



CALYPSO COMPETITION RULES

The following are the rules governing the Calypso Monarch Competition as set forth by the Carnival Planning & Management Committee and the Carnival Music Management Committee (CMMC). Those rules form part of the Standard Operating Procedures adopted by the CPMC/CMMC and are based on the rules developed by the respective bodies previously responsible for the management of calypso.¹

ARTICLE 1. THE NAME OF THE COMPETITION

- a) The name of the competition shall be the Calypso Monarch Competition which comprises the Quarter final, Semi-final and Finals stages. CPMC/CMMC nonetheless reserves the right to eliminate either the Quarterfinal or Semi-final but such a decision must be taken prior to the beginning of the competition.
- b) The Calypso Monarch Competition (the Competition) is organized and administered by the Carnival Planning & Management Committee, the Carnival Music Management Committee (CMMC) and the Events Company of St. Lucia (ESCL).

ARTICLE 2. ELIGIBILITY

- a) An artiste wishing to enter the Competition must be a national of St. Lucia or a resident of St. Lucia for at least (5) years. ESCL/CMMC reserves the right to request proof of nationality or length of residency at any time.

ARTICLE 3. REGISTRATION

- a) a) Every artiste must be a registered member of a Calypso Tent recognised by the CPMC/CMMC for the season.

ARTICLE 4. COMPOSITION

- a) Compositions entered in the Competition must not have been performed in any other *National competition* previously held in St. Lucia.
- b) Compositions entered in other competitions (e.g.: Power Soca or Calypso Monarch) shall not be allowed in this competition.
- c) The penalty for violation of Rule 4 (a) and 4 (b) shall be disqualification of the song/artiste from the competition.
- d) Artistes will not be allowed to refer to a script of their composition during the competition.

NB. "For the purposes of these rules a national competition means any competition which is characterized as being open to participation by eligible persons from the whole country or nation rather than being restricted to persons from a defined part or parts of the country or nation."



ARTICLE 5. ARBITRATION

- a) CPMC/CMMC shall appoint an Arbitrator to preside over the administration of the adjudication process of the competition and shall vest in him/her the authority to rule on appeals and matters in dispute or any matter requiring clarification or settlement during the competition.
- b) The Arbitrator shall be the final judge as to whether behaviour is indecent, obscene, and defamatory or in excess of the boundaries of good taste.
- c) All complaints related to the Competition must be submitted, in writing, to the Arbitrator, in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:

The Chairperson

Carnival Planning & Management Committee

Calyпсо Monarch Competition
Ground Floor Events Company of Saint Lucia
Seagrapes Avenue
Rodney Bay

- d) The Secretary shall forward any complaint received to the Arbitrator within forty-eight(48) hours.
- e) All decisions made by the Arbitrator will be final and binding on the competitors and CPMC/CMMC.

ARTICLE 6. ADJUDICATION

- a) A panel of judges shall be selected for the adjudication of each stage of the Competition.

The panel shall consist of the following:

- i) Seven judges
 - ii) Two alternates
 - iii) One official timekeeper
- b) CPMC/CMMC shall appoint a judges' coordinator who will determine the composition of the panel of judges at each stage of the competition and shall appoint a member of the panel to be Chief Judge and timekeeper.
 - c) The Competition shall be judged in FOUR (4) Stages:
 - d) With the exception of the Chief Judge, the judges selected should not adjudicate in successive stages of the competition.
 - e) For each stage of the Competition, the points system to be used by the panel for judging will be as follows:
 - Lyrics - a maximum of 40 points
 - Music – a maximum of 30 points
 - Performance - a maximum of 30 points
 - f) Each stage shall be conducted as follows:



- I. **Quarter final:**
 - i. The quarter-final shall be backed by a live band.
 - ii. Artistes will be judged performing two songs each on a date set by CPMC/CMMC in consultation with the respective Calypso Tents.
 - iii. A total of 18 artistes shall be chosen to compete at the Semi-final stage of the competition.
 - iv. Any ties occurring at the number 18 position will be broken by the choosing the person with the highest score in the area of lyrics for a place in the semi-final.

 - II. **Semi Finals:**
 - i. The semi-final shall be backed by a live band.
 - ii. Artistes will be judged performing two songs each on a date set by CPMC/CMMC.
 - iii. A total of 9 artistes shall be chosen to compete at the Finals stage of the competition.
 - iv. Any ties occurring at the number 9 position will be broken by the choosing the person with the highest score in the area of lyrics for a place in the semi-final.

 - III. **Finals**
 - i. The final shall be backed by a live band.
 - ii. The artist with the highest score will be judged the Monarch for that year.
 - iii. The first, second and third runners up will also be announced on the night of competition.
- g) The names of the judges for the season shall be publicly announced before the commencement of the Quarterfinal stage. Additionally, the names of the judges for the semi-finals and Finals shall be publicly announced on the night of the competition before the competition begins.

ARTICLE 7. THE BAND

- a) The band for the Quarter Final stage is selected by the respective Calypso Tent to provide musical accompaniment for the artistes at each of the Quarterfinal shows. Arrangements for rehearsals will be made with the respective tent leaders.
- b) The CPMC/CMMC selects the band for the Semi-finals and Final stages of the Competition.
- c) CPMC/CMMC will make arrangements for the artistes to rehearse at least twice with the Band, prior to the staging of the semi-final and final shows. This will be done in consultation with the respective tent leaders of the qualifying artistes.
- d) Subject to approval by the CPMC/CMMC, an artiste may be allowed to augment the Band, at the additional expense of the artiste, by adding instrumentation or background vocalists not provided by CPMC/CMMC no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the artiste's final rehearsal. There must be at least one (1) rehearsal with the augmented Band.
- e) The CPMC/CMMC may designate an individual to serve as the rehearsal coordinator for the persons of liaising between the qualifying artistes and the musical director of the band selected to provide the accompanying music for the semi-final and final shows.
- f) Each artiste selected to compete at the semi-finals and final shows shall provide musical scores for the songs to be performed to the designated *rehearsal coordinator or musical director*. The name of the composer/arranger shall be clearly indicated on the copies of the musical scores.
- g) Scores must be provided for all instruments which includes:



Trumpet 2
Trombone 2
Saxophone 2
Percussions
Keyboards
Guitars
Lyrics (for backing vocalists)

ARTICLE 8. COMPETITION

- a) A public announcement will be made of the artistes who qualify to compete in the Semi-finals and final shows after the completion of the quarter final and Semi-final stages of Competition.
- b) Each semi-finalist and Finalist shall make two (2) appearances on stage and perform a different song for each appearance.
- c) The reigning Monarch will compete in the Final stage of competition as the defending Monarch.
- d) In the event that the reigning Monarch fails to defend his or her title, then the artiste placing tenth in the Semi-final stage shall be included in the final.
- e) The Finalists or their duly appointed representatives shall assemble at the *ECSL* office or a location approved by CPMC/CMMC, on the date and time indicated by *ECSL* to participate in a draw to determine the position in which they will appear at the Final stage.
- f) The draw shall take place no later than 48 hours after the announcement of the qualifiers for the semi-final and final shows.
- g) Participants may agree among themselves to trade places but any amendments to the position drawn must be made known to the Secretary of the CMMC secretariat no later than 24 hours after the draw.

ARTICLE 9. PRESENTATIONS AND PROPS

- a) The content of the presentation will be at the discretion of the artiste so long as it conforms to the rules herein and the laws of the state.
- b) At the Finals stage of the competition however, each artiste shall be limited to eight (8) supporting persons on stage at any one time as part of his/her presentation, excluding the backup vocalists.
- c) Should an artiste fail to observe Article 8(b) the Chief Judge shall take note of the breach immediately after the performance has ended. The penalty for violation of Article 8 (b)) shall be a deduction of one (1) point by each Judge for every person in excess of the number permitted.
- d) At the semi -final and Final stage of the Competition, artistes who are sponsored shall inform the secretariat at least forty-eight hours before the competition of their personal sponsors.
- e) Each artiste shall further ensure that he/she bears no signage on his/her person or on stage that refers to products or services which compete with those of the Competition's sponsors.

Article 10. GENERAL

- a) The Calypso Tent Leaders are responsible for staging the respective quarter final shows for their respective tents.
- b) *CPMC/CMMC* or their designated agents shall choose the venue for the staging of Semi-final and Final stages of the Competition.



- c) Artistes shall report to the Stage Manager at the venues for the staging of the Quarterfinal, Semi-final and Final no later than the stipulated time before the scheduled start time of the event.
- d) No performance at the Quarterfinal, Semi-final stage shall exceed seven (7) minutes duration and will be timed by the official time-keeper from the commencement of the first musical note played by the band or the first vocal note performed by the artiste or the back-up vocalists or whichever comes first.
- e) A violation of Article 9(d) shall result in a one (1) point deduction by each judge for every minute or part thereof over the seven (7) minute limit up to a maximum of five (5) points prejudice. Where a violation occurs, the designated CPMC/CMMC official shall verbally inform the artiste or his representative at the end of the performance.
- f) Each performance at the Final stage shall not exceed ten (10) minutes duration and will be timed by the official time-keeper from the time the Master of Ceremonies introduces the artiste, to the end of the performance.
- g) A violation of Rule 9 (f) shall result in a one (1) point deduction by each judge for every minute or part thereof over the ten (10) minute limit. Where a violation occurs, the designated CPMC/CMMC official shall verbally inform the artiste or his representative at the end of the performance.
- h) In instances where more than one artiste appears on stage, the CPMC/CMMC must be notified in writing, before the commencement of the performance, which one of the artistes is to be judged.
- i) The scores and the order of placing of the artistes following the quarterfinal, Semi-final and Final shall be made public within forty-eight hours (48) after the completion of each round of the competition.
- j) Each artiste participating in the Finals of the Competition shall be issued with an appropriate pass by CPMC/CMMC to facilitate entry to the Event and to the backstage area. Artistes not displaying the correct passes shall not be allowed access backstage.
- k) All persons taking part in this Competition do so, on the basis of the acceptance of the Judge's decision.

ARTICLE 11: PROMOTION

- a) The artiste agrees that should he/she be selected as a Finalist in the Competition, CPMC/CMMC shall be entitled to use his/her performance or part thereof or his/her image or likeness in the promotion of the Competition and Carnival generally in the subsequent years.

Article 12: CONDUCT

- a) Failure of any competitor to comply with these rules and or instructions may result in his/her disqualification from the competition.
- b) Any artiste, artiste representative, tent leader or manager who by his or her action brings CPMC/CMMC into disrepute during the competition shall be summoned, in writing, to a hearing with the a duly appointed Disciplinary Committee.
- c) If the member is found in breach of the rules of the calypso Monarch Competition and fails to appear at the hearing without a reasonable excuse, the proceeding shall take place in his absence.
- d) The decision of the committee shall be forwarded to the CPMC/CMMC.
- e) The member shall be informed of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee in writing within 48 hours of the hearing.
- f) The affected member(s) has a right to seek redress by submitting his/her appeal in writing to



the Appeals Committee no later than seven (7) days after the receipt of the Disciplinary Committee's decision.

g) The decision of the Appeals Committee is final.

h) **THE JUDGES DECISION IS FINAL**