



RULES & GUIDELINES

GOVERNING SOCA MONARCH

COMPETITION 2026

The CayMAS Monarch Competition is production of CayMAS Carnival Ltd.

1. The CayMAS Monarch Competition, herein after referred to as 'The Competition', will be held on the **23 Day of May 2025,**
2. Artistes/ Contestants can enter the competition as a solo act or group.
3. Artistes/ Contestants **MUST** be Caymanians or legal residents for at least 1 year prior to competition date.
4. The Semi- Final stage of the competition will be contested in an open mic format with contestants performing a soca song of choice. Either originals or cover songs are eligible. Each song will be performed with only backing tracks and no original lead vocals affixed. Each contestant will be judged as follows. 30% vocal ability, 35% stage presence and 35% crowd appeal. A three member panel of qualified adjudicators will judge the performances and the Finals contestants will be chosen to contest in the final competition. Four (4) Contestants will be decided to compete for the Finals on 23 May 2026 along with the
5. The current 2025 Soca Monarch automatically qualifies for the 2026 finals if eligible.
6. At the Final competition contestants will be required to perform One (1) original Soca song, which will be performed with a local backing band. A five member panel of qualified judges including Two (2) international judges will judge the final competition, with the winner chosen as the 2025 CayMAS Monarch Champion. Results will be audited by a local accounting firm. The finalist that didn't place in the top three will receive a CI\$100 performance fee.
7. The criteria by which the original songs will be judged during the finals will be as follows: 25% Melody 25% Lyrics 30% stage presence and 20% crowd appeal.
8. Winners of CayMAS Soca Monarch will only be able to compete as winners for two (2) consecutive years.
9. All original songs remain the property of the artist but CayMAS Carnival Ltd and the Festival, CayMAS Carnival, reserves the right to use parts or all of submitted songs as promotional material to publicize the event and upcoming Carnival.
10. The judges reserve the right to determine the length of each song to be performed with contestant not exceeding eight (8) Minutes.
11. A CayMas official shall contact all artiste/contestant who register for the competition.
12. Upon submitting an entry into The Competition the entrant agrees, to by action, words or implication not to behave in a manner that would bring The Competition, CayMAS Carnival Ltd into disrepute locally or internationally. This includes suggestive Vulgarity and vocal profanity.
13. Any artiste qualifying to compete in the finals of the Competition will be required to attend Briefings, rehearsals and sound checks.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

GOVERNING SOCA MONARCH

- **13th March 2026 Registration deadline**
- **28th March 2026 Semi Finals**
- **23rd May 2026 Finals**

PRIZE PACKAGE

First Prize

- CI\$5000.00
- Winner will be entered in International Soca Competitions.
- Winner will perform on Official CayMAS productions.

Second Prize

- CI\$2500.00
- Winner will perform on Official CayMAS productions.

Third Prize

- CI\$1000.00