



SOVITTAJA AIR GUITAR CHAMPIONSHIPS & AIR ACCORDION CHAMPIONSHIPS



GROUND RULES

- The instrument must be invisible & be a guitar [or accordion if the accordion division is held]
- Back-up bands (air or real) are not allowed
- Air roadies are allowed, but must leave the stage before the performance
- Props are permitted, however any real musical instruments, or their likenesses, are forbidden
- Each player will compete under his/her chosen stage name
- Men, women, adults and children, alike, all compete in the same category within a division (air guitar or air accordion)

MUSIC

- In the interest of time, there will be only one compulsory-style round of the competition
- The clip will be 45 seconds in length and publicized online prior to the event
- The clip will also be played twice at the start of the championships for last minute inspiration or for the benefit of last minute entrants

JUDGING

- The jury is a panel of independent judges
- The jury determines start order
- The results of the jury are final and cannot be protested
- The jury rates the performance on a scale from 4.0 to 6.0
6.0 is the highest possible score; scores are given to one decimal point
- A single score is compiled for each air guitarist/air accordionist by averaging each independent judge's scores
- Consideration for scores are based on the following categories: Technical Merit, Stage Presence and "Airness" (all as defined by the US Air Guitar Association)



WINNING

- Winner will be determined by ranking of each air guitarist's/air accordionist's final scores; the highest average score will be declared the winner in his/her respective division
- The winner of the Sovittaja Air Guitar Championships will *not* receive a free trip to the World Championships, held in Oulu, Finland on 19-21 August 2009; however, the winner is highly encouraged to independently travel to Oulu in order to view some world-class competitive air guitar playing
- Actual prize TBD

US Air Guitar Definitions

Technical Merit You don't have to know what notes you're playing, but the more your invisible fretwork corresponds to the music that's playing, the better the performance.

Stage Presence Anyone can do it in the privacy of their bedroom; Few have what it takes to rock a crowd - all without an instrument.

"Airness" Airness is defined as the extent to which a performance transcends the imitation of a real guitar and becomes an art form in and of itself.