

**WEST COAST SONGWRITERS**  
**Monthly Chapter Songwriter Competition Rules**

Welcome to West Coast Songwriters Monthly Songwriters Competitions. These events are a great opportunity to present your songs to your fellow songwriters and industry guest judges, network with local songwriters and possible collaborators and hone your performance skills.

Below is a list of the official rules. All chapter competitions will follow the same procedures throughout the season, unless the venue has some special requirement, which is noted on the individual page.

**I. Songs must be:**

1. Original Songs
2. Performed live or performed to recorded music

**II. Performers must be:**

1. WCS Member or their designated stand-in
2. Individuals/bands may join WCS and perform the same day

**III. Judge Information:**

1. Judges may be either:
  - a. Guest music industry judge
  - b. Peer judge (fellow songwriters)
2. Songs are judged on a combination of all the following:
  - a. Song score
    - i. Lyrics (1-5 Points each)
    - ii. Melody (1-5 Points each)
  - b. Performance score
    - i. Vocal ability (1-5 Points each)
    - ii. Musicianship (1-5 Points each) 0 points if prerecorded
    - iii. Audience Rapport (1-5 Points each)
  - c. Subjective evaluations of judges (Comments added to each form)

**IV. Winners receive:**

1. Best Song
  - a. Studio time (Rules and expiration determined by individual chapter)
  - b. Local gift (determined by chapter manager & WCS)
  - c. Winner is eligible to compete in Chapter Playoffs in July/early August
  - d. Best Song winner has the opportunity to have their song featured on the WCS YouTube Channel.
  - e. Members are eligible to win Best Song twice in a competition season at the same location. HOWEVER, they must be different songs.
2. Best Performance
  - a. Prizes to be determined by Chapter manager and WCS.

**V. CHAPTER PLAYOFFS! And GRAND FINALS (AUGUST)**

1. Chapter Playoffs will be held at each location for the monthly "Best Song" winners.
2. Competitors MUST perform their winning song for the competition. No exception.
3. If a performer has won a Chapter Playoff they cannot compete at another Playoff.
4. Winner of each Chapter Playoff will compete at the Grand Finals in August for one of 3 spots performing at the Sunset Concert at the conference for 50+ industry leaders.
5. Grand Final competitors must be available to attend the conference in September. If they are not available, the chapter Playoff runner up will compete.
6. At the Playoffs and Grand Finals, competitors MUST perform their winning song to compete.
7. Playoff winners MUST perform their winning songs with live instruments at both Grand Finals and the conference.