



**WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY
2017 International Blues Competition (IBC) Contest
Two Categories: Bands (Three Piece and Larger) and Solo/Duo Acts
CONTESTANT APPLICATION**

Please complete this application if you want to compete in the Washington Blues Society contest to send a band or a solo/duo act to the IBC in Memphis in January of 2018. We are working with the Walla Walla Blues Society (WWBS) and the Inland Empire Blues Society (IEBS) to hold semi-finals across the state to make it easier for blues acts to participate. We will hold semi-finals on: Monday, May 29th in Seattle, WA at Capps Club, and Sunday, June 4th in Anacortes, WA at the H2O Club, Sunday, June 11th at the Sports Center Club, Sunday June 18th at the Roadhouse Inn, and Sunday June 25th Vancouver/Portland area (Location TBA). The finalists will compete Sunday, August 20th at the Taste of Music Festival in Snohomish, WA. If we receive 10+ applicants for any of the semi-final events, our Board may select applicants via a blind lottery at the May 2017 Board meeting. This form is an initial statement of interest, and not binding. Judges will evaluate acts using the Blues Foundation score sheet (www.blues.org/ibc/scoring.php).

LOCATION (CIRCLE ONE)

Seattle (5/29)

Anacortes (6/4)

Yakima (6/11)

Spokane (6/18)

Vancouver/Portland (6/25)

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| Band or Solo Duo (Circle One) | |
| Contact | |
| Mailing Address | |
| Best Phone | |
| Email | |
| Signature | |

PARTICIPATION CRITERIA, FEES, AND DEADLINE: Contestants must be a blues act, pay the nonrefundable entry fee, reside in WA, OR, ID, MT, BC or ALB, and at least one member must belong to (or join) the WBS upon application. (Membership in the WWBS for acts competing in Yakima or membership in the IEBS for acts competing in Spokane is required in place of WBS Membership requirement.) Each winner will be required to perform at a minimum of two fundraisers in 2017 and one fundraiser in 2018 at no charge. Proceeds from these events and fees, will be deposited into a WBS fund to help defray expenses for each winning act to and from Memphis, but we cannot guarantee an "all expense-paid" trip. Band entry fee is \$30; solo duo entry fee is \$15. Applications and entry fees must be received no later than Thursday, May 9th by a WBS Board member or at:

**Washington Blues Society
ATTN: President, IBC Entry
PO Box 70604
Seattle, WA 98127**



Washington Blues Society Sets Local Competitions for 2017 International Blues Challenge

Washington Blues Society Contacts:

Tony Frederickson, President (206) 612-6055 president@wabluessociety.org
Rick Bowen, Vice President (425) 422-5062 vicepres@wabluessociety.org

The Washington Blues Society's local competitions for the 2018 International Blues Challenge in Memphis have been set! It's time for bands and solo/duo acts to make their plans to compete. One band and one solo/duo act will represent the Washington Blues Society (WBS) in Memphis at the world's largest gathering of blues musicians on January 16th through the 20th of 2018 on Memphis' fabled Beale Street.

We are working with the Walla Walla Blues Society (WWBS) and the Inland Empire Blues Society (IEBS) to hold semi-finals across the state to make it easier for blues acts to participate. We will hold semi-final competitions on Monday, May 29th in Seattle, WA at Capps Club, on Sunday, June 4th in Anacortes, WA at H2O, on Sunday, June 11th in Yakima, WA at the Sports Center Club, on Sunday, June 18th in Spokane, WA at the Roadhouse Inn, and on Sunday, June 25th in Vancouver/Portland, WA (TBA). The finalists will compete on Sunday, August 20th at the Taste of Music Festival in Historic Downtown Snohomish, WA. If we receive more than 10 applicants for any of the Semi-Final events our Board may select applicants via a blind lottery at the May 2017 Board meeting.

Each competition will follow the rules of the Blues Foundation. Each set will be limited to 25 minutes, and each competitor will be allowed one 15-minute set change. Any blues act that resides in WA, OR, ID, MT, BC or ALB, may enter, and the act must include at least one who is a member of the WBS. Membership can be established at IBC entry, using the membership form in the WBS Bluesletter or online at www.wabluessociety.org. Please note: membership in WWBS for acts competing in Yakima or membership in IEBS for acts competing in Spokane is required in place of the WBS membership requirement. The contest entry application may be downloaded from www.wabluessociety.org, in the April or May edition of the WBS Bluesletter, or the Inland Empire's Blues Notes, and must include the non-refundable entry fee, which pays for the backline and a PA system. Each winner will be required to perform at a minimum of two fundraisers in 2017 and one fundraiser in 2018 at no charge. Proceeds from these events and fees, will be deposited into a WBS fund to help defray expenses to get each winning act to and from Memphis, but we cannot guarantee an "all-expense-paid" trip. Band entry fee is \$30; solo duo entry fee is \$15. Applications and entry fees must be received no later than Thursday, May 9th.

All proceeds will help with expenses for Memphis. The WBS will help winners in fundraising, but cannot guarantee that all expenses for Memphis will be covered. Judges will evaluate each act using the Blues Foundation scoring criteria (www.blues.org/ibc/scoring.php) and rules (www.blues.org/ibc/rules.php). Acts may not be affiliated the WBS Board or act upon application. IBC rules also prohibit any act from competing three consecutive years at the IBC (www.blues.org/ibc/rules.php). Application is an initial statement of interest and not a binding agreement between the applicant and the WBS. Make your plans to enter now! Applications and entry fees must be received no later than Thursday, May 9th.