

Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand's Board Policies

in relation to
**SGCNZ's VUW Regional & National
Shakespeare Festivals SGCNZ National
Shakespeare Schools Production SGCNZ
Young Shakespeare Company**

SGCNZ VUW SHAKESPEARE FESTIVALS (SGCNZ R&NSF)

New Policy 2024 (December)

Name Change

With the end of the funding from the University of Otago and diminished amount from the Sheilah Winn Trust, it was decided that the name of the Festivals be changed to simply: SGCNZ VUW Regional & National Shakespeare Festivals (SGCNZ VUW R&NSF) or just SGCNZ VUW Regional Shakespeare Festival or SGCNZ VUW National Shakespeare Festival, as is applicable. [This is subject to change once a new name is decided, possibly including a new major sponsor when one is secured.]

New Policy 2023

Number of Scenes per school/Cluster/Group:

A limit of 12 scenes per school/homeschool cluster/Community [Youth] Drama Group in Regional Festivals

In response to many remarks, that having too many entries from one school is deterring others from participating, as they 'don't have a chance' with their one or two scenes, caused the Board to approve the above restriction to a maximum of 12 scenes per school. Whilst there is no reason why an outstanding scene from a school with only one entry cannot be spotted and selected, it is true that if more scenes from a single school are entered, it increases the chance of one of theirs being selected. Having 'Prologue SGCNZ RSF Festivals' internally in schools, where more want to be involved, is encouraged. Those figures of participants are invaluable as well.

Clarified Policy 2022

Music in scenes:

Live music, rather than recorded, is preferred Putting Shakespeare's words from the play being performed, to music or sung, is permitted Use original and royalty-free music If APRA royalty fee applies, it is the responsibility of the group to gain permission and pay to use the music if necessary

New Policy 2021

Community Drama Groups:

Groups from Community [Youth] Drama Groups are now eligible to participate in the Regional and National Festivals on condition that the students are:

- Between 11 and 19 years of age
- Year 7 - Year 13 - with the same %s applying of Years 7 & 8
- Not already in a production from a School or HomeSchool Group

The SGCNZ Group Friends Fee will apply, under which as many scenes can be entered as they wish. All other Criteria and Rule also apply.

i) Small Regional Festivals:

A limit has been placed on very small Regional Festivals regarding the number of groups which may be selected.

Policy: In regions in which only two schools are participating with less than a total of 15 scenes, only one group may be selected to perform at the National Festival. This may be either a 5 minute or 15 minute scene.

ii) Large Regional Festivals:

Conversely, greater representation is permitted for very large regions.

Policy: If there are either 300 or more individuals participating, or more than 15 different schools, or 50 or more scenes in a Regional Festival, the Assessors are permitted to select 3 groups to attend the National Festival.

iii) Scene durations:

Time durations of scenes must be adhered to by performers and assessors alike. Scenes are of 5 minute or 15 minute duration.

Policy:

15 minute scenes - must be no more than 15 minutes and no less than 10 minutes

5 minute scenes – must be no more than 5 minutes and no less than 4 minutes

Scenes over or under these times are ineligible for selection for the National Festival.

If over or under at the National Festival, they cannot receive any scene awards. Individuals may still be selected for awards or SGCNZ NSSP.

iv) Participant Age limits:

Policy:

Students in groups selected for the National Festival must be a minimum of 11 years and under 20 years old. There may be up to 20% of Year 7 and 8 students in a scene and an extra supervising adult must accompany them.

Higher percentages of younger students may participate in scenes in Regional Festivals, should the Regional Representative choose to accommodate them, but those groups would be ineligible for selection for the National Festival.

v) Homeschoolers:

Policy: It was agreed that Homeschoolers be allowed to participate in SGCNZ's Competitions and in its Festivals as groups in their own right, with their Cluster being required to join as a Group Friend of SGCNZ.

vi) SGCNZ Friends Fee:

Policy: Schools and Homeschool Clusters participating in SGCNZ VUW Regional and National SF must pay the relevant SGCNZ Friends Fee to SGCNZ - **no other charge should be levied by other parties.**

Policy: Individuals entering SGCNZ's allied Competitions in Costume Design, Music Composition, Video Title Card, Poster, Static Image Design and Essay may enter under their School's/Homeschool Cluster Group/Community Youth Drama Group Friends' Fee or as individual Student Friends.

SGCNZ must be notified if you are no longer wishing to retain your Friends Membership and receive the inherent benefits. *(NB An online version of our magazine is an option, password protected, only for our Friends)*

vii) Use of text:

Policy: Use of Shakespeare's text is imperative. Permission must be gained from the CEO for any deviations, even for those deemed essential for sense purposes.

Policy: Translations into other languages are permitted as long as they remain faithful to the text.

viii) Translations:

- 1.) Use of translations of Shakespeare into other languages is acceptable
- 2.) ...with the proviso that a full script is given to the Regional Rep a minimum of 2 weeks in advance
- 3.) ...that the Reg Rep has a fluent speaker of the language 'vet' the translation (to ensure that it is a fair and non-contentious translation)
- 4.) ...that a speaker of the language is present during that scene's performance.

ix) Compulsory attendance at National Festival (SGCNZ VUW National SF)

All those selected to attend/participate in the National Festival must attend every performance and scheduled component of the event.

Policy: Attendance from 4pm on Thursday 29 May 2026 is encouraged. It is compulsory at all sessions at the SGCNZ VUW National Festival from Friday morning 9.15am 29 May at Wellington East Girls' College till the end of the Award Ceremony at 9.30pm on Sunday evening 31 May. Attendance is highly recommended till the end of the Feedback session on Monday 1 June at a venue tbc, or preferably noon, in order to hear the Inspiring Guest Speaker. The CEO has the discretion to make allowances only in very exceptional circumstances.

x) Health and Safety:

Policy: It is essential and vital for all groups, including their Supervisor, to attend the scheduled Health & Safety briefings at the SGCNZ VUW R&NSFs with the locally or SGCNZ appointed personnel.

xi) Damage:

Policy: Any student causing wilful damage at the Regional or National SF will be responsible for covering the repair costs involved and will be ineligible for awards or selection for SGCNZ NSSP.

SGCNZ Young Shakespeare Company (SGCNZ YSC)

i) Attendance:

Policy: Attendance is required at all scheduled sessions of the SGCNZ Young Shakespeare Company programme in England. Special requests from parents and students wanting to undertake side activities and personal visits during scheduled times will be refused.

Our Travel Agent, Kerry Maher, is very willing to make bookings for students to arrive earlier or stay later in order to accommodate extra activities and personal visits.

Policy: All students must attend all scheduled sessions of SGCNZ YSC, whatever their nature. Personal activities and/or visits may be made in scheduled free time and then only with the knowledge beforehand of the Leader.

Consequences: Students who do not adhere to the above policy may be sent back to NZ, with the additional change of booking and any other resulting expenses paid by the student, parent/s or caregiver.

-SGCNZ Trust Board

- 7 December 2009 Updated: December 2012; December 2013; February 2014; December 2014; December 2015; December 2016; October 2017; May 2018; February 2019; December 2020; April 2021; Dec 2021; May 2022; October 2022; February 2023; 15 December 2023; 9 January 2025