

These rules apply to each participating group/production team.

The USQ 48 Hour Film Festival Organizers may add to or amend these rules at any time prior to the beginning of the Official Time Period.

Below are the Filmmaking Rules. Be sure to also read the official Competition Rules.

A. Times

The USQ 48 Hour Film Festival (USQ48HFF) between Saturday 11th June 10am local time and the following Monday 13th June 10am local time. This is the Official Time Period.

The participating group/team must complete its film/video work in time to submit it before Monday 13th 10am.

Only works that meet the deadline will be officially part of the competition. All films received on Monday 13th after 10am will be ineligible.

Films must be on a viewable media platform like Youtube or Vimeo and the viewing link emailed so as to timestamp the entry.

B. Creative Process

All creativity must take place during the Official Time Period. Any creative work in advance of the competition weekend is prohibited. Creative work includes, but is not limited to:

Writing the script

Rehearsing

Costume/Set Design

Shooting

Editing

Sound Design

Rendering

Outputting to USB drive or other media

C. Preparation

The only work to begin prior to the Official Time Period is:

Organizing Crew

Organizing Cast

Securing Equipment

Scouting/Securing Locations

D. Footage

All footage must be shot within the Official Time Period of the project.

Minor Animation and special effects are permitted but must be created during the Official Time Period. 3D animation characters and prerigged 3D scenes are not permitted.

No stock footage or footage shot or created at another time may be used unless the footage is part of a post-production effect or on a background monitor, i.e., a television, as long as the team has rights to the stock footage and the stock footage is placed over or under footage that is shot within the Official Time Period. Allowable stock footage includes bullets, fires, explosions, chromakeyed backgrounds, etc., but stock footage of people or other performers is not allowed.

Pre-made sequences or compositions that are available to all via purchase or download are permitted if a majority of frames contain content (e.g., text or images) created within the Official Time Period. The pre-made portion of the sequence may not include people or other performers.

Still photographs are permitted, provided that the team has the rights to them. The photos do not need to be created during the Official Time Period; however, stills created outside of the Official Time Period may not be used in sequence to create the illusion of motion.

Permissible stock footage within effects, permissible pre-made sequences, and still photographs must all be accompanied by a Materials Release demonstrating that the team has rights to use them.

E. Kickoff Event

Each participating team must have a representative at the official Kickoff Event of the 48 Hour Film Festival at USQ Arts Theatre, 8am for an 8.30am start June 11th

Prior to the Kickoff event, each group must submit a completed registration form via the online portal and have parental/guardian permission.

F. Required Elements

Participating teams will be assigned a required element that must appear in the created film, such as a theme, genre, a character, a prop and/or a line of dialogue or codeword.

The required Character must be seen on-screen and it must be clear--either directly shown or by context--who the required character is. The Character name does not have to be said out loud or written on-screen.

The required Prop must be seen on-screen. A picture of the required prop is also allowed.

The required Line of Dialogue must be used verbatim. It may be spoken, sung and/or written. It may be in any language, though if it is unclear that it is the required Line, there must be a translation.

To qualify as an Official Entry, each group's film must contain the required element within the official time limit and prior to the credits.

G. Volunteers

All cast and crew must be volunteers.

H. Animal Safety

Animal safety, like cast and crew safety, is an important part of 48 Hour Filmmaking. Films that result in the death or mutilation of an animal will be disqualified.

I. Cameras

Any type of video or film camera may be used. There is no limit to the number of cameras.

J. Music Rights

Participating groups are encouraged to work with a composer and/or musicians to write and record music for the films. It is permissible for a participating group to use pre-recorded music; however, the participating group must have the rights to any music used in its film and must provide releases for all music used. As with music, pre-recorded sound effects are allowed, but you must have rights to use them.

Note: Song parodies (i.e., use of identifiable pre-existing compositions with new or altered lyrics or music) may not be included in the film without a signed release from the composition's rights holder. This rule applies without regard to whether the song parody arguably constitutes fair use under US, Australian or international copyright law.

K. Total Running Time

The finished film must be a minimum of 4 minutes in duration, and a maximum of 5 minutes in duration—not including end credits. In other words, the official running time begins after the required 48HFF slates and ends prior to the end credits. The required slates and the end credits do not count towards the minimum time of 4 minutes. The film story may not be longer than 5 minutes. USQ48HFF reserves the right to shorten any film that exceeds the maximum length for screening purposes.

L. Credits

Pre-film Required Slates

Before the finished film begins, the media should have...

5 seconds of black

The official USQ48HFF animated opening -OR- a title card with: This film was made for the USQ 48 Hour Film Festival 2022.

A title card with: team name, title, genre, city, and date

2 seconds of black

Your film follows this.

Opening Credits

After the 2 seconds of black, some films start with opening credits. These are not encouraged, but if you use them, opening credits are considered to be part of the film, and therefore count against the 5-minute maximum. Additionally, if your film has opening credits other than simply the film's title (for example, the names of directors, actors, etc.), you must include one of the following

the text 'YOUR TEAM NAME presents' immediately followed by a 'USQ 48 Hour Film Festival Entry' or the text 'USQ 48 Hour Film Festival' immediately following the title of your film

Note: a 48 Hour Film Festival Entry may be entirely lowercase (i.e., 48 hour film festival entry).

End Credits

Credits at the end of each film are limited to a maximum of 60 seconds. The 60 seconds is considered additional to the length of the film, as stated above. (That is, a film may be 5 minutes long, with an additional 60 seconds of credits, for a total running time of 6 minutes.) USQ48HFF reserves the right to shorten any end credits that exceed the maximum length for screening purposes.

The end credits must include the words: This film was made for the USQ 48 Hour Film Festival.

Slates And Credits After The Competition

For any future screenings, online or otherwise, films should retain the pre-film title card that says: This film was made for the USQ 48 Hour Film Festival 2022

M. Required Media Formats

For equal access of submission and viewing, please upload your finished film to Youtube or Vimeo for judging panel assessment

N. Submission Notes

We recommend that you make sound levels relatively even throughout your film. (If your film has uneven sound or sound that peaks, it may be modified to protect the playback equipment.)

O. Production Documents

Each team must secure releases for talent, crew, music and locations (and any other applicable releases), which must be digitally turned in to the festival organizers with the finished film/video link email. The film/video will not be screened before the USQ 48 Hour Film Festival Organizers receive the signed releases.

Release forms can be found on the School of Creative Arts – 48HFF webpage.

Hardcopies of the completed release forms shall be retained by the team entrants Schools.

Both written and electronic signatures are allowed.

P. Certification Statement

The Entrant must submit a Certification Statement with his/her completed Entry, certifying adherence to all Official Rules.

Q. Eligibility

To be eligible for the Festival, Entries must be the original work of the Entrant; must not infringe third-party's rights; must be suitable for publication (i.e., may not be obscene or indecent); must not contain obscene or pornographic material; may not contain defamatory statements about any person, company, organization or entity; may not invade privacy or other rights of any person, company or entity; may not in any other way violate applicable laws and regulations; and may not contain any copyrighted elements (other than as owned by the Entrant and/or USQ48HFF).

Entries containing prohibited or inappropriate content as determined by the USQ48HFF, in its sole discretion, to be inappropriate will be disqualified. USQ48HFF reserves the right to make the final determination as to which Entries are eligible. USQ48HFF reserves the right to refuse to screen a film or to make an announcement at the screening regarding the content of the film.

USQ48HFF reserves the right to alter a film in order to remove or delete offensive or defamatory content.

R. No Pre-Screening Distribution

The Entrant should not distribute their entry/video in any way prior to it receiving its official USQ48HFF premiere screening. This includes uploading the video to any website or screening the film for groups of anyone other than the team. The Entrant is encouraged to make a trailer of their film and distribute that instead. This trailer should be no longer than 48 seconds.

S. Official Film Entry

To be certified as an Official Film Entry, each participating group's film/video production must follow all rules herein. The USQ 48 Hour Film Festival Organizers reserve the right to screen only certified Official Film Entries.

T. Entries Not Returned

No Entries (media or documents) will be returned.

U. Disqualification

USQ48HFF and Festival Parties may, in their sole discretion, disqualify Entries deemed to be inappropriate or otherwise non-compliant.
