

Wigan & Leigh Short Film Festival 2026 entry Terms & Conditions

Entry Terms

The Wigan & Leigh Short Film Festival will be referred to as "WLFF" in the document below.

1. All entries should be no longer than 15 minutes in total length, including credits at the end.
2. Entries to the Young Filmmaker category must be created by directors/teams aged between 16 and 25 years when filming.
3. Entries for the North West category must be created in the North West of England (i.e. Cumbria, Isle of Man, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside or Cheshire).
4. Any entries in a spoken language other than English must contain English subtitles.
5. If you have entered your film into a previous WLFF event, please do not re-submit it.
6. We only allow one submission per filmmaker.
7. There is a £10 entrance fee taken when submitting your film on the WLFF Film Freeway page, which is non-refundable.
8. The Deadline for submissions to the festival is midnight on 31st July 2026.
9. Any conflicts of interest between filmmakers & the selection panel should be declared to the Festival Director IMMEDIATELY.
10. Filmmakers MUST include a brief synopsis of the film upon submission to the Film Freeway site, which should be no more than 150 words in length. Without this, the film will not be considered for judging.
11. Filmmakers should fill out as many of the data fields as possible during the Film Freeway submission process.
12. Filmmakers must provide at least one high resolution image (1920 x 1080 or higher) for the use of WLFF in promotional material and social media. We would ask that you submit more than one so that we have choices.
13. We screen our events at true 4K resolution so films should be submitted at that resolution if possible and ideally rendered at a high bit rate to reduce compression artefacts using a high-performance codec.

However we can project most formats including H.264 & H.265 MP4 together with MPEG, AVI, WMV, AVCHD and others. Please note that your film should have a minimum resolution of 1080p.
14. Digital versions of marketing materials should be made available to be used for our marketing purposes no later than the 31st August 2026.

15. Judges, sponsors, administrators, technicians, volunteers and independent contractors who work with or for Leigh Film Society on WLFF are not eligible to enter the festival, nor are their spouses or other immediate family members.
16. The Judges' decision is final and no discussion and/or correspondence will be entered into regarding submissions.
17. All entries must obtain the appropriate copyright clearances (i.e. music, archive footage, images, etc). Failure to do so will result in the entry being disqualified from the competition.
18. The selected entries will be screened during the Festival programme.
19. Winners will be presented with their awards during the WLFF events and will also be detailed on the WLFF website and promoted on social media.
20. If your entry to our festival contains music, it is your responsibility to get clearance. By entering your film into WLFF, you or the artists who own the music and/or their representatives (such as PRS/PPL/MCPS) are waiving rights to claim royalties on the music from any monies generated by WLFF.
21. Films with non-English spoken dialogue should be supplied with appropriate subtitles or a subtitle file. Please get in touch with a member of our team ahead of submission if this presents any challenges for you.
22. Filmmakers should have written consent from any participant involved, if the content portrays a lived experience. Any sensitive and identifiable information should not be included, or should be anonymised.
23. The selection and scheduling of all films screened at WLFF is entirely at the discretion of the Festival Directors and the selection panel.

In the event of unseen circumstances, it may be necessary to reschedule the event to a later date but notification will be provided to all selected filmmakers.
24. No entry fee refunds (other than if we cancel the entire event) are possible after submitting your work to the WLFF.
25. If a filmmaker fails to comply with the deadline to receive the film and/or marketing materials, the film can be withdrawn from the festival line up and replaced by another film at the discretion of the Festival Director.

1. By submitting your film to the WLFF via the Film Freeway website, you indicate that you have read and accept the terms & conditions of the Wigan & Leigh Film Festival 2026.
2. I authorise WLFF to exhibit my film if selected. I confirm that an exhibition copy will be made available in a required format for screening during the 2026 festival.
3. I certify that I hold all necessary rights and clearances for the submission of my film to the WLFF, that all rights and clearances have been made and that this film is not subject to any litigation nor is threatened by any litigation.
4. I will provide the festival with any additional information required pursuant to the terms and conditions.
5. I acknowledge that the film submission fee does not guarantee acceptance or inclusion to the WLFF and no refund will be provided if my film is not selected.
6. By Agreeing to these terms and conditions, I transfer to the WLFF the right to use excerpts of the submitted film, its stills and trailers, for the purposes of publicity and marketing of the film at the 2026 festival and for other non-commercial uses related to the promotion of future WLFF events.