

CrossRoads Baptist Camp

COMPETITION GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES

Camp Spirit & Philosophy

We recognize that churches represented at camp may come from a variety of backgrounds and styles. In order to help maintain consistency throughout the week, we ask that all music, preaching, and presentations reflect the conservative atmosphere and ministry philosophy of the camp.

These guidelines are not meant to criticize churches that may do things differently, but simply to communicate the spirit Crossroads Baptist Camp is seeking to maintain. Our philosophy is intentionally simple, conservative, and ministry-focused, with an emphasis on strong biblical truth, clear Christ-honoring communication, and sincere presentation.

As churches prepare competition entries, we encourage them to consider not only the message being presented, but also the overall style and delivery. If churches or sponsors have questions regarding music selection or presentation expectations, we would be happy to help and encourage them to reach out to the camp staff beforehand.

Music Competition Guidelines

Our desire for the music competition is to honor the Lord through Christ-centered, God-honoring music that reflects the spirit and standards of our camp ministry. Please review the following guidelines carefully before participating.

General Expectations

- All music selections should glorify Christ and reflect a spirit of worship, reverence, and ministry.
- Songs should be appropriate for a church setting and consistent with the philosophy and standards of the camp.
- Contestants should present themselves with humility, sincerity, and a servant's spirit.

Song Selection

- Songs should not exceed 5 minutes in length unless prior approval is given.
- Music should be doctrinally sound and spiritually edifying.
- Contemporary performance styles, worldly vocal techniques, or entertainment-driven presentations should be avoided.
- Judges may deduct points for songs or arrangements that do not fit the spirit and style of the camp.

Style & Presentation

To help provide equal opportunity for every church represented, contestants are encouraged to choose music and presentation styles that match the conservative atmosphere of the camp. Understanding the style and philosophy of the competition helps judges evaluate entries fairly and consistently.

Participants should avoid:

- Excessive vocal embellishments or performance-driven singing styles
- Distracting choreography or movements
- Imitation of secular or contemporary Christian artists
- Music arrangements that overpower the message of the song

We encourage music that is:

- Christ-honoring
- Clear and understandable
- Worshipful in spirit
- Ministry-focused rather than performance-focused

Dress Standards

Participants should dress modestly, neatly, and in a manner becoming of Christian ministry.

Young Men

- Dress shirts, ties, and dress pants are encouraged.
- Hair should be neat and conservative.
- No casual attire such as jeans, athletic wear, or t-shirts.

Young Ladies

- Dresses or skirts should be modest in length (below the knee) and fit.
- Necklines and sleeves should reflect Christian modesty.
- Excessively tight, flashy, or distracting attire should be avoided.

Camp leadership reserves the right to make final decisions regarding appropriateness of attire.

Group Entries

- Groups should maintain balanced participation whenever possible.
- One individual should not dominate an ensemble entry.

Accompaniment

- Live accompaniment is encouraged when possible.
- Soundtracks are not permitted.

Judging will be based on:

- Spiritual impact and message
- Vocal and musical quality
- Song selection
- Presentation and appearance
- Overall ministry effectiveness

The goal of the competition is not simply musical excellence, but using music as a tool to honor the Lord and encourage others.

Thank you for helping us maintain a Christ-honoring atmosphere throughout camp week!

Preacher Boys Competition Guidelines

The purpose of the Preacher Boys Competition is to encourage young men to develop and use their God-given ability to preach the Word of God. Our desire is to cultivate preaching that is biblical, Christ-centered, Spirit-filled, and consistent with the philosophy and standards of the camp. The goal of this competition is not simply public speaking ability, but faithful preaching of God's Word.

General Expectations

- Messages should be prepared prayerfully and preached with sincerity and conviction.
- Contestants should demonstrate respect for the Word of God, the pulpit, and the spirit of the competition.
- Preaching should be ministry-focused rather than performance-focused.

Bible Version

- The King James Version (KJV) must be used exclusively in all preaching and Scripture references.
- Contestants should preach directly from the KJV and avoid quoting from other translations.

Message Guidelines

- Sermons should be between 5–8 minutes unless otherwise specified.
- Messages should be doctrinally sound and clearly organized.
- Contestants may preach topical or expository messages.
- Sermons should include Scripture and practical application.
- Excessive shouting, theatrics, forced mannerisms, or imitation preaching styles should be avoided.

Dress Standards

Contestants should dress in a manner becoming a young man preparing for ministry.

Expected attire includes:

- Dress shirt and tie
- Dress pants
- Dress shoes
- Coats are encouraged when possible.

The following should be avoided:

- Jeans or casual attire
- Athletic shoes
- Distracting hairstyles or appearance

Judging will be based on:

- Biblical content
- Use of Scripture
- Clarity and organization
- Delivery and communication
- Spiritual sincerity and effectiveness

Ladies Bible Storytelling Competition Guidelines

The Ladies Bible Storytelling Competition is designed to encourage young ladies to effectively communicate biblical truth in a clear, engaging, and Christ-honoring way. Participants should seek to present Scripture with sincerity, preparation, and a heart for ministry.

General Expectations

- Bible stories should be presented respectfully and accurately.
- Storytelling should clearly communicate biblical truth and application.
- Participants should focus on ministry and clarity rather than performance or entertainment.

Bible Version

- The King James Version (KJV) must be used for all Scripture references and quotations.
- Bible stories should remain faithful to the biblical account.

Presentation Guidelines

- Presentations should be between 4–7 minutes unless otherwise specified.
- Contestants may use expression, voice variation, and appropriate gestures to help communicate the story clearly.
- Excessive dramatics, theatrical acting, or distracting performance elements should be avoided.

Dress Standards

Young ladies should dress modestly and neatly in a manner honoring to the Lord and consistent with camp standards.

Please avoid:

- Tight or revealing clothing
- Excessively casual attire
- Distracting hairstyles or accessories

Judging will be based on:

- Accuracy of the Bible story
- Clarity and communication
- Spiritual application
- Preparation and presentation
- Overall ministry effectiveness

Our desire is for each participant to use her abilities to point others to the truths of God's Word and bring honor to Christ.

Piano & Instrumental Competition Guidelines

The purpose of the piano and instrumental competitions is to encourage young people to use their musical abilities in a way that reflects the conservative spirit and ministry philosophy of the camp. Participants should seek to present music with preparation, sincerity, and a style appropriate for a local church ministry setting.

General Expectations

- Sacred music is required for all entries.
- Music selections should reflect a conservative church atmosphere in both arrangement and presentation.
- Songs should not exceed 5 minutes unless prior approval is given.
- Participants should strive for clarity, simplicity, and a ministry-minded presentation rather than a recital or concert style.

Music Selection & Style

- Music should emphasize strong melody and meaningful presentation.
- Contestants should avoid music that is heavily syncopated, jazz-influenced, theatrical, or commonly associated with contemporary performance styles.
- Excessive repetition, dramatic musical effects, or overly stylized arrangements should be avoided.
- Instrumental selections should reflect a conservative ministry style suitable for a church service setting.

Presentation

- Participants should present themselves with reverence, sincerity, and professionalism.
- Excessive body movement, dramatic gestures, or attention-drawing performance elements should be avoided.
- The overall style and delivery should reflect the spirit and atmosphere of the camp.

Dress Standards

Participants should dress modestly, neatly, and appropriately for church ministry.

Young Men

- Dress shirts, ties, dress pants, and dress shoes are encouraged.
- Casual attire such as jeans, athletic wear, or t-shirts should be avoided.

Young Ladies

- Dresses or skirts should reflect Christian modesty in length and fit.
- Tight, flashy, or distracting attire should be avoided.

Judging will be based on:

- Music selection
- Accuracy and preparation
- Musical quality
- Presentation and appearance
- Overall ministry effectiveness

If churches or sponsors have questions regarding music selection, style, or presentation expectations, we encourage them to contact the camp staff beforehand.