

2026 Idaho State Fiddle and Picking Contest Contest Schedule, Structure, Standards and Clarifications

- The 2026 Idaho State Fiddle and Picking Contest will be held April 11th at the Calvary Chapel located at 350 N Main St. in Mountain Home, Idaho
- Chairman for the 2026 Idaho State Fiddle and Picking Contest is Emma Beck
Cell: 208-861-1666 E-mail: richemma26@yahoo.com
- Contest Manager for the 2026 Idaho State Fiddle and Picking Contest is Corrine Wolfe
Cell: 208-219-8822
- Admission to the event is free to the general public.
- **Small Fry, Senior and the Novice Division** will occur Saturday April 11th starting at 10:00 am. Check-in and in person registration for these categories will start at 9:00 am. Registration will close for these categories at 9:30 am.
- **Picking and Twin Fiddling Division** will occur Saturday April 11th starting at 11:00 am. Check-in and in person registration for these categories will start at 9:00 am. Registration will close for these categories at 10:30 am.
- **Jr. Jr., Junior, Adult, and Open Fiddle Champion Divisions** will take place Saturday evening following the other competitions. Check-in and in person registration for these categories will start at 9:00 am. Registration will close for these categories at 12:30 pm.
- **Please Register in advance** (by April 6th 2026 to avoid the late fee of \$10)
Register by mail by downloading the contest registration form from our website:
<https://idahostatefiddlecontest.webador.com/registration>
Please send your check and your entry form to:
Generations Arts and Education Inc.
1557 Southside Blvd South
Melba, ID 83641

Or email your entry form to: generations.arts.ed@gmail.com

You may also register on-line at our website:
<https://idahostatefiddlecontest.webador.com/registration>

If you choose to register digitally, please pay your fees to through Venmo
<https://account.venmo.com/u/generations-arts-ed>

Please note that you will **not be considered registered** until your fees are received.

- **Registration on the day(s) of the contest** is permitted but there is an additional \$10.00 fee.
- Awards Ceremonies will occur immediately following completion of competition.
- The contest is open to musicians without discrimination of age, gender, race, ethnic background, nation of birth or religion.

- The contest is open to musicians regardless of state of residence. The first place winner in each certified fiddle age category will qualify to represent as our contest champion for that particular age division at the National Old Time Fiddle Contest for June of 2026.
- Contestants may compete in both their age category and in the Open Champion division. The winner of the Open Champion Division will represent as our contest champion for the National Old Time Fiddle Contest for June of 2026.
- Contestants, instructors, accompanists, volunteers, contest staff and members of the audience are requested to demonstrate courteous and respectful behavior toward all others.
- The **Novice Fiddle Divisions** are only for those who have never competed in a contest before.
- **Certified Fiddle Age-based Divisions**; Small Fry (8 years and younger); Junior-Junior (9 to 12) and; Junior (13 to 17); Adult (18 to 59); and Senior (60 and above).
- The **Fiddle Judges – Contestants Meeting** scheduled for 8:30 am Saturday April 11th at 9:30 am. If a contestant does not attend the meeting, they are solely responsible for not having received the information presented.
- The **Order of Play** for each division will be posted at specific locations in the lobby. Please leave the sheets where posted. Awards will be presented to the top five contestants in all divisions.
- **Clarification** of contest rules and standards is the responsibility of the Contest Chairman. The Chairman's decision is final.
- **Announcement** of certified contestants advancing to the second/third round of competition will be made by posting the advancement report at specified locations. The report will contain only the names of those contestants advancing to the next round, along with their order of play.
- The **judges will not be sequestered** from the competition. The contestant is introduced to the judges by name, division title, round of play and order of play.
- **Judging criteria** for each tune includes style, dance ability, rhythm, timing, and tone quality. A contestant's score for a round of play is the sum total of scores from the individual judges. Points may be deducted for rule violations. The final score for a contestant that advanced to round two or three of competition is the sum of scores from all rounds.
- On completion of each contestant's performance, the Judges will complete and sign their individual score sheets. The score sheets are immediately removed from the judges' table and delivered to the scorekeeper. Once the judges sheets are given to the scorekeeper they can not be changed or altered and are considered final.

Integrity of the Judging Process.

The challenge to each judge is to independently and fairly score the performance. Once a Judge signs his or her score sheet for a specific contestant they have no opportunity to change the scores. Judges are not, at any time during the contest, informed of the tabulated scores. Judges are not aware of the final top five contestant standings in any division until they hear such information announced at the awards ceremonies. Judges are not allowed to discuss with the public the performance of any contestant at any time during the contest. For the purposes of this contest, the term “Public” includes contestants, instructors, accompanists, parents and all other members of the general audience.

We ask all members of the Public to refrain from any activity that would or could potentially compromise the integrity of the judging process.

Your Feedback is Important to Us

Comments, concerns, recommendations or complaints can be submitted by Instructors, Accompanists, Parents or a Contestant in any of the Junior or Adult divisions. The issue can address contest rules, rules violations, contest operations or procedures or the judging process. Please submit your comment, concern or recommendation verbally or in writing to the Contest Manager. Complaints must be submitted in writing to the Contest Chairman.