

Welcome to Hückelhoven Circus Festival!

Information for our participants

First of all: Welcome! We are looking forward to meeting you and we will try everything to turn the 8th Circus Festival into an unforgettable event for you and your young artists!

There is quite a number of information for you and your group. Sometimes we also post news on our website: www.zirkusfestival-hueckelhoven.de. Not everything will be translated, so if you have questions, just send me an e-mail.

1. The Venue

Our shows will be presented in the Casselly family's big top. It will be set up next to our school building and has about 500 seats. The ring has a diameter of about 8 metres and has a wooden floor.

There will be a motor for aerial acts, but if you need more than one suspension point, we will have to work with ropes (which is possible, of course – it just needs a bit of planning in advance).

2. Accommodation

Everybody will be staying in the gym. As there are usually a lot of participants, we ask every group to show consideration especially for our youngest participants and keep the peace at night, as we would like to avoid accidents due to sleep deficits. Ear plugs might still be a good thing to pack.

We ask the trainers of each group to inform their artist about our house rules. You will get them on the day of your arrival. There will also be legal notices to be signed (I'm still translating.....).

Doors of the gym will be locked at 11.00 pm. After this time, you will be able to leave the gym, but you won't be able to enter again. During the nights there will always be a member of our organisation team on night duty. This person will have the keys in case you need to leave the gym e.g. for emergency reasons.

We do not have the possibility to keep your valuables safe. So, don't bring your diamonds! We cannot accept liability for any lost or stolen items. But we can assure you that nothing has ever been stolen during the last seven festivals.

Participants are asked to tidy up their place in the gym on the last day of the festival. As we had huge problems here some years ago, we ask every group for a deposit on the day of their arrival. Participants presenting a complete show during the festival will be asked to deposit 50 € for participants with single acts this will be 25€ We apologize for this procedure but since we organize it this way there hasn't been a problem anymore.

3. Catering

We order food from a local caterer who has agreed to exclude pork. You can also order vegetarian food. Tea, coffee and water will be included. You can always get something to drink at our counter in the foyer, but as there are lots of people, we might sometimes need a bit of time to fill up our supplies. So, it might be a good idea to also have your own supply (supermarket is around the corner).

Catering can only be booked as a complete package. It is 38 €per person.

Please always add *Catering Festival* and the name of your group when you transfer the money.

4. T-Shirts

We offer t-shirts. This year they will be black with pink print. There will be our logo on the front and the names of all the participating groups on the back. They cost 11 € if you'd like one. Please order them in advance.

5. Schedule

The festival programme has already been published on our website. Every group will perform their show once – after that you can lean back and enjoy the other shows. You won't need tickets, of course.

Time for rehearsals in the tent is short and must be shared with other groups. Please make sure that you are well prepared and mainly need time for light/sound and rigging. Every group will have a certain amount of time in the tent to make sure that every group can prepare for the show.

Our festival is officially finished after the gala show. If you have a long way home and want to stay an additional night, please let us know.

6. Rating system

Our rating system is quite different. From every complete show and the total number of single acts the jury must choose at least one and up to four acts. Those are the acts that will be presented in the final gala show. They also win a prize.

We won't have a first, second or third place. We combine the prizes we have to the members of the gala they fit best to.

7. Our jury

Our jury consists of circus experts and professional artists.

8. Your homework

To make sure that everything works out smoothly, we need your help.

1. Please, send back the information sheet about your group as soon as possible.
2. We would also like to order the meals and the shirts as early as possible. So, please send back the information about catering and T-shirts until 1st August. A complete list of names would also be nice, as we usually make name tags for our participants.
3. We will need the time schedule for your show, so our jury members know who they are looking at. Typed would be nice.
4. Please, bring your music on a stick and make sure the order of songs is correct.
5. Please, make a poster that represents your group. We would like to make an exhibition that shows all the participating groups of our festival.
6. We would like to learn with and from each other. So, please, offer one workshop if you come with single acts and offer two if you come with a complete show. Of course, you can also offer more if you like!

We will try everything to make sure that you will feel comfortable during the festival – but we are not professional event managers. So, if there is a problem that needs to be solved, please, let us know! If there is something positive you would like to tell us, you could also do so.

We are looking forward to seeing you soon! Your organization team.