



THE FOLK ARENA

A U S T R A L I A

BHANGRA & GIDDHA REGISTRATION FORM





THE FOLK ARENA AUSTRALIA



First ever in Australia

BHANGRA & GIDDHA COMPETITION

SATURDAY, 31ST OCT 2026

VENUE HOTA, HOME OF THE ARTS

CONTACT **GARRY BARIA - 0415 454 467, HARKAMAL - 0421 842 418**
Contact for more info : thefolkarena@gmail.com



WELCOME TO

The **Folk Arena** *Australia*

The Folk Arena Australia (TFA) – Australia's first ever Bhangra & Giddha competition, created to celebrate the power, passion, and pride of Punjabi folk culture. We are excited to invite teams from all across Australia and beyond to be part of this historic event and showcase their talent on a national stage. The Folk Arena Australia will take place on **31st October 2026 at HOTA – Home Of The Arts**, bringing together the finest Bhangra and Giddha teams for an unforgettable day of competition, culture, and community. If your team carries the spirit of folk dance, the energy of performance, and the hunger to prove themselves, this is your moment to step into the arena and make your mark. We look forward to witnessing incredible performances and seeing teams bring their best to The Folk Arena stage.



VENUE INFORMATION

Venue Name:

HOTA - Home Of The Arts

Address:

135 Bundall Rd, Surfers Paradise QLD 4217, Australia

City:

Gold Coast

About the Venue:

HOTA - Home of the Arts is a world-class performance and cultural venue located in the heart of the Gold Coast (Surfers Paradise). Known for hosting a wide range of prestigious events, HOTA regularly welcomes international performances, singing concerts, cultural festivals, citizenship ceremonies, and large community events.

The venue offers outstanding professional facilities, including a high quality stage, modern technical setup, and multiple spacious dressing rooms equipped with washrooms to ensure teams can prepare comfortably before their performances.

With its excellent infrastructure and vibrant location, HOTA provides the perfect platform for teams to perform and showcase their talent on a professional international-level stage





MIXER PARTY

To kick off **The Folk Arena Australia (TFA)** weekend, we will be hosting a Mixer Party where teams, coaches, judges, and supporters can come together before the competition day. This event is designed to create a friendly and energetic environment where everyone can connect, interact, and celebrate the spirit of Punjabi folk culture.

The Mixer Party will include fun games, team meet and greet, and a special meet and greet with the judges. It will also be the moment when the official team line-ups for the competition will be announced.

Although this event is optional, we strongly recommend and invite all team members, coaches, helpers, and supporters to attend. It's a great opportunity to relax, enjoy the atmosphere, and receive important information and updates about the competition before the big day. The event will feature food trucks and an open DJ, creating a fun and lively vibe for everyone attending.

Entry Fee : **\$15 per person (ticketed event)**

Venue : **196 Robina Town Centre Dr Robina QLD 4226**

Date : **30 October, 2026 (FRIDAY)**





MIXER PARTY ATTENDANCE CONFIRMATION

Team Name: _____

Team Captain / Coach Name: _____

City / Academy: _____

I, _____, Captain/Coach of _____, confirm that our team will be attending / will not be attending (please circle one) the TFA Mixer Party.

Number of Attendees:

- Adults: _____ (number)
- Kids: _____ (number)

We confirm that all attending members will purchase the Mixer Party tickets (\$15 per person) and the total amount will be paid by the given deadline.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

(Please ensure this form is submitted along with the ticket payment confirmation.)



GENERAL RULES

1. REGISTRATION & ENTRY FEES

All teams must complete their registration before the official registration deadline announced by TFA Committee.

The entry fee is \$350 per team, which must be paid at the time of registration to confirm participation. Late registrations may not be accepted.

2. TEAM COMPOSITION

Teams must follow the Participants limits for each category:

- **Folk Bhangra: 8 Participants**
- **Music Bhangra: Minimum 8 and maximum 16 Participants (Dholi excluded)**
- **Giddha: Minimum 9 and maximum 12 Participants.**

Maximum two members from the same academy may switch between two different categories. (E.g. maximum two members from LIVE BOYS BHANGRA may be allowed to also compete in MUSIC BHANGRA. E.g. - Maximum two girls from LIVE OPEN GIDDHA may be allowed to also compete in LIVE GIRLS BHANGRA.) **MUST BE IN SAME ACADEMY**

3. CHANGES OF TEAM MEMBERS & AGE PROOF

Teams are allowed to replace participants if necessary before the event ; however, the organizing committee must be informed in advance.

Participants may be required to provide valid age identification if requested by the TFA Committee.

4. PERFORMANCE TIMING

Teams must perform within the following time limits:

- **Folk Bhangra: 8 – 10 minutes**
- **Music Bhangra: 7 – 9 minutes**
- **Giddha: 10 – 12 minutes**

Performances that exceed or fall short of the time limit may receive penalty deductions from the judges.



GENERAL RULES

5. AUDIO SUBMISSION

All teams must submit their final audio track before the given deadline in the required format. Late changes and submissions may not be accepted.

6. JUDGING CRITERIA

All performances will be evaluated by an experienced judging panel based on criteria such as choreography, synchronization, formations, musicality, energy, creativity, costumes, and overall presentation.

Disrespect, criticism and backlash towards the judges final decisions will not be tolerated.

7. PROPS (FOR GIDDHA TEAMS ONLY)

Teams traveling from interstate or internationally will be provided with props by the TFA committee. However, any team requiring props must submit a detailed list at least 3–4 weeks prior to the competition.

8. SPORTSMANSHIP & RESPECT

All teams, participants, and supporters must maintain respectful behaviour, good sportsmanship, and professionalism throughout the event. Any form of disrespect towards judges, organizers, or other teams may result in disqualification.

9. DRESS CODE AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

TFA Committee request all the teams or participants to maintain dignity using any kind of dress code, disrespect of any cultural attire will not be tolerated. Teams may result in point deduction as per judges.

All participants must adhere to proper dress code standards to maintain cultural authenticity and ensure safety.



GENERAL RULES

- Female participants performing Bhangra who choose to wear a chadra must wear appropriate leggings underneath at all times.
- Male participants wearing a chadra must ensure it is securely fastened with proper safety pins.
- Participants performing Giddha must wear a salwar underneath the Ghagra. (LEGGINGS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED)

10. DANCE CONTENT GUIDELINES

All performances must maintain cultural integrity. Vulgar, offensive, or inappropriate dance content is strictly prohibited.

11. SAFETY & PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

Participants must follow all safety protocols. The use of alcohol, drugs, or any prohibited substances during the event is strictly forbidden.

12. EVENT SCHEDULE

All teams must be present and ready before the official performance start time announced by the organizers. Failure to arrive on time may result in disqualification. **Call Time**-Teams are expected to arrive one hour before performing. (If a category starts at 6PM, teams call time is 5PM)

13. LOST ITEMS & EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

TFA Committee will not be responsible for lost or misplaced personal belongings. In case of any emergency, participants must follow the directions given by event staff.



GENERAL RULES

14. DISPUTE POLICY

In case of any dispute regarding a team or team member, a fee of \$100 must be paid to lodge the dispute. All disputes must be submitted before the official announcement of results at the end of the event day, teams must provide evidence. No disputes will be accepted once the results have been announced.

15. NO REFUND POLICY

All registration payments are non-refundable.

16. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Teams and participants must maintain respectful communication on social media. False allegations, defamation, or negative campaigns against the event, organizers, judges, or other teams will not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action.

17. JUDGES FEEDBACK SESSION

- Judges feedback session will be provided after results.
- One Coach and One Captain of each team should be present.

Each team will be given 5-7 minutes for feedback. Teams are still required to follow respectful standards towards judges. Any form of disrespect during feedback will not be tolerated.

18. TIE-BREAK POLICY

In case of a tie, all teams will share the reward.



CATEGORY RULES

FOLK RECORDED TRACK RULES

1. CATEGORY STRUCTURE

- Teams can perform with boys only, Girls only or co-ed.

2. TEAM COMPOSITION

- 8 performers per team only.
- Each participant can represent only one academy in each category.

3. INSTRUMENTS

- Permitted instruments: Dhol, Algoze, Tumbi, Chimta, Bugchuu and other folk instruments in track.
- Solo dhol or spotlight acts are prohibited.

4. MUSIC & PERFORMANCE FORMAT

- Folk Recorded Track. No live band needed or allowed.
- Performance must start with first dhol beat in track.
- Folk recorded track should be in MP3 format. Teams must have to submit their tracks before deadline date.

5. TIME REGULATIONS

- Total duration: 8–10 minutes.
- Timing starts from first dhol beat in track.
- Sheyar excluded from performance time.
- Additional 5 minutes for preparation and 5 minutes for entry/exit.



CATEGORY RULES

6. DANCE STYLE & AUTHENTICITY

- Traditional folk Bhangra only.
- Accepted rhythms include: Luddi, Dhamaal, Fummnian, Sialkotia, Chaala'n, Jhoomar, Sammi etc.
- Non-folk choreography is not permitted.

7. BOLIYAN & CONTENT

- Any vulgar or offensive lyrical content is not allowed in track.
- Film-style dialogue not allowed in track.

8. PROPS & PRESENTATION

- Traditional folk props encouraged like Sapp, Khunde and Kaanto.
- Props must be handled with care and respect. Disrespect towards props may result in point deduction or possible disqualification.
- All teams must use a minimum of two (2) props in their performance. The use of Sapp and Kunde is compulsory and must be included as part of the performance.

9. JUDGING

- Judged on authenticity, rhythm, and folk technique. Non Folk bhangra steps or segments resulted in deduction.



CATEGORY RULES

FOLK BHANGRA-LIVE

1. CATEGORY STRUCTURE

- Separate Boys and Girls divisions only. Mixed-gender teams are not permitted.

2. TEAM COMPOSITION

- 8 performers per team only.
- Each participant can represent only one academy in each category.

3. ACCOMPANISTS & INSTRUMENTS

- Up to 4 accompanists allowed.
- Accompanists can wear same attire as participants (No Compulsion on wearing different attire).
- Permitted instruments: Dhol, Algoze, Tumbi, Chimta, Bugchuu and other folk instruments.
- Solo dhol or spotlight acts are prohibited.

4. MUSIC & PERFORMANCE FORMAT

- Live band Only.
- Performance must start with first dhol beat.

5. TIME REGULATIONS

- Total duration: 8–10 minutes.
- Timing starts from first dhol beat in track.
- Sheyar excluded from performance time.
- Additional 5 minutes for preparation and 5 minutes for entry/exit.



CATEGORY RULES

6. DANCE STYLE & AUTHENTICITY

- Traditional folk Bhangra only.
- Accepted rhythms include: Luddi, Dhamaal, Fummnian, Sialkotia, Chaala'n, Jhoomar, Sammi etc.
- Non-folk choreography is not permitted.

7. BOLIYAN & CONTENT

- Any vulgar or offensive lyrical content is not allowed in track.
- Film-style dialogue not allowed in track.

8. PROPS & PRESENTATION

- Traditional folk props encouraged like Sapp, Khunde and Kaanto.
- Props must be handled with care and respect. Disrespect towards props may result in point deduction or possible disqualification.
- All teams must use a minimum of two (2) props in their performance. The use of Sapp and Kunde is compulsory and must be included as part of the performance.

9. JUDGING

- Judged on authenticity, rhythm, and folk technique. Non Folk bhangra steps or segments resulted in deduction.



CATEGORY RULES

MUSIC BHANGRA

1. CATEGORY STRUCTURE

- Teams can perform with boys only, Girls only or Co-ed.

2. TEAM COMPOSITION

- Minimum 8 and maximum 16 performers per team allowed.
- Each participant can represent only one academy in each category.

3. INSTRUMENTS OR PROPS

- Minimum 2 Props allowed.
- No restriction on plastic or wooden props.
- Fire, Smoke, Sparkles prohibited.
- Live Dhol optional and Dholi is excluded from the team members. Teams can use live Dhol with 16 performers as well.
- Any kind of weapon or sharp obstacle are not allowed.
- Props must be handled with care and respect.
- All teams must use a minimum of two (2) props in their performance. The use of Sapp and Kunde is compulsory and must be included as part of the performance.

4. COSTUME AND ACCESSORIES

- No compulsion on Traditional attire, Teams can use unique Bhangra uniform designs or prints.
- Ghungroo optional.



CATEGORY RULES

5. TIME REGULATIONS

- Total duration: 7–9 minutes.
- Minimum 6 minutes Continuous Bhangra without Break.
- Additional 5 minutes for preparation and 5 minutes for entry/exit.
- Up to 1 minute of optional non- Bhangra intro.
- No pause more than 10 seconds.

6. DANCE STYLE & AUTHENTICITY

- Bhangra Steps allowed only, no hip-hop or Bollywood or other dance forms allowed.
- Accepted rhythms include Luddi, Dhamaal, Fummnian, Chala'n, Jhoomar, etc.
- Non-folk choreography is allowed. You can showcase the creative choreography throughout the performance.

7. MUSIC CONTENT

- Any vulgar or offensive music or songs prohibited.
- Teams can use Hindi, Punjabi or either English songs for their mix tracks. But choreography should be 100% bhangra only. No other dance forms allowed.

8. LIGHTING

- No special, Colourful or Dark lighting provided. Teams must perform in uniform lighting.

9. JUDGING

- Judged on authenticity, rhythm, and skill level..



CATEGORY RULES

GIDDHA

1. CATEGORY STRUCTURE

- Minimum 9 and maximum 12 performers allowed.
- Each participant can represent only one academy in each category.

2. ACCOMPANISTS & INSTRUMENTS

- 1 Instrumentalist allowed only.
- Dhol strictly prohibited, Dholki allowed only.

3. LIVE PERFORMANCE RULES

- Live boli singing by participants only.
- Performance must start and end with Dholki thap.

4. TIME REGULATIONS

- Total duration: 10-12 minutes.
- Timing starts from first dholki thap.
- Additional 5 minutes for preparation and 5 minutes for entry/exit.

5. BOLIYAN & CONTENT

- Obscene or indecent boliyan prohibited.
- Any disrespect may lead to disqualification.

6. PROPS & PRESENTATION

- Traditional Giddha props encouraged. Teams can use props according to their themes.



CATEGORY RULES

- Props must be handled with care and respect. Disrespect of any props may lead to point deduction or disqualification.
- No use of alcohol or any harmful substances allowed. (for example- In Tamasha Segment or any specific Boli)

7. DRESS CODE

- White/Black outfits are not allowed.
- Half sleeves dresses like suits and glass bangles prohibited.
- Authentic Punjabi attire required.

8. JUDGING

- Judged on authenticity, rhythm, and Giddha steps technique. Skill and new bolliyan will be awarded.



TFA: JUDGES FEEDBACK & DISCUSSION GUIDELINES

To ensure a fair, respectful, and well-managed environment for all teams, the following guidelines will apply to all feedback and discussion sessions

1. TIMING OF FEEDBACK

- All feedback sessions will take place on the same day of the competition, immediately after the announcement of results.
- No feedback will be provided on any following day or after the event concludes.

2. FEEDBACK REQUEST PROCESS

- Teams interested in receiving feedback must approach TFA Committee immediately after results are announced.

3. DESIGNATED AREA

- A separate meeting room/area will be arranged specifically for feedback discussions to ensure privacy and smooth flow.

4. ALLOWED REPRESENTATIVES

- Only two representatives per team are permitted:
- Team Captain
- Coach
- No additional members or supporters will be allowed in the discussion room.

5. TIME LIMIT

- Each team will be given 5 to 7 minutes maximum for feedback.
- A timer may be used to ensure fairness and equal opportunity for all teams.

6. CONDUCT & DISCIPLINE

- Teams are expected to maintain respectful and professional behavior at all times.
- Feedback sessions are meant for constructive discussion only, not arguments or confrontations.



TFA: JUDGES FEEDBACK & DISCUSSION GUIDELINES

7. SESSION CLOSURE

- Once the allocated time ends, teams must exit the room promptly to allow the next team to proceed.
- Event staff/security may assist in maintaining schedule discipline if required

8. COMPLIANCE

- Failure to follow these guidelines may result in termination from feed back session.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I, _____ (Coach/Captain Name)
Representing _____

(Team Name), agree to follow all the above-mentioned guidelines set by TFA.



TFA: PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT & BEHAVIOUR POLICY

I, _____
(Coach/Captain of _____),
hereby acknowledge and agree to comply with the following Participant
Conduct & Compliance Agreement set by The Folk Arena (TFA).

I understand that failure to adhere to these terms may result in disciplinary
action, penalties, disqualification, or legal consequences as determined by TFA.

1. CONDUCT & SPORTSMANSHIP

- All participants, including team members, coaches, and supporters, must demonstrate discipline, respect, and sportsmanship at all times.
- Any behaviour that goes against the spirit of fair competition will not be tolerated.

2. BEHAVIOUR & MISCONDUCT

- Any form of misconduct, abusive language, aggression, or disruptive behaviour—on or off stage—will result in strict action.
- TFA reserves the right to issue warnings, impose penalties, or disqualify teams immediately without prior notice.

3. RESPECT TOWARDS OFFICIALS

- All participants must show full respect towards judges, organizers, volunteers, and fellow competitors.
- Any act of disrespect, argument, or confrontation may lead to immediate disqualification.

4. SOCIAL MEDIA & PUBLIC STATEMENTS

- Participants must not post, share, or promote any false, misleading, defamatory, or offensive content regarding TFA, judges, or other teams.
- Any concerns must be raised through official TFA communication channels only.
- Public misconduct may lead to legal consequences and future participation bans.



TFA: PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT & BEHAVIOUR POLICY

5. FALSE ALLEGATIONS

- Any individual or team found making false accusations or claims against TFA, judges, or affiliates will face strict legal action.
- This includes verbal, written, or social media statements made before, during, or after the event.

6. PENALTIES & LEGAL ACTION

Violation of this agreement may result in:

- Disqualification from the competition
- Financial penalties or fines
- Suspension or permanent ban from future TFA events
- Legal action as per applicable laws in Australia

7. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS & REGULATIONS

- All participants must comply with local laws, venue rules, and safety regulations. Any breach may result in removal from the event.

8. RESPONSIBILITY & LIABILITY

- TFA is not responsible for any loss, theft, or damage to personal belongings, costumes, or props.
- Teams are responsible for ensuring the safety and management of their own equipment.

9. VENUE & PROPERTY DAMAGE

- Any damage caused to the venue, stage, dressing rooms, or surrounding property will result in full financial liability.
- The responsible team or individual will be required to cover all repair and associated costs.



TFA: PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT & BEHAVIOUR POLICY

10. FINAL AUTHORITY

- All decisions made by TFA and appointed officials are final and binding.
- No disputes will be entertained outside the official process defined by TFA.

11. ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS

- By signing below, I confirm that I have read, understood, and agree to comply with all rules, regulations, and the terms of this agreement set by the TFA Committee. "

SIGNATURE SECTION

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Team Name: _____

Role (Coach/Captain): _____

Date: _____





TFA – REGISTRATION FORM

Please ensure all required details are completed accurately. Incomplete or late submissions may result in the team not being considered for participation in The Folk Arena (TFA).

TEAM REPRESENTATIVE / COACH DETAILS

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Suburb: _____

State: _____ Postcode: _____

Contact Number: _____

Email Address: _____

CATEGORY OF PARTICIPATION

(PLEASE TICK THE CATEGORY YOUR TEAM IS REGISTERING FOR)

BHANGRA CATEGORIES

- OPEN CATEGORY – BOYS (FOLK LIVE)
- OPEN CATEGORY – GIRLS (FOLK LIVE)
- OPEN CATEGORY – MUSIC (BOYS / GIRLS / CO-ED)
- UNDER 15 – FOLK BHANGRA (RECORDED TRACK) (BOYS / GIRLS / CO-ED)
- UNDER 15 – BOYS (FOLK LIVE)

GIDDHA CATEGORIES

- UNDER 15 – GIDDHA (LIVE)
- OPEN GIDDHA CATEGORY (LIVE)



TFA – REGISTRATION FORM

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

Type of Performance: Live Recorded

Approx. Performance Duration: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship to Team/Participant: _____

Contact Number: _____

Alternate Contact Number (optional): _____

DECLARATION & AGREEMENT

I, _____ (COACH/CAPTAIN), on behalf of

Team Name: _____

confirm that:

- All information provided is true and accurate
- All team members meet the eligibility and age criteria
- The team agrees to follow all TFA rules, regulations, and policies
- The team understands that failure to comply may result in disqualification or penalties



THE FOLK ARENA

A U S T R A L I A

FILL OUT THE FORM AND EMAIL IT TO US

Email - thefolkarenaaustralia@gmail.com

BANK ACCOUNT NAME : VARIS VIRSE DE FOLK ARTS ACADEMY
BSB NO. : 064474
ACCOUNT NO. : 10875265
BANK NAME : COMMONWEALTH

For further information or queries feel free to contact :

GARRY BARIA - 0415 454 467

HARKAMAL SINGH - 0421 842 418

