buskers with a pre-existing relationship or agreement with a retailer should include their site location on the registration form. Buskers are encouraged to liaise with retailers either before the festival or when they arrive in Tamworth in order to find a location. Tamworth Regional Council will provide **limited** assistance to those who are unable to find a location to busk.

Buskers are permitted to perform at approved busking locations only. These locations are indicated on the Busking Map and will be marked on the street.

NOTE: There will be busking exclusion zones at the Fitzroy Street/Peel Street intersection and the designated area at the Fitzroy Street/Kable Avenue intersection. Please refer to map. Performers who are found to be busking in these areas will be asked to relocate to another site.

SOUND LEVELS AND RECORDED MUSIC

Sound levels will be closely monitored throughout the festival. If the noise output generates complaints and it is determined to be intrusive, excessively repetitive or inappropriate, buskers will be instructed to reduce the volume to an acceptable level as deemed by an Authorised Officer.

Busking activity should operate at a level so that the sound does not disrupt business establishments or detract from public comfort.

All buskers must include a live element to their performance – RECORDED MUSIC is not to be played during breaks.

MEDIA CONSENT AND RELEASE

By registering to busk at the Toyota Tamworth Country Music Festival 2025 I hereby grant Tamworth Regional Council and accredited Festival media the irrevocable right to take and use Images and Recordings of me, for the purposes of Publication for any Council purposes in whole or in part, including but not limited to publication on social media, websites, internet broadcasts and any other publications of any other kind as released by Council and accredited Festival media.

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BEHAVIOUR

Expected behaviour and attitude includes:

- to act in a friendly manner and cooperate with retailers, residents, other buskers, Tamworth Regional Council and other Authorised Officers;
- be respectful of other buskers;
- to cooperate with other buskers in close proximity to ensure all buskers have an opportunity to perform and be heard;
- be responsible for their performance and surrounding environment;
- be willing to address complaints; and
- work in conjunction with existing businesses and ensure entrance ways and fire exits are not blocked.

Buskers who do not behave in this manner may have their Busking Permit revoked.

The following behaviour will **not** be tolerated under any circumstances:

- aggressive, abusive, offensive or hostile behaviour;
- use of obscene expletives;
- unwillingness to cooperate with retailers, residents, other buskers, Tamworth Regional Council and other Authorised Officers;
- personal attacks or insults; and
- threats of physical violence.

Buskers engaging in this behaviour will have their permits suspended immediately.

COMPLIANCE

Registration numbers must be displayed at all times.

Busking is not permitted between 12am and 7am.

Performers may receive a monetary appreciation from the audience for their performance but may not solicit funds in a way which is likely to cause any discomfort to individuals.

Authorised officers of Tamworth Regional Council may at any time instruct a busker to cease performing if the officer believes that the performance:

- is causing public inconvenience or nuisance;
- is likely to cause harm to the public or property; and/or
- impedes pedestrian access, fire exits or entrances to shops/buildings. The busker must immediately comply with such a request.

Buskers must not use dangerous implements including knives, swords (including theatrical knives and swords) or any activity involving the use of fire or animals. Please see application for a Roaming Entertainer Registration form <https://www.tcmf.com.au/stalls-and-performers>.

COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Tamworth Regional Council encourages self-regulation of busking activities. The Busking Terms and Conditions encourage buskers to work co-operatively and take responsibility for managing performance spaces and to solve disputes and complaints at a local level.

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Where it is evident that this is not the case, Tamworth Regional Council undertakes an educational approach by initiating discussions with permit holders to resolve issues as quickly and amicably as possible.

Following a complaint or the report of a breach of terms and conditions, an Authorised Officer will visit the site to seek rectification. Action is initiated according to the severity of the breach and the effect it is having on the safety, access and amenity of the area. Action may include an official written warning to the busker. If a busker is issued three (3) written warnings they will have their busking permit removed which will result in the inability to busk in the CBD for the remainder of the 2025 Tamworth Country Music Festival.

Failure to comply with the request to cease busking may result in the involvement of NSW Police.

VEHICULAR ACCESS TO PEEL STREET AND CBD

Strict road closures operate during the Tamworth Country Music Festival. Vehicle access into Peel Street is prohibited during the Festival road closure period being Wednesday, 15 January to Monday 27 January 2025. Peel Street will be closed between Brisbane and White Streets. Peel Street between Brisbane and Bourke Streets will remain open to traffic.

Buskers are encouraged to perform with a limited amount of equipment as entry into Peel Street will be via foot.

POWER ACCESS

Battery powered DC appliances are encouraged as power cannot be guaranteed at all times. Retailers may also provide power at their discretion but it is not guaranteed.

Where possible, Tamworth Regional Council will allocate access to power poles in the CBD. It is the applicants' responsibility to ensure the activity shall be carried out so as to not endanger or do anything which is likely to endanger the public. As there are a limited number of power poles in Peel Street, buskers are not guaranteed access to power.

All electrical equipment and power cables must be tested and tagged within the last 12 months. In addition, power cables must be heavy duty and suitable for outdoor use. Failure to comply with this may result in busking registration being cancelled.

JUDGING AND BUSKING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Judging of the Toyota Country Music Busking Championships will be conducted daily, commencing on Friday, 17 January 2025.

To be eligible to compete in this competition and to perform at the Best of the Buskers Concert you must be registered.

The top 10 busking acts will be notified of their selection prior to the Toyota Country Music Busking Championships, using contact details provided with their registration.

Toyota Best of the Buskers Concert will be held during the Tamworth Country Music Festival, with the time, date and location to be confirmed and advised to all buskers prior to the Festival commencing. Selection notification date and time will be confirmed to buskers prior to Festival commencing. Buskers who have been selected to perform will be advised of sound check, number of songs and time limit for performance and performance start time.

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Finalists must be present 30 minutes before their performance.

Acts will be judged at the concert by a panel of judges whose decision will be final.

Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place as well as a People's Choice winner.

If equipment is provided for the use of any busker at the Best of the Buskers Concert, the busker(s) shall be solely responsible for the care and correct use thereof and any damage shall be compensable to the Organisers.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE:

The People's Choice voting system comes in two parts. From Friday 17 January 2025 people can vote for their favourite busker by using the QR code located on their busking poster. There is no limit to how many times a person can vote but details must be filled out in full and correctly. Buskers must display their poster whenever performing and voters must enter the name and Busking ID number displayed on the poster as written to validate their vote. Section 1 of People's Choice closes the day before the Top 10 contestants are announced for the Championships. Section 2 of the People's Choice determines the winner of the People's Choice award on the evening of the Best of the Buskers Championship. This section occurs live during the concert and is managed digitally. The two sections of People's Choice are separate voting platforms and votes do not accumulate between sections. There is no manual system for voting in either section of The People's Choice. The Busking Coordinator and Judges reserve the right to manage the People's Choice system as they deem appropriate.

Employees of the Organiser (Tamworth Regional Council) and their immediate families are ineligible to enter.

Any breach of these terms and conditions shall render the party ineligible for any prize in the competition and may also result in the party being asked to cease performing immediately.

Tamworth Regional Council does not accept any responsibility for the loss, damage or injury of any kind whatsoever occurring to a participant in this competition and all participants by signing these Terms and Conditions hereby acknowledge they have entered into this competition entirely at their own risk.

Everyone is welcome to busk at the Tamworth Country Music Festival and we wish all buskers the best of luck during the Toyota Country Music Busking Championships Tamworth 2025.