

SONG WRITING COMPETITION 2025
OPEN TO ANY MEMBER OF ANY MEN'S SHED IN QUEENSLAND

(AN INITIATIVE OF THE MAROOCHY MEN'S SHED)

PRIZES: WINNER, Cash/ Merchandise to value of \$1000.00,
SECOND PLACE Cash/Merchandise to value of \$750.00

LIVE PUBLIC LAUNCH BY PRIZE WINNERS
at Coolum Men's Shed Event "Shed Music 25"
Sat 06 Sept 25

COMPETITION RULES

This Song writing Competition is an initiative of the Maroochy Men's Shed and will be managed by this Shed. The Maroochy Men's Shed is referred to as MMS throughout all documents.

Opening and Closing Dates

This Competition will be opened on Monday 17th February 2025
Entries will close at 12 noon on Monday 30th June 2025

Web site for details

All Queensland Shed members seeking information are asked to visit the
Competition website: maroochymensshed.com.au/songwriting

A copy of these Rules is on the website, Please read them carefully to ensure you understand them
before taking the step of forwarding your Expression of Interest

Expression of interest

If **interested** in entering this competition, please click on the Expression of Interest link on the website,
complete the Form and send as directed on the Form

The MMS will then provide you with a response to your Expression of interest and also forward to you
an Entry Form to lodge your entry when you wish to send your completed entry.

Entries will be received only from members of a Men's Shed Registered in Queensland and only from
those who were members of such a shed on or before 31 Dec 2024

Only entries which fully comply with these Competition Rules will be accepted.

Submission of Entries

Entries will be received only on an Entry Form, lodged by noon 30th June 2025

All entries must also be accompanied by an MP3 format recording of the competition song with an
arrangement and/or backing track, as completed by the song writer (entrant) personally or in
collaboration with others, who are not required to be Shed members. The Entry must also be
accompanied by a separate written copy of the Lyrics of the song as recorded in the MP3 as submitted,
and, where applicable, include written advice of any collaboration agreement relating to the arrangement
for the song as entered. See "Originality" below. The MMS does not require the details of any such
agreement entered into by the Entrant.

Multiples entries:

One shedder will be entitled to enter a maximum of two songs but only one song will be permitted for
each entry Form.

Notes

- a. The song writer may or may not be a party in the actual MP3 presentation of the song.
- b. The MMS will not be considered to be a party to any arrangements entered into by the
songwriter.

- c. The songwriter's ownership remains at all times subject to normal copyright law, and any agreements entered into by him.
- d. Any further development of the song will not be part of this competition. The entry will be judged solely on the lyrics and MP3 as provided with the Entry Form
- e. Artificial intelligence (AI) is not allowed. By entering this competition the Entrant certifies that AI programs have not been used.

Genre:

There are no restrictions of genre for this competition

Originality

Both Lyrics and musical arrangement are to be original only. Where the lyrics and the music is the result of collaboration with other parties the entry must be accompanied by advice of such agreement.

Judges

A panel of 3 judges, suitably qualified, have been appointed, on a voluntary basis by the MMS.. They will advise the MMS of the winning entries by Friday 25th July 25.
The Judges will not have access to the names of entrants.

Judging.

Definition and marking

In this competition the word "song" is the original lyrics and the musical presentation as one unit together.

The judges will score each criteria, on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (supurb). and will determine the result of the competition based on the total score of the 3 judges.. They will decide a winner and a second place.

Criteria

1. Lyrics

- **Originality:** *Does the song offer a fresh perspective or unique storytelling?*
- **Emotional Impact:** *Are the lyrics moving, relatable, or evocative?*
- **Structure:** *Do the verses, chorus, and bridge flow naturally?*
- **Clarity:** *Are the lyrics clear and easy to understand without being simplistic?*
- **Theme** *consistent throughout, clear message.*

2. Melody

- **Catchiness:** *Does the melody stay in your head after listening?*
- **Complexity and Creativity:** *Is the melody innovative yet approachable?*
- **Harmonic Balance:** *Does the melody work well with the chord progression?*

3. Composition and Arrangement

- **Dynamics:** *Does the song effectively use volume, pacing, and intensity changes?*
- **Instrumentation:** *Are the musical elements complementary and well-arranged?*
- **Cohesion:** *Does the composition feel like a unified piece?*
- **Clarity:** *is there a clear balance to hear the elements of the composition.*

4. Genre

Adherence to Genre: *Whilst there is no genre restriction in this competition, all entrants are asked to identify, on their lyric sheet, the genre into which their song fits, for judging purposes.*

5. Overall Impact

- **Memorability:** Does the song leave a lasting impression?
- **Connection:** Does it evoke a strong emotional or intellectual response?
- **Replayability:** Is it a song people would want to hear again?

Results, Announcements and Arrangements

The MMS will advise all non winner entrants by Tuesday 29th July 25, that they are not a winning entry, and entrants will thereafter be free of any obligations under these competition rules.

The MMS will destroy its copy of the entry lyrics and MP3s following the Launch event..

All entrants are requested not to make any statement regarding the results of this competition until after the Launch Event on Sat 6th September 2025

The MMS will not make any public announcement on the results of this Competition until the Launch Event,

The MMS will, by Tuesday 29th July, advise the winner and runner up of their success and will enter into discussions with these entrants regarding the Launch event arrangements- see below.

Prizes

There will be prizes of cash and merchandise totalling \$1000 for the winner and cash and merchandise to the value of \$750 for the second placed entry. These amounts to be available, within 48 hours of the Launch event, as arranged between each prize winner and the MMS

Launch of the Winning Songs

The winner and second placed entry of this competition will be announced at the Coolum Men's Shed "Shed Music 25"Event at 7.00 pm on Sat 6th September 25.

Both songs will be launched live..

Participation of the entrant and the arrangements for the launch of their song will be subject to discussions referred to above

The MMS will notify all non winner entrants of the prize winners by email following the Launch Event

Commercial Interest

The MMS will have no commercial interest in any entry in this competition,

Doc/man/1 dated 31 Jan 25