

A woman in a dark leotard is performing an aerial maneuver, likely a backbend, against a blue background. Her body is arched, and her legs are tucked. A white circular logo is superimposed on the image, containing the text and graphic.

SHOWBIRDS



Competition Info Pack 2026

A Competition Supporting Amateur Aerialists



A Competition Supporting Amateur Aerialists

20th June 2026

At Bluebird Diverse Movement

Division Eligibility

- For aerialists new to competitions or with little aerial performance and competitive experience.
- All divisions are open to all genders of competitors
- Age divisions are based on the performers age at the time of entries closing
- Minimum age of entry is 6 years old at the time of entries closing
- There will be 2 age divisions per category.
 - Juniors- 6-17 years
 - Adults- 18+ years
- Duo/Group - 2-6 performers, 1-3 apparatuses (3 rigging points available).
- Beginner Solo - suitable for beginner 1, beginner 2 levels.
- Pre-Intermediate Solo - Suitable for the pre-intermediate level.
- Intermediate Solo - Suitable for intermediate and high intermediate aerialists.
- Artistic Solo - Suitable for any level, judged on expression, creative, performance and execution. Level of difficulty is not taken into consideration.
- Showbirds organisers reserve the right to change a competitor's division if it is discovered that a competitor has entered the incorrect division (prior to the competition).
- Showbirds organisers reserve the right to combine or split divisions if deemed necessary.
- Showbirds is an amateur competition aimed at inexperienced performers. Organisers will select competitors based on their audition video, entry form and whether they meet the criteria of being "amateur".

Entries

- Auditions close on 2nd May 2026. Successful auditionees will be notified by 16th May 2026.
- Auditioning is free. Only complete auditions will be considered and must send in their audition video and entry form. You can enter on www.bluebirdmovement.com.au
- Successful entries must pay the competition entry fee of \$25.
- Audition videos must be 1.5–3mins in length. Video must be on the apparatus you intend to compete on. It does not need to be the routine you intend to compete with but must be filmed within 6 months of the competition entry closing date.
- Fees are not transferable or refundable.
- Please email admin@bluebirdmovement.com.au for any Showbirds enquiries.

Fees

\$0 Audition Fee

\$25 Solo Entry

\$25 Duo/Group Entry (2–6 performers)

Competition Venue

Bluebird Diverse Movement - 6/12 Lyn Parade, Prestons, NSW.

Rehearsals

- Each performer must attend a 5min tech run on the day of the competition. This will happen before the competition starts. Times to be confirmed 2 weeks prior to the competition.
- All competitors are required to be at the venue for the allocated competitor briefing before the competition starts.

Costuming

Costuming must be age appropriate and suited to the performance. We recommend doing a dress rehearsal at least 2 weeks before competing to ensure your costume works for your performance. Strictly no nudity or partial nudity as this is a family friendly, all ages event. You may receive a costume deduction if judges seem your costume to be inappropriate. If you are unsure, please contact the event organisers.

Rigging

- 3 rigging points available on pulley systems. Point 1 and 2 are 5.5m high, point 3 is 5.2m high.
- Hardware available – 1m spansets, 2m spansets, all apparatuses rigged on a swivel.
- In-house apparatuses available – 2x 80cm lyra, 1x 87cm lyra, 1x 90cm lyra, 1x 95cm lyra, 1x 100cm lyra, 3x 3m drop slings (royal blue, orchid and mint), 2x 2m drop slings (black), 3x 7.5m drop silks (royal blue or orchid), 1x corde lisse 7m, 1x trapeze with 3m cotton ropes.
- BYO – Competitors are welcome to supply their own apparatuses. All equipment will be checked by the competition organisers. All equipment must have been purchased from a reputable aerial supplier and proof of purchase may be asked for. Single point apparatuses only.
- Safety Mat – all performers are required to perform with a crash mat which will be supplied by the organisers. (180cm x180cm x30cm).

Floor Space

- There will be a strip of floor space in front and behind the aerial points and crash mats that can be used for floor choreography. This will be 1.5m x 5m each side. If only using the centre aerial rigging point, crash mats either side will be removed for additional floor space. See below photos.



Judging

- Each competitor will receive judges feedback by email after the competition.
- Each division has certain criteria they will be judged on. All judging decisions are final.
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each division will be rewarded with a medal and certificate.
- See judging criteria later in the this document.

Photography

- There will be a professional photographer capturing the event. Competitors may contact the photographer after the event to purchase their photos.

Props

- Props and human props can be used but you must have them approved by the event organisers.
- Props must take less than 1min to set up and pack down.
- No loose glitter, feathers or confetti or anything else with a large clean up.
- Human props cannot touch the aerial apparatus. If you plan for a human prop to touch an aerial apparatus, you must instead enter the duos/groups division instead.

Music

- Music must be age appropriate. No explicit language to be used in any song as this is a family friendly, all ages event.
- Music must be emailed in .mp3 format with your entry for approval.
- If your music cut needs to be adjusted, please send your final copy of your music no more than 2 weeks prior to the competition.

Division	Minimum Time	Maximum Time
Beginner Solo	1.5min	2.5min
Pre-Intermediate Solo	2min	3min
Intermediate Solo	2.5min	3.5min
Artistic Solo	2.5min	3.5min
Beg/Pre-Int Duo/Group	2min	3min
Intermediate Duo/Group	2.5min	3.5min

Judging Criteria

Solos & Duos/Groups

Required Elements (15)	Artistic Value (30)	Technical (55)	Duo/Groups Only (10)
Each required element, for the selected division, is marked out of 5, for a total of 15 possible points.	Expression – Facial expression (5) Body/movement expression (5) Interpretation of the music and the theme (5)	Difficulty – Tricks (5) Mounts and dismounts (5) Strength and Flexibility (5)	Synchronicity – Cohesive, well timed, matching style throughout the group (5)
	Showmanship – Entertainment value (10)	Execution – Form and technique (10) Control (5) Effortlessness (5)	Equality – Each performer has equal time on the apparatus and displaying both strength and flexibility equally (5)
	Timing – Matching of the beat/highlights with the music (5)	Transitions – Smoothness and flow (5) Creativity (5)	
		Choreography – Well balanced choreography with a variety of movements, poses, dynamics, strength and flexibility shown. (10)	

Judging Criteria

Artistic

Artistic Value (70)	Technical (30)
Expression - Facial expression (10) Body/movement expression (10) Interpretation of the music and the theme (10)	Execution - Form and technique (10) Control (5) Effortlessness (5)
Showmanship - Entertainment value (10)	Choreography - Well balanced choreography with a variety of movements, poses, dynamics, strength and flexibility shown. (10)
Timing - Matching of the beat/highlights with the music (10)	
Creativity - Concept (10) Costuming and music (10)	

Deductions (All Divisions)

- Illegal moves/unsafe/dangerous- 10 point deduction per move
- Moves deemed above the level – 3 points deducted per move (you can check with organisers before the competition if unsure if a skill is suitable for your level)
- Music is over or under the time limit – 3 points per 15 secs over or under
- Costume violation (not age appropriate or nudity/partial nudity) – 5 deduction
- Illegal props (loose glitter, confetti, takes longer than 1 min to set up and pack up) – 5 point deduction

Code of Conduct

- We aim to create an inclusive and supportive space for all competitors. We expect all competitors to act in a friendly, supportive and professional matter, before, during and after the competition.
- Competitors are expected to show respect to all competitors, staff, volunteers, judges, instructors and attendees. We encourage good sportsmanship between competitors.
- Bullying, harassment or being disrespectful to anyone before, during or after the competition will result in disqualification and removal from the event.
- Strictly no alcohol or illicit substances are allowed on site. Any one seen to be intoxicated or under the influence of illicit substances will be disqualified and removed from the event.
- 2 instructor passes per studio.
- Due to limited space, we ask that you arrive in costume, with hair and make up done. There is limited bathroom and change room space.
- All competitors are expected to warm up sufficiently. Organisers will provide a floor space for warm up.
- All competitors and human props must be present at the competitor briefing.



LINEAR APPARATUS

Silks, Corde Lisse, Flying Pole, Straps etc...

Beginner Solo Linear Apparatus

Required Elements

- Creative climb/hang
- Creative floor component (can be just on ground or utilising the apparatus and the ground at the same time)
- Element displaying flexibility OR strength

Limitations

- Maximum 1 drop with maximum 1 rotation (drop not required)
- No aerial inverts (aerial inverts with the apparatus supporting your back are ok, e.g. tango drop on silks)

Illegal Elements

- Drops cannot be a full release or more than 1 rotation
- No neck hangs, no full release moves, no ankle hangs
- No double/stacked drops permitted
- No single arm spins, inverts or mounts
- No aerial inverts
- No other moves deemed as pre-intermediate level or higher or dangerous by the judges. If unsure, please contact the event organisers.

Pre-intermediate Solo Linear Apparatus

Required Elements

- Creative climb/hang
- Climb
- Element displaying flexibility OR strength

Limitations

- Maximum 2 drops with maximum 1 rotation (drop not required)

Illegal Elements

- Drops cannot be a full release or more than 1 rotation
- No neck hangs, no full release moves
- No double/stacked drops permitted.
- No deadman drops.
- No single arm spins, inverts or mounts.
- No other moves deemed as intermediate level or higher or dangerous by the judges. If unsure, please contact the event organisers.

Intermediate Solo Linear Apparatus

Required Elements

- Element displaying flexibility
- Element displaying strength
- Intentional spin element (can be on the ground or in the air)

Limitations

- Maximum 3 drops (1 drop can be a double/stacked drop, though drops are not required)

Illegal Elements

- Drops cannot be a full release or more than 2 rotations
- No neck hangs
- No full release moves
- No other moves deemed as advanced level or higher or dangerous by the judges. If unsure, please contact the event organisers.



ENCIRCLED APPARATUS

Lyra, Sling, Trapeze, Lollipops, Cube etc...

Beginner Solo Encircled Apparatus

Required Elements

- Creative hang (e.g. arm hang, elbow hang, knee hang etc)
- Creative floor component (can be just on ground or utilising the apparatus and the ground at the same time)
- Element displaying flexibility OR strength

Limitations

- Maximum 2 roll elements (maximum 1 rotation each) (not required)

Illegal Elements

- No drops, no full release moves, no multi rotation rolls
- No neck hangs, heel hangs or toe hangs
- No moves in the spanset or where entire body is above the apparatus
- No single arm inverts, spins or mounts
- No elbow rolls or lion rolls or other rolls the judges deem as pre-intermediate level or higher
- No other moves deemed as pre-intermediate level or higher or dangerous by the judges. If unsure, please contact the event organisers.

Pre-intermediate Solo Encircled Apparatus

Required Elements

- Creative hang (e.g. hocks, single knee hang, arm hang, candlestick etc)
- Element displaying strength OR flexibility
- Intentional spin element (can be on the ground or in the air)

Limitations

- Maximum 2 roll elements (maximum 2 rotations each) (not required)
- Maximum 2 drops of maximum 1 rotation each (not required)

Illegal Elements

- No full release moves, no multi rotation rolls
- No neck hangs, heel hangs or toe hangs
- No inverting, no ankle or neck hangs on the spanset, no flipping the lyra
- No single arm inverts, spins or mounts
- No elbow rolls or lion rolls or other rolls the judges deem as intermediate level or higher
- No other moves deemed as intermediate level or higher or dangerous by the judges. If unsure, please contact the event organisers.

Intermediate Solo Encircled Apparatus

Required Elements

- Element displaying strength
- Element displaying flexibility
- Intentional spin element (can be on the ground or in the air)

Limitations

- Maximum 2 roll elements (not required)
- Maximum 3 drop elements (not required)

Illegal Elements

- No full release moves
- No neck hangs, single heel hangs or single toe hangs
- No single arm inverts or mounts
- Maximum 1 rotation in drops.
- No other moves deemed as advanced level or higher or dangerous by the judges. If unsure, please contact the event organisers.



ARTISTIC

Open Apparatus

Artistic

Guidelines

- Open level and open apparatus
- Technical difficultly is not judged, though the movements that are performed will still be judged on technique, cleanliness and how that match the music and character
- Encouraged to include a mix of floor and aerial choreography
- Encouraged to be entertaining, have fun and explore new ideas! This is a division aimed at being creative and expressive.

Illegal Elements

- No full release moves, no neck hangs
- No touching of audience members
- No moves deemed as dangerous or unsafe or above your level of ability. If unsure, please contact the event organisers.



DUOS/GROUPS

Open Apparatus

Beginner/Pre-Intermediate Duo/Group Open Apparatus

Required Elements

- Element displaying flexibility OR strength by each performer by at least 50% of performers
- Synchronised sequence lasting 30 seconds
- 1 intentional spin element performed by at least 50% of performers

Limitations

- Maximum 1 drop per person.
- Up to 2 people per apparatus at a time

Illegal Elements

- No full release moves, no multi rotation rolls or drops
- No neck hangs, heel hangs or toe hangs
- No inverting, no ankle or neck hangs on the spanset, no flipping the lyra
- No single arm inverts, spins or mounts
- No elbow rolls or lion rolls or other rolls the judges deem as intermediate level or higher
- No other moves deemed as intermediate level or higher or dangerous by the judges. If unsure, please contact the event organisers.

Intermediate Duo/Group Open Apparatus

Required Elements

- 1 pose displaying flexibility by at least 50% of performers.
- 1 element displaying strength by at least 50% of performers.
- Synchronised sequence lasting 30 seconds

Limitations

- Maximum 1 drop per person.
- Up to 2 people per apparatus at a time

Illegal Elements

- No full release moves, no drops of more than 2 rotations
- No neck hangs, single heel hangs or single toe hangs
- No single arm inverts or mounts
- No other moves deemed as advanced level or higher or dangerous by the judges. If unsure, please contact the event organisers.