

NELSPRUIT EISTEDDFOD 2026

isiZulu, Siswati and isiXhosa Speech and Drama Section

17 - 18 August 2026

Venue: Church Unlimited Mbombela
R40 towards Barberton, Maggiesdal, Mbombela

Head of Division: Quewlynn Bhana – 072 684 8748
quewlynnb@gmail.com

ENTRY FEES

Solo	R 145-00
Duet	R 90-00 pp
Group 3-10	R 70-00 pp
Group 11+	R 50-00 pp
Choral Verse	R 40-00 pp

Specific Rules

1. All performances must be in isiZulu, SiSwati or isiXhosa.
2. **A copy of the piece being presented must be handed in at registration**
3. Time limits must be adhered to as listed under each item. Exceeding time limits may lead to penalties.
4. Teachers/affiliates are responsible for entering members in the correct category. Incorrect details may result in disqualification.
5. Props, costumes, and simple sets are permitted but must enhance and not detract from the performance.
6. The adjudicator's decision is final. Discussions with adjudicators or re-adjudications are not allowed.
7. **No foul or offensive language is allowed.** Performances must be respectful and culturally appropriate.
8. Clothing must be neat and decent, reflecting the dignity of the performance.
Performers must be fully clad in clothes that cover the whole body.



INDIVIDUAL SECTION

ITEM ZUL/SWA/XHO 1: Prepared Speech

- **Grades 4–7:** Maximum 3 minutes.
- **Grade 8–Open:** Maximum 5 minutes.
Participants may choose a topic relevant to culture, traditions, or modern issues. Vocal clarity and language use will be assessed.

ITEM ZUL/SWA/XHO 2: Undramatised Poetry

- **Grades 0–7:** Maximum 3 minutes.
- **Grade 8–Open:** Maximum 4 minutes.
Poems must be memorized and recited with expression. Movements and props are not allowed.

ITEM ZUL/SWA/XHO 3: Dramatised Poetry

- **Grades 0–7:** Maximum 3 minutes.
- **Grade 8–Open:** Maximum 5 minutes.
Participants must use gestures, movements, and vocal variation to bring the poem to life. Simple props and costumes are encouraged.

ITEM ZUL/SWA/XHO 4: Storytelling

- **Grades 1–3:** Maximum 2 minutes.
- **Grades 4–9:** Maximum 4 minutes.
- **Grade 10–Open:** Maximum 5 minutes.
Stories can be original or traditional and must be narrated with appropriate vocal and physical expressions.



GROUP SECTION

ITEM ZUL/SWA/XHO 5: Duet or Group Dramatization

- **Grades 0–7:** Maximum 3–5 minutes.
- **Grade 8–Open:** Maximum 5 minutes.
Participants perform an excerpt from a play, story, or folktale, using props, costumes, and movements to enhance their performance.

ITEM ZUL/SWA/XHO 6: Group Dramatization (small group)

- **Grades 0–7:** Maximum 3–5 minutes.
- **Grade 8–Open:** Maximum 5 minutes.
Participants perform an excerpt from a play, story, or folktale, using props, costumes, and movements to enhance their performance.

ITEM ZUL/SWA/XHO 7: Group Dramatization (large group)

- **Grades 0–7:** Maximum 3–5 minutes.
- **Grade 8–Open:** Maximum 5 minutes.
Participants perform an excerpt from a play, story, or folktale, using props, costumes, and movements to enhance their performance.

ITEM ZUL/SWA/XHO 8: Choral Verse (Dramatised or Undramatised)

- **Grades 0–Open:** 3–5 minutes.
- **Undramatised:** Focuses on vocal quality and stage grouping without movement.
- **Dramatised:** Incorporates gestures, movement, and costumes to bring the text to life.

ITEM ZUL/SWA/XHO 9: Group Cultural Performance

- **Grades 0–Open:** 7–10 minutes.
Groups present a cultural story, event, or practice using drama, music, and/or dance. Creativity and cultural authenticity are key.

