



INTERNATIONAL BLUES CHALLENGE

2024 SBS IBC Application Narrative

The Sacramento Blues Society (SBS) has a past history of sending a band and/or duo to the International Blues Challenge (IBC) in Memphis. SBS is very excited to once again offer the opportunity to a member band for the 2024 Challenge with an award of \$1000.

The SBS IBC Competition this year will be:

Sunday, May 21, 2023

The Boardwalk

9426 Greenback Lane

Orangevale, CA 95662

Noon-6pm

Bands must be a SBS member band and a BLUES act and pay the non-refundable entry fee of **\$50**. SBS band membership can be established at IBC entry.

Application open date is **March 15, 2023**. The application and payment must be submitted by **April 15, 2023** to secure your place on the competition roster. **Please note:** We are accepting applications for ten (10) bands. Applications will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis until those ten slots are filled. A wait list will be compiled after the first ten slots are filled. On-line form submission date or postmark will be used to determine acceptable applications.

INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

After receiving your application, the SBS IBC liaison will be your contact throughout the event process. If you have questions or concerns, please contact, SBS IBC Chairperson/Liaison Renee Erickson-Sullivan:

renee.sacblues@gmail.com.

The competition will follow the rules of The Blues Foundation (www.blues.org). Each set will be limited to 25 minutes, and each competitor will be allowed one 10-minute set change.

The winning band will be required to perform at a minimum of two SBS-produced fundraisers at no charge. Proceeds from these events will be deposited into a SBS fund to help defray band travel expenses to and from Memphis, but we cannot guarantee an “all-expense paid” trip.

Changes to the members or the name of winning Acts, without just cause (SBS board approval), may result in forfeiture of prize monies and the right to represent the Sacramento Blues Society at the International Blues Challenge.

You will be given your position in the SBS competition one week prior to the event. Positions are determined by a random drawing. Performance slot times are approximate; actual times may vary if the event is ahead of or behind schedule. Acts must be ready to take the stage immediately after the scheduled preceding act, or the Challenge will proceed to the next scheduled act. Such acts may be allowed to perform later (at the Challenge Director’s discretion), but will incur a ten-point penalty to their Average Weighted Score.

You will be required to submit a playlist by email one week prior to the competition. Please list originals and covers. Original songs are encouraged.

The SBS will be the final arbiter of any disputes. Disputes must be received in writing at the SBS mailbox no later than seven days following the Challenge. The SBS IBC Committee will review all disputes and communicate its decision to the Act’s designated representative.

Good sportsmanship is a basic expectation of contestants. Overt acts of poor sportsmanship before, during or after the event will result in the Act being disqualified from the SBS Blues Challenge and may result in the Act being banned from future SBS Blues Challenges and other Sacramento Blues Society events.

All photos, videos and audio recordings taken by the SBS and/or SBS representatives in conjunction with the SBS Blues Challenge are the sole property of the SBS and the SBS owns the copyright of the performance media (pictures, videos, audio, et al).

Each accepted applicant will receive advance notification of the competition's rules and judging criteria that is mandated by The Blues Foundation in Memphis, Tennessee.

Please focus preparations on the following criteria, established by The Blues Foundation:

- 1.) Originality
- 2.) Vocal(s)
- 3.) Blues content
- 4.) Stage presence
- 5.) Instrumental talent

A short biography of your band and a high-resolution (300 dpi) photo must be submitted by April 25th for the competition program (this can be submitted along with your entry.) A stage plot and input list is required. This too can be submitted with your entry or emailed to SBS IBC: renee.sacblues@gmail.com

Day of Competition Production:

Band members will be given passes when they arrive for entry. Due to the number of participants there will be no guest list.

Each band should be there two hours before their starting time. Lineups can change, be there early and be prepared to change positions if needed. You will only have 10 minutes to get on stage after the prior band is done.

Backline will be provided. (Bass amp, guitar amp, drum kit and microphones). Competitors are *prohibited* from bringing their own guitar amplifiers (harp amps and keyboard amps being the only exceptions). Musicians should bring their own DI boxes. Every effort will be made to

provide suitable equipment. Exceptions to this prohibition may only be granted pursuant to a formal written petition submitted in writing and received via email by the IBC Liaison no less than 30 days prior to the competition. If you desire, you may bring your own microphone, but set-up time limits are still in effect. If you wish to bring any special equipment not included with the standard backline set up, such as a harp amp, please contact the IBC liaison (5 days) prior to the event.

Each band will check in with the stage manager upon arrival. The stage manager will direct you to start getting ready when the band prior to your slot is on stage.

There is a firm twenty-five (25) minute time limit for your set. Point deductions will be made if you exceed 25 minutes. An entry is permitted to finish their set earlier than the 25 minute time limit without a point penalty. When done with your set, each band will be directed to leave the stage immediately.

A panel of judges will decide the overall winner. These judges are local and regional experts in the music industry and are chosen based on their experience, integrity, and ability to be impartial. A copy of each completed judging sheet will be forwarded to you after the competition (minus the judge's names) for you to assess your performance.

OFFICIAL RULES & SCORING CRITERIA can be found on The Blues Foundation website under the International Blues Challenge tab: www.blues.org.

The winning band will be announced at the end of the evening.