



Scottish F.I.R.E. Composition Competition

2026 - STRATHSPEY

STRATHSPEY – a Scottish dance tune in 4/4 that contains many dotted-eighth-sixteenth note patterns, including the “Scottish Snap.” These tune types are frequently, though not exclusively, 16 measures long and generally in AB form with the A and B parts equal in length.

- RULES*:**
- The strathspey must be written for the violin.
 - Do not include harmonies or chords in the piece.
 - Do not include the composer’s name or any other identifier anywhere on the music.
 - The music notation must be computer generated.
 - Application form and music must be submitted as PDFs.
 - Entries must be submitted by the original composer.
 - Scottish F.I.R.E. judges and board members are not allowed to enter.

* Failure to follow any of these rules will result in the entry being disqualified.

PDFs of the composition can be produced through any music processing or ABC program. Online music writing applications such as “Noteflight” (www.noteflight.com) and “Muscore” (www.muscore.org) are free and easily available. Handwritten notation is no longer being accepted.

- PRIZES*:** **\$150** for the best composition (1st place) as determined by the judges.
\$100 for 2nd place
\$50 for 3rd place

* Judges may elect not to award the prize money if there is a limited number of submissions or if the submissions do not meet the evaluation criteria sufficiently.

ENTRY FEE: \$10

PayPal (to sfiremembership@gmail.com) or by check

If paying by check, please make check payable to Scottish F.I.R.E.
Send check to Heather Gardner: 10 Sidewinder Ct., Williamsburg, VA 23185

Although membership in F.I.R.E. is NOT required to enter the composition competition, F.I.R.E. is offering a membership promotion in conjunction with the competition. Instead of the normal \$15 for a one-year, individual membership, composition competition entrants may join Scottish F.I.R.E for a reduced rate of \$10. Please fill out the membership form in addition to the competition application form.

Send PDF of Application Form and PDF of music to:
(Application form can NOT be filled-in through a browser.
Download the form and save with a new name prior to emailing.)

Heather Gardner
heatheliza@gmail.com

DEADLINE: Application and music must be submitted by Nov. 15, 2026.

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APPLICATION FORM 2026

Send Application form and PDF of music to: Heather Gardner at heatheliza@gmail.com
Application and music must be submitted by Nov. 15, 2026.

INFORMATION

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NAME OF TUNE: _____

(Remember: Do not include the composer's name or any other type of identifier anywhere on the music.)

ENTRY FEE (\$10) METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one): _____ PAYPAL _____ CHECK
(Payable to Scottish FIRE)

RIGHTS

- Copyright to all works remains with the composer. By submitting the work, however, the composer grants to Scottish F.I.R.E. the right to post the title of the piece and the composer's name online; to perform, promote and publish the work; and to record, release, promote, and distribute any form of recording of the piece. Participating composers agree that Scottish F.I.R.E. cannot be held accountable for violations of copyright that may occur.
- All reasonable efforts will be made to safeguard the entrants' personal information provided online. However, should the information be compromised, Scottish F.I.R.E. cannot be held responsible.
- By submitting a composition, entrants agree to grant performing and recording rights to Scottish F.I.R.E., whether or not that piece is selected for a prize.
- The decision on winning pieces cannot be appealed. By agreeing to take part in the contest, all competitors undertake to accept and not contest these decisions.

I agree to abide by the rules and rights as set forth by Scottish F.I.R.E.

DIGITAL SIGNATURE: _____

PARENTAL SIGNATURE (If applicant is under 18): _____

(Please save this form with a new name before emailing.)