

« HURA TAPAIRU international »
dances' contest rules and guidelines

PREAMBLE

For several years now, the practice of *'ori tahiti* has benefitted from a growing interest and appreciation worldwide to the extent that the discipline's enthusiasts have been working their way to French Polynesia in an ever-increasing number, seeking to appear and/or to get trained with the locals. Based on this observation, Te Fare Tauhiti Nui - Maison de la Culture launches a traditional-dances contest adapted to small formations made out of *'ori tahiti* fans from abroad and called « Hura Tapairu international ». The opening of such contest pursues two objectives: to give international and non-residents' groups the opportunity to appear in Tahiti on one hand and to promote Polynesian culture while assessing its worldwide exposure on the other hand. As a result, and within the compass of the present contest which fosters creativity, groups will showcase original works that are inspired by French Polynesia cultural heritage.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Article 1: Every Tahitian dance group which head office is located outside of French Polynesia, lawfully constituted and registered in its country of origin, may enter the contest.

Article 2: Registrations are made by sending a regular or electronic mail to Te Fare Tauhiti Nui - Maison de la Culture management. Registrations will close no later than three (3) months prior to the event's date or as soon as the number of ten (10) registered groups is reached.

To successfully register, a group must:

- Provide the following documents at the time of registration :
 - the entry form duly filled out;
 - a letter stating the group's commitment to make itself available;
 - a copy of the present rules and guidelines signed by the group's official representative and preceded by the handwritten words « read and approved »;
 - the group or its official representative's full bank (or postal) account details (IBAN/BIC);
 - a brief presentation of the group and when possible, the record of its achievements;
 - the nominative list of all members of the group entering the contest (first and last names, gender, date and place of birth) and their position (musician, dancer, etc.) along with a valid copy of the ID of each group member.

- To pay up the registration fees amounting to a hundred euros (100 €) when entering the « mehura manihini » category and to two hundred euros (200 €) when entering the « over all manihini » category. Such fees are not refundable but payable – within a limit of three (3) days after receiving a confirmed-registration letter from TFTN – by transfer payment to the account of Paerie de la Polynésie française, which details are as follows:

P.O. Box: 4 497 – 98 713 PAPEETE-RP
TAHITI, I.D.V.
French Polynesia

Bank code	Branch Code	Account number	National Check Digits
14168	00001	9288001X068	85

IBAN: FR66 1416 8000 0192 8800 1X06 885
BIC: OFTPPFT1

WARNING: Once registrations are approved, each group's entry will be formalized with the signing by both the group's legal representative and Te Fare Tauhiti Nui – Maison de la Culture, of a service agreement which sets out each party's duty and requirements. Without such signed service agreement by the beginning day of the Hura Tapairu international, the concerned group will not be able to take part in the contest.

Article 3: Groups are under the obligation to submit to Te Fare Tauhiti Nui-Maison de la Culture two (2) months prior to the event and in a digital version:

1 - A contest file including:

- the theme's whole text in *Reo mā'ohi* * and in English and/or in French (should the English or the French version be missing, TFTN would take care of its translation);
- lyrics of all the songs in *Reo mā'ohi* * with their authors and composers' names ;

* *Reo mā'ohi* is used here to mean any Polynesian language from French Polynesia

2 - A technical file including:

- the detailed program of the show (cue sheets);
- Sound and lighting technical sheets;

CONTEST RULES

General conditions to participate

Article 4: The programming of contest's evenings and general rehearsals at the Grand Théâtre is set by Te Fare Tauhiti Nui - Maison de la Culture.

Article 5: With the exception of musicians and singers as provided for in article 7 of this rules and guidelines, all artists (male and female dancers, *'orero*) making up a group must

be French Polynesia non-residents. Artists residing in French Polynesia are not allowed in as failing the non respect of this clause will call for disqualification.

Article 6: Age requirement for each registered artist in the contest (male dancers, female dancers, musicians, singers, *'orero*) is twenty-one (21) years of age or older the year of the contest.

Article 7: Musicians and singers— and only they— are allowed to compete as part of a local formation and only one international formation as well. Male and female dancers and *'orero* registered in the local contest are not allowed to join a group entering in the international contest.

Article 8: Each participating group to the Hura Tapairu international is allowed to compete in one or more categories. That being said, participants within a group, listed by name, must be the same in all categories the group is registered into. Failing to comply with this section of the rules and guidelines may involve penalties.

Article 9: The Hura Tapairu international contest offers groups to register in two (2) distinct dance categories:

- 1- « Over all manihini » category including *'öte'a* and *'aparima*
- 2- « Mehura manihini »

There cannot be any contest opened in the different categories without a minimum of three (3) registered competitors. Should this minimum of competing groups be unreached in one or the other category, Te Fare Tauhiti Nui – Maison de la culture – upon a decision made by its director – may allow groups to take part in the Hura Tapairu international to present an out-of-competition exhibition show.

« Over all manihini » category

Article 10 - Content: Competing groups in the « Over all manihini » category must present a fully new show; that means a show that has never been presented before. Their show is made out of two (2) distinct parts judged separately:

- the one part is *'öte'a* (*'öte'a 'amui*, *'öte'a vahine*, *'öte'a täne* and possibly *'aparima vävö*) performed at the sound of percussion instruments authorized in article 13;
- the other part is *'aparima* (*'aparima vävö*, *'aparima himene*) performed at the sound of percussion instruments authorized in article 13.

In this contest category, repeats and reshowings are not allowed. Finally, it should be made clear that the *'öte'a* part as well as the *'aparima* part must each be presented in one go, and both parts altogether are designed to form an uninterrupted show.

Article 11 - Group numbers: Each competing group in « over all » category is made out of:

- fifteen (15) male and female dancers minimum and twenty (20) at the most
- five (5) musicians minimum and a maximum of six (6) musicians, including at least one *pahu tüpa'i* compulsory for the *'öte'a*,
- up to a maximum of three (3) singers for songs if need be, but none of them play any instruments,
- and a *raatira 'orero* if need be.

Therefore the maximum group number is thirty (30) people.

It is to be noted that should a group be registered in both « Over all manihini » and « Mehura manihini » categories, its artists' nominal roll (male dancers, female dancers, musicians, singers, 'orero) would remain unchanged. Finally, no additional people are authorized. However, substitutes could be anticipated should there be a problem.

Any adding up to the maximum number of artists besides those mentioned in the current article, that might however be justified by the show's theme, is subject to the jury's approval, which could be obtained during encounter meetings with groups.

Article 12 - Costumes: In the « Over all manihini » category, two types of costumes are allowed:

- a large costume which skirt is *more*-based and with various facings for the 'öte'a, during part or the entire 'öte'a
- a plant or fabric costume for the 'aparima,

Body ornaments such as watches, bracelets, necklaces or earrings which are not Polynesian crafted, as well as piercings, are forbidden. Only engagement or wedding rings are tolerated.

Article 13 - Instruments: Authorized instruments in the « Over all manihini » category are:

- for the 'öte'a part: *to'ere, tari parau, faatete, pahu tüpa'i, 'ihara, vivo, titäpu, pü 'ofe, hue, pü;*
- for the 'aparima part: guitar, 'ukulele, *tari parau, pahu tüpa'i, 'ihara, vivo, titäpu, pü 'ofe, hue, pü.* The use of electro-acoustic guitars and 'ukulele is encouraged to make sound take easier. On the other hand, the use of electric or electronic instruments is strictly prohibited.

All sounds from the produce of Polynesian natural environment are also allowed (mothers of pearl, rocks, seeds, etc.).

Any use of additional instruments other than those mentioned in the current article, that may however be justified by the show's theme, is subject to the jury's approval, which could be obtained during encounter meetings with groups.

Article 14 - Length: Group's performance will last in total:

- ten (10) minutes minimum and fifteen (15) minutes maximum for the 'öte'a ;
- ten (10) minutes minimum and fifteen (15) minutes maximum for the 'aparima ;

Therefore, the whole performance in « Over all manihini » ('öte'a and 'aparima) category is between twenty (20) and thirty (30) minutes. The bailiff will apply a penalty of twenty (20) points per jury member whenever the performance is below or beyond the authorized time.

« Mehura manihini » category

Article 15 - Content: Competing groups in the « Mehura manihini » category must present a new dance performance; that means that has never ever been presented before. The criterion used in the dance performance is based on a rhythm or tempo called « mehura » (equivalent to *hula*) and its variations: bossa, swing, *kaina*, etc.

In this contest category, repeats of songs that have already been produced are allowed on the condition that they are sung in *reo ma'ohi* *.

Article 16 - Group numbers: Each competing group in « Mehura manihini » category is made out of:

- five (5) musicians minimum and a maximum of six (6) musicians,
- up to a maximum of three (3) singers for songs if need be, but none of them are to be playing any instruments,
- ten (10) male and female dancers minimum and twenty (20) at the most
- and a *raatira 'orero* if need be,

Therefore the maximum group number is thirty (30) people.

It is to be noted that should a group be registered in both « Over all manihini » and « Mehura manihini » categories, its artists' nominal roll (male dancers, female dancers, musicians, singers, 'orero) would remain unchanged. Finally, no additional people are authorized. However, substitutes could be anticipated should there be a problem.

Any adding up to the maximum number of artists besides those mentioned in the current article, that might however be justified by the show's theme, is subject to the jury's approval, which could be obtained during encounter meetings with groups.

Article 17 - Costumes: In the « Mehura manihini » category, authorized attires are:

- a long one-piece dress made using fabrics (*purotu* dress, *mama rü'au*, dress etc.) for female dancers;
- a shirt with pants or *pāreu* for male dancers.

Body ornaments such as watches, bracelets, necklaces or earrings which are not Polynesian crafted, as well as piercings, are forbidden. Only engagement or wedding rings are tolerated.

Article 18 - Instruments: Authorized instruments in the « Mehura manihini » category are guitar and 'ukulele, with a preference for electro-acoustic kinds in order to make sound take easier.

Traditional instruments such as *tari parau*, *pahu tupa'i*, 'ihara, *vivo*, *titāpu*, *pū 'ofe*, *hue* and *pū* are also authorized, just like all sounds obtained from the produce of Polynesian natural environment (mothers of pearl, rocks, seeds, etc.).

Likewise, the use of electro-acoustic bass guitars, accordion and harmonica is tolerated as part of the current category. On the other hand, the use of electric or electronic instruments is strictly prohibited.

Any use of additional instruments other than those mentioned in the current article, that may however be justified by the show's theme, is subject to the jury's approval, which could be obtained during encounter meetings with groups.

Article 19 - Length: The total duration of the group's performance is four (4) minutes minimum and six (6) minutes maximum.

The bailiff will apply a penalty of twenty (20) points per jury member whenever the performance is below or beyond the authorized time.

Contest's recompense

Article 20: At the conclusion of competition evenings, a podium of prizewinners (1st, 2nd and 3rd) is set per category: « Over all manihini » and « Mehura manihini ». It is made clear

that podiums result from the ranking obtained when adding up all scores awarded by the jury and calculated by the bailiff; the highest score tallying with the 1st prizewinner.

THE JURY

Article 21 - Composition: The jury is made up of a president and three (3) or more members, appointed by the Te Fare Tauhiti Nui – Maison de la Culture to officiate within the remit of the Hura Tapairu international as a volunteer. Its composition may be modified depending on the type of performance and according to each one's competence. It is to be noted that the president and the other jury members are key figures whose competences in fields of dancing and music are publicly acknowledged.

Article 22 - Duties: The jury is competent to:

- judge groups' performances and to mark them in accordance with the scoring sheets drawn up by TFTN. The jury is tied down to the upmost confidentiality regarding the marking of groups' performances;
- ascertain breaches to the rules and guidelines;
- award prizes within the limits of the financial envelope set to that end;
- conduct meetings with leaders of groups in competition.

Finally, the jury may put to Te Fare Tauhiti Nui – Maison de la Culture any propositions that may prove useful to the events' quality and good progress.

Article 23 - Voting: Each jury member is entitled to speak and to one vote. In case of contention, the president has a casting vote.

The jury is sovereign and its decisions are irrevocable.

Article 24 - Bailiff's role: A bailiff is appointed by Te Fare Tauhiti Nui – Maison de la Culture. The former makes the calculation of points from the jury's scoring sheets and ensures the enforcement of this rules and guidelines. In the case in point, the bailiff may enter into accounts penalties equivalent to twenty (20) points per jury member ever since a jury member and/or himself/herself may ascertain a failure to comply with the rules and guidelines (duration, costumes, number of male/female dancers or musicians, etc.).

Article 25 - Disputes: While making a sustained effort to provide participants with the present rules and regulations in a few main international languages, it is made clear that only the French version entitled "Règlement Hura Tapairu international" will prevail to solve any disputes arising from translation and/or mistyping issues.

Finally, it is also made clear that any disputes that could not be settled amicably can only be taken to Papeete's competent court, as sole legal institution habilitated to judge.