

**BILL RILEY TALENT SEARCH**  
**SPONSORED BY: WOODBURY COUNTY REC**  
**Superintendents**

**Kathy Clarkson (712) 251-9844 & Tom Gerking (712) 428-4808**

The Woodbury County Fair will hold two complete State Fair Talent Searches. The contests will be on Thursday, August 4, at 7 PM and Saturday, August 6, at 7 PM. The competition will be in Flathers Hall on the fairgrounds in Merville. The search is divided into two divisions, Sprouts, ages 2 through 12, and Seniors, ages 13 through 21. The winner of each division will be entitled to enter the competition at the Iowa State Fair. If the first place winner cannot attend the Iowa State Fair, the second place winner may compete.

Sprout winners will receive a ribbon and a trophy. Junior and Senior division winners will receive prizes as follow: 1st--\$75; 2nd--\$50; and 3rd--\$25. A special prize of \$25 will be awarded to the highest placing Woodbury County resident in the Junior and Senior divisions.

**GENERAL RULES – TALENT SEARCH**

The following rules are specified by the State Fair Talent Search. We have no means for checking every rule the day of the contest, however, you will be disqualified at state if you break one, so make sure your act is within these rules before you come.

1. Not more than 5 persons in a single act.
2. An individual may be part of only one act.
3. No pantomime to records or tapes. (Pure mime is accepted.)
4. **Vocalists are strongly encouraged to practice and perform with the assistance of a vocal coach and/or a live accompanist. Pre-recorded accompaniment will be allowed as long as long as it is a single instrument. Any pre-recorded tape with backing vocals, multiple instrumentation or orchestration is not allowed, and the act will be disqualified.**
5. Sprout acts will be permitted to have one performer who is 13 years old only. If a performer in a Sprout act turns 13 before the State Fair, thus making the Sprout act have two or more 13 year olds, that act will automatically become a Senior act. Any performer who is 14 years or older will not be allowed to perform in a Sprout act.
6. An accompanist, when not a part of the act, may be any age.
7. No more than 3 accompanists permitted.
8. All participants must be legal residents of Iowa.
9. Each act must not run more than 3 minutes. (At State, points will be deducted from acts going over 3 minutes or be subject to possible disqualification.)
10. No rock band due to the 1minute set up time.
11. Professionals are not permitted to compete. (This includes union musicians or anyone whose principal income is from his/her talent.)
12. An act already qualified may not compete in this contest but may appear as entertainment during the judges' conference. (This is a Woodbury County rule. Since we are one of the last shows to qualify for the State Fair, this gives more people an opportunity to qualify.)
13. Groups must form a straight line on stage for introductions. You may not dance onto or off the stage. After introductions, you may take any position you wish to begin your performance.
14. A person's age for the Iowa State Fair competition is determined at the time they win a local show. A 12 year old (or 21 year old) could turn 13 (or 22) by State Fair and still be eligible in the Sprout (or Senior) division, as they met age requirements at the time of qualification.
15. All acts must pre-register prior to the day of the talent show.

**Check-in Procedures:**

**Thursday, August 4, or Saturday, August 6**--Meet in Flathers Hall at the north bleachers around 6:30 PM. Tom Gerking or Kathy Clarkson will be there to check in the participants. *This event is sponsored by Woodbury County REC.*

The general comment section of the judge's ballots will be returned to participants at the conclusion of each show each night. The point value section will remain with the judges.