



2026 Sussex Film Festival Rules

The festival is for amateur films only. An amateur film is one made exclusively for the challenge of making it, with no profit motive or professional assistance.

Entry

- Entry is open to individual amateur filmmakers and members of film-making clubs or those attending colleges, within East and West Sussex, Kent, Hampshire, Surrey and IOW.
- Film-makers 17 years or under must declare any adult assistance received.
- Films entered under the banner of being a club film must have been made by more than one member of that club.
- Copyright clearance of all visuals & recorded sound is the sole responsibility of the entrant

Media formats

Films may be entered on DVD or USB stick in mp4/AVI/Mov formats and via WeTransfer or other file sharing websites. Entries should be clearly marked with film titles and the entrant's name and address and contain only the film(s) being entered. There should be a 3 second black leader before the start of all films to allow 'queuing' of films for their presentation.

Judging

All films will be pre-judged by a judge(s) from outside the area covered by this festival. The judge's decision will be final.

How to enter

A completed and signed Entry Form together with a Film Details Form(s) must accompany each film submitted. A maximum of 3 films may be entered by any individual or film making club. Each film entered should be no longer than 20 minutes in duration to include title and credits.

Payment

Entry fees must be paid at the time of entry, either by Bank Transfer or Cheque, using the details provided on the Entry Form.

Presentation on the Day

The Festival Organiser will include as many films as possible on the day of presentation but reserves the right to select from all entries received to make a balanced programme within the time restraints available.

Responsibility of the Festival Organiser

Whilst every care will be taken of materials submitted to the festival, the Organiser can accept no responsibility for loss or damage to films entered, however caused. On all other issues not covered by these rules, the decision of the Festival Organiser will be final.

Declarations

We assume that you are happy that your film (s) may be shown either on our website or in a compilation of films on digital media unless we advised to the contrary.
I declare that this film was produced without paid professional assistance and that it complies with the Sussex Film Festival rules. Copyright clearance has been obtained and I have read, understood and agreed to all the competition rules.



2026 Sussex Film Festival

Sunday August 30th 2026

Ferring Village Hall, West Sussex, BN12 5JP

Doors open @ 10.30am Start 11-00am

Admission £10 to include a Buffet. £8 if pre-paid with entry

Competition Officer: Roy Powell

Awards

Sussex Challenge Cup for Best movie	Best One-minute movie (1)
Mike Coad Trophy Audience Favourite	Best Animation
Editing Award	Best Sound
Best Club entry	Best Documentary
Best Drama	Best Comedy
Best Acting performance (2)	Best Travelogue/Holiday
Best Young movie maker (age 18 or under)	Best Photography

(1) *Entries in this category are not eligible for any of the other awards.*

(2) *Nomination is not required for this award-the judges will select from all appropriate films.*

Certificates of merit may be awarded at the discretion of the judges.

Awards may be withheld at the judges' discretion if, in their view, the standard of entries is not high enough. Judges comments will be available to entrants at the festival, if attending in person, or sent by post following the festival.

If you wish to enter the competition, please complete the:

'Entry Form' (Your details to include entry fee(s) etc.), together with a

'Film Details Form' (Details of the film(s) you are entering), one for each film.

SPONSORED BY THE IAC