



Mick McCarthy Story Telling Competition 2026 - Entry Rules

Sunday 2nd August 2026, Teach Siamsa, Finuge

Rules for the Mick McCarthy Story Telling Competition

The story must be Irish in character and told in a local style

The Name of the Story you are going to Perform.

{Handwriting must be clear and all entries must be clearly marked "Story Telling" for postal entries.}

Entries must be received no later than 5 pm on the closing date on the website.

The final will take place in Teach Siamsa Finuge.

Entry fees for Senior/O18 of €10.00 and for Junior/U18 €5.00 (IBAN can be provided on request)

The theme can be humorous, serious, or a mixture of both historic and true to tradition.

The length of the story must be a **minimum of 3 minutes and a maximum of 6 minutes.**

Marking system

Accuracy and fluency of speed 40%

Irish content (humorous, serious, historical) 40%

Confidence/Serenity 20%

Story Telling and Adjudication Criteria:

Story

Clear narrative is put across; characters, places and events are well developed and described with a creative use of language.

Telling

There is a sense of character and style in the telling. Audience interest is kept throughout with natural flow and “fireside” ease and with humor or emotion where appropriate.

Interpretation and /or originality

New stories and old stories are welcome and can be on any topic or theme and Irish in character. Key considerations should be....

Has the original story been well conveyed?

Has an old story been re-imagined and / or delivered creatively?

Has a new story been created and told in the traditional Irish style and of good standard?

Duration

For the purposes of scheduling, tellers are required to keep their stories between 3 and 6 minutes in duration in competition. Judges may deduct points if competitors run over.

Send postal entries to...

Sean McCarthy Memorial Weekend Story Telling Competition,

C/O Bridgid O Connor,

Finuge, Lixnaw,

Co Kerry V92 RX88

Enquiries: 087 6250516 or 087 6434041

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