

Bend The Air



CIRCUS FREAKS

INTRODUCTION

Bend The Air is an annual, multi-level, specialty Aerial Arts, Acrobatics and Circus competition developed to showcase the talent of emerging young artists while supporting the growth of modern circus as it evolves. Established in 2020, *Bend The Air* puts a modern spin on the traditional circus experience with a melting pot of acts ranging from acrobatics solos and groups, aerial silks and lyra to our 'Circus Freaks' and open aerial categories. All of which provide an element of individuality, artistic expression and entertainment value.

Founded on the Sunshine Coast, *Bend The Air* invites competitors from all across Australia to compete and thrive within an environment of like-minded young artists with a diversity of backgrounds and skillsets. Our aim is to deliver the gift of performance to budding artists on their journey to professional careers in the arts and to build connections among the entertainment community.

Our knowledgeable and supportive team aim to deliver a high-quality competition space with high levels of safety and professionalism.

EVENT DATES

See our website for more details about upcoming event dates and locations

LOCATION	VENUE	EVENT DATE	KEY DATES
Sunshine Coast	CircStudios, Warana	April 16 - 17	Entries Open: Feb 19 Entries Close: March 19 Audition Results: March 24 Live Show Entries: March 31
Brisbane	La Boite Theatre, Kelvin Grove	August 27 – 28	Entries Open: June 25 Entries Close: July 30 Audition Results: August 4 Live Show Entries: August 11
NSW	TBC	TBC	

CIRCUS CATEGORIES

SOLO

Open Age

DUO/TRIO/GROUP

Open

*Please note: pending the number of entries, Bend The Air may choose to introduce different age group categories to the Circus Freak sections.

Circus Freak categories are not limited to any particular circus acts – we want to see any specialty acts come to the stage! This could include floor-based apparatus' such as Cyr Wheel and Unicyclists to Juggling, Plate Spinning, Contortion or Partner Balancing! To ensure the appropriateness and safety of acts for the competition space, these sections are subject to a video audition process to determine if you are successful in continuing to the live stage competition.

AUDITION & ENTRY PROCESS

All Circus Freak categories at *Bend The Air* are a 2 phase competition process – video audition & live competition. Phase 1 is a video audition submission which will be reviewed by our panel of judges to determine who is eligible to move onto the live performance phase of the competition. Audition submissions open on the 'entry open date' as listed per event. You can submit your audition via the *Bend The Air* website.

1. COMPETITOR REGISTRATION

All competitors must first register for the competition and pay the non-refundable **\$25 registration fee**. This can be done via the *Bend The Air* website. Each competitor is only required to pay this once and can then enter as many sections as desired (including groups) – entry fees apply. Your competitor registration gives you:

- Audition submissions for all Aerial & Circus Categories
- Access to competitor entries – eligibility to enter routines in Aerial Addicts, Circus Freaks & Acro Fanatics Categories (including, solos, duos/trios & groups).
- 10% off *Bend The Air* merch
- Access to pre-sale spectator tickets

For duo and groups, all individual competitors must register for the event and pay the \$25 registration fee, but only one person is required to submit the audition & entry forms. Please provide the details for the additional competitors in the comments section of the entry form.

2. AUDITION SUBMISSION

Once you have registered as a competitor, you will then need to submit an audition via the *Bend The Air* website. There is no fee for submitting auditions, as this is covered by your competitor registration. Complete the online form and submit your audition video.

Audition videos are to be uploaded to YouTube or Vimeo and submitted via URL link, or uploaded to the Dropbox link provided after submitting your form.

3. ROUTINE ENTRY

If the applicant is successful in the audition process, **an additional entry fee**, per routine, will be required by payment online upon submission of your entry form. Routine entry fees are as follows:

AERIAL ADDICTS	Solo	\$50
	Duo	\$60
CIRCUS FREAKS	Solo	\$30
	Duo/Trio	\$40
	Group	\$50
ACRO FANATICS	Solo	\$30
	Duo/Trio	\$40
	Group	\$50

2021 KEY DATES:

Sunshine Coast:

AUDITION ENTRY OPEN	February 19
AUDITION ENTRY CLOSE	March 19
AUDITION RESULTS ANNOUNCED	March 24
COMPETITION ENTRY DUE (for successful auditions)	March 31

Brisbane:

AUDITION ENTRY OPEN	June 30
AUDITION ENTRY CLOSE	July 30
AUDITION RESULTS ANNOUNCED	August 4
COMPETITION ENTRY DUE (for successful auditions)	August 11

AUDITION VIDEOS REQUIREMENTS:

- Audition pieces are to be a minimum 2 minutes and a maximum of 4 minutes. The recorded video is to be one continuous recording and audio is to be recorded with the video and not edited in after.
- You must show high-level manoeuvres in the video that will be completed at the competition. Your audition does not have to be the exact routine as your final routine but must be a true and accurate reflection. Any alterations to these skills must be approved by *Bend The Air* prior to performance. Failure to approve these changes may result in disqualification.
- Costumes are not required for auditions, however, clothing must contrast the background and chosen apparatus to ensure clear visuals of the performer. The video must be taken at a wide-angle to show the full performer, apparatus and any props for the entirety of the routine.

Please note:

- You will be notified of the outcome of your audition via email (to the email address provided in your registration) by the 'results announced' date as per the above dates.
- If any restricted movements are seen within your audition routine you will be notified by event organisers and be required to make these adjustments to your final routine.
- You may audition for more than one regional *Bend The Air* competition with the same routine.
- There are a limited number of places available per section at *Bend The Air*.
- The judging panel have the right to move your entry to a different section than what you originally entered, if they deem it to be more appropriate based on your your audition submission. The judges say is final.

MUSIC

- All routines are to be a minimum of 2 minutes and maximum of 4 minutes long.
- Songs are not to include any explicit language or profanity.
- All music must be cut to the length of your routine – our event staff are not able to fade the music at a requested time.
- If you are successful in progressing to the live performance phase of the competition, music file is to be sent as an MP.3 or WAV file with Competitor Waiver Forms.
- Songs are to be acquired legally and not converted from YouTube videos. It is your responsibility to ensure music adheres to copyright laws.
- Please have a backup copy of your music on a phone, Ipad, USB etc. should it be required on the day.

COSTUME & PROPS

- All costumes worn by competitors must be appropriate in regard to use on apparatus and audience discretion (e.g. nothing loose or ill-fitting and no nudity).
- All props for intended use on the matted floor, must be submitted for approval to ensure they will not damage the mats.
- No glitter, confetti, pyrotechnics, explosives or any props that will require cleaning after performance.
- Keep performance on stage (no running into the audience).
- All props must be clearly labelled with competitor name and studio name. All costumes, props and apparatus supplied by the competitor are the responsibility of the competitor.
- Please do not touch other people's equipment or belongings without permission.
- A photo of an props intended to be included in your routine must be provided on with your entry form.
- A maximum of 40 seconds will be allocated per performer to set up any pre-approved props. If props are not ready when the competitor has been cued to go on stage, they will be expected to continue without such props.
- Props must be removed from side stage at the completion of the competitor's performance.
- Any props left on site at the end of the competition (unless organised with the event director) will be placed in the bin.

RIGGING & STAGING

- The stage area will be a 10m x 8m stage with a carpeted acrobatics mat flooring (30mm high). This mat flooring will be in place for all routines, unless requested by competitor and approved by event staff, prior to the competition. If you require the flooring removed to properly use your apparatus, please advise event staff upon submission of your entry form.
- The stage area is an open stage – i.e. there will be no side stage wings or access to a back stage area for transitioning from side stage to side stage. Please keep this in mind for choreographing routines.

RULES & REGULATIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. *Bend The Air* competition is open to all artists, of all nationalities, male and female over the age of eight.
2. Competitor age for all categories will be taken from their age as at January 1, 2021. Age levels for duos, trios and groups will be determined by the oldest competitor.
3. Competitor registration – and payment of the \$25 registration fee is compulsory for ALL entrants.
4. By submitting an entry and completing the payment you are agreeing to all terms and conditions set by *Bend The Air*, including those set out in this document.
5. Bullying and any other unsportsman like behaviour will not be tolerated and can result in disqualification upon investigation.
6. All competitors and their associated parties must comply with all requests from *Bend The Air* staff and event crew during the event.
7. Competitors acknowledge that, as per their signed waiver, all activities undertaken at the competition are done so at your own risk. All competitors must complete and sign the waiver. Additionally, all competitors under the age of 18 years old must provide parental consent.
8. *Bend The Air* reserves the right to adjust any of the age categories listed, dependant on the number of entries received.

9. The running order, schedule and printable program will be developed and distributed in the lead up to the event.
10. Whilst in association with the competition, professionalism and cooperation towards other competitors, judges and competition organisers is mandatory.
11. All competitors agree that any media – photos & videos, captured at *Bend The Air* competitions can be used for the purpose of publicity and promotion.
12. All competitors must ensure you have the permission from the choreographer to perform at *Bend The Air*.
13. All competitors and studios must provide their own first aid facilities.
14. Should the event need to be cancelled/rescheduled due to COVID-19, event staff will communicate a plan, based on the current guidelines and restrictions.
15. A COVID-19 safe event plan will be developed in accordance to current restrictions in the time and location of each event. By entering the competition, all competitors agree to adhere to any guidelines put in place by the Australian Government and *Bend The Air* events team.

ENTRY SUBMISSIONS

16. There are limited places available in the competition, *Bend The Air* reserves the right to close entries before the entry due date, should all remaining places be filled.
17. Entries past the closing date can be accepted (up to the discretion of event organisers) and will incur a \$20 late submission fee.
18. All entry fees are non-refundable. If you are no longer able to attend the event, it is a courtesy to advise event staff by emailing contact@bendtheair.com.au
19. Competitors must not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs at any duration throughout the competition.
20. *Bend The Air* reserves the right to divide age categories with excessive entry numbers and combine age groups where there are insufficient numbers.

PERFORMANCE

- For competitors 12 years and under - if the competitor leaves the stage at any time, they will be able to return to the stage once to start again.
- For competitors 12 years + - if they leave the stage at any time, you will be unable to return.
- No competitors will be penalised for any technical or music issues, at the fault of event staff/equipment and will be able to return to the stage should this occur.
- *Bend The Air* reserves the right to terminate a performance at any time.
- Competitors must perform in the order stated in the official program unless a change is approved by the event director.

BACKSTAGE & DRESSING ROOMS

21. All entrants must check in with backstage marshal at least 5 acts prior to their scheduled performance
22. There is to be no congregating in the wings during a performance on stage.
23. No persons other than the performer are permitted to enter the staging area during the course of the performance.
24. All entrants and associated parties must follow the direction of backstage crew at all times.
25. Noise backstage is to be kept to a minimum.
26. All competitors and their associated parties are to respect the venues of *Bend The Air* competitions. Please ensure all dressing rooms are left tidy – any excessive mess left in the dressing rooms will result in a cleaning fee to the entrants who shared the dressing room. Any competitor found to have caused damage to the venue will be charged for relevant repair costs.
27. No cameras or recording devices are to be used in the dressing rooms, backstage or performance areas.
28. All coaches, family members, friends etc. wishing to watch the performances are required to purchase a spectator ticket and watch from the audience.

29. Where possible, *Bend The Air* will have a competitor watching area set up (excluding groups section). In venues and circumstances where this is not possible, competitors are required to purchase a spectator ticket to view the competition from the audience.

JUDGING

1. Competitors are not to speak with the judge at any stage during the competition.
2. Competitors will receive their judge's critiques following the competition.
3. The judge's decision is final. Should you feel the need to protest the decision of the judges – this must be provided in writing to the event manager 30 minutes prior to the announcement of the award. This process will incur a non-refundable \$50 administration fee, payable at time of protest submission. After this time, competitors release their right to make any formal protest regarding the results of the competition. Any protests will be put to the committee, whose decision is final.
4. Should the allocated judge not be able to perform his/her duties, *Bend The Air* reserves the right to appoint a new judge without notice.

VIOLATION OF RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Failure to comply with the Regulations and Rules as detailed in the competition kit may result in deductions or disqualifications for the competitor.
2. *Bend The Air* reserves the right to change and/or adjust any of the above information where they deem necessary, however, all competitors will be informed of any changes.

CONTACT DETAILS

Should you have any questions or queries the event organisers can be contacted via the below:

EMAIL: contact@bendtheair.com.au

PHONE: (07) 5493 1341

WEBSITE: <https://www.bendtheair.com.au/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/bendtheair/>

INSTAGRAM: @bendtheair

POSTAL ADDRESS: 7 Bearing Avenue, Warana, Qld. 4575