

# FAQs related to FEATS 2022

To be read in conjunction with the  
FEATS22: Changing times, Pre-information on FEATS in Luxembourg

## FAQ 1

*Q: Why is FEATS 2022 going to be different?*

**A: NWTC (New World Theatre Club (Luxembourg)) are the hosting group for FEATS 2022. They have decided to 'shake things up a little' as they feel the festival has become too formulaic and risks being 'left behind' by newer developments in theatrical performance. They like to try out some new ideas and see how the FEATS Community reacts to these changes.**

## FAQ 2

*Q: How is FEATS 2022 going to be different from previous years?*

**A:**

- The festival will have a unifying theme of 'Changing Times'
- The acting area will be an open space with a substantial thrust area with side seating 'on the flat'. The front of house curtains will in general remain open throughout the festival (FAQ 17).
- The festival is being held as a non-competitive event and therefore no prizes will be awarded at the end of the festival (FAQ 5)
- There will be an Evaluator rather than a GoDA Adjudicator (Guild of Drama Adjudicators)
- Innovation will be encouraged, but will not be a requirement

## FAQ 3

*Q: Will these changes become permanent?*

**A: No. The changes only apply to 2022. However, other hosting groups in later years may choose to adopt one or more of the ideas introduced in FEATS 2022. Hosting groups would still need to discuss any changes they want to introduce with the Steering Committee.**

## FAQ 4

*Q: What is NOT changing for FEATS 2022?*

**A:**

- The basic structure of the Festival with 12 performances, 3 per night over 4 nights
- The organisation relating to the getting in, rehearsing, performing and getting out at the end of the evening (FAQ 22)
- The practice of an expert appraisal of each of the evenings' performances at the end of the evening
- The payment by participating groups of a non-refundable entry fee and a performance bond
- The organisation of a Fringe during the afternoons of the Festival
- The provision for an open Forum to discuss matters related to the current and future Festivals

FAQ 5

*Q: If there is no best production award, will any group be invited to go forward to the All Winners Final in the UK in 2022?*

**A: No. FEATS 2022 has not invited an Adjudicator. Instead, there will be an Evaluator who has excellent credentials and experience to evaluate the individual performances. Not having a GoDA Adjudicator for FEATS 2022 means that no group will be invited to attend the All Winners Festival in the UK for 2022.**

FAQ 6

*Q: Why hasn't a GoDA Adjudicator been invited?*

**A: NWTC want to keep the feedback at the end of each evening about the evening's performances but to remove the competitive element of the festival. GoDA Adjudicators give marks for the different aspects of each play/piece according to the GoDA marking system. NWTC believe that the GoDA marking system can inhibit innovation and therefore wish to remove that constraint from participating groups.**

FAQ 7

*Q: Is there any change to the way that groups are selected to participate?*

**A: Yes. The selection criteria have been modified to offer places to those groups who were unable to perform in 2020 and 2021 because of the cancellation of FEATS in those years. No other changes will be made to the selection process for 2022.**

FAQ 8

*Q: Does each play/piece have to meet the theme of 'Changing Times'?*

**A: No. It is being encouraged but it is not mandatory.**

FAQ 9

*Q: Will there be a Back Stage award?*

**A: No. There will be no awards in 2022.**

FAQ 10

*Q: What is the minimum and maximum times for each play/piece?*

**A: The minimum is 20 minutes and the maximum is 55 minutes.**

FAQ 11

*Q: Will there be any penalties if a play/piece is under 20 minutes or more than 55 minutes?*

**A: No. The Organising Committee will impress on all participating groups to observe the limits as it can hinder the smooth running of the festival if plays/pieces overrun their time slot.**

FAQ 12

*Q: Is there still the restriction of four original scripts?*

**A: Yes. There is still a maximum of four original scripts. If more than four groups wish to submit an original script then the selection process will take place as in previous years where four names are randomly selected 'out of a hat'.**

FAQ 13

*Q: Does the definition of an original script still remain the same for FEATS 2022?*

**A: No. Since there is to be no Original Script Award, the definition of an original script for FEATS 2022 has been simplified. An original script is one that has not been published (either in hardcopy or digital form) and for which no payment has been made or is envisaged.**

FAQ 14

*Q: The document FEATS22: Changing times, Pre-information on FEATS in Luxembourg, encourages new works or forms of theatre. What does this mean?*

**A: In order to encourage innovation a provision has been made to allow an entry to be any alternative or hybrid form of theatrical performance that presents a certain unity. For example - it could be a combination of up to three pieces with a total playing time, including transitions, that does not exceed the maximum of 55 minutes.**

FAQ 15

*Q: Apart from encouraging different types of theatre which could be a combination of three pieces, are there any other changes that participating groups should know?*

**A: Yes. Exceptionally for FEATS 2022, the full cast will be allowed to take one bow at the end of their play/piece. No individual or individuals can be singled out.**

FAQ 16

*Q: It seems that participating groups are being encouraged to be more creative and innovative. Where can they get some guidance about what might work?*

**A: The Organising Committee are offering to give guidance and support to any group who wishes to explore other forms of theatre for this festival. The groups should also understand that they are not obliged to follow any advice from the Organising Committee except in matters of health, safety and decency and that their play/piece doesn't infringe any of the limitations as identified in the Technical Data Pack.**

FAQ 17

*Q: Can a group request to have the front of house curtains closed at the beginning of their play/piece and closed at the end?*

**A: Yes and No. In general, the front of house curtains will remain open throughout the whole evening, even during setting and striking the set. If, however, a group wishes to only use the thrust area, the curtains could be closed behind this area to enable a more intimate setting. The front of house curtains could also be set to an intermediate opening, but only if visibility of the action behind the curtain line is not restricted for those in the side seating blocks. The opening and closing of the curtains could also be an integral part of the performance.**

FAQ 18

*Q: Will the Organising Committee have the right to reject an entry?*

**A: As in previous FEATS festivals, the Organising Committee will read all the plays and will check that there is no infringement of the restrictions as specified in the Technical Data Pack and that it does not break any rules of health, safety and common decency. If they feel that a play infringes any of these rules then the entry may be rejected.**

FAQ 19

*Q: Although there will be no awards given in 2022, will there be any public recognition of excellent work?*

**A: Yes. The Evaluator will recognise excellent work during his/her evaluation of that play/piece. The Evaluator will not make any comments which compare groups and/or individuals.**

FAQ 20

*Q: If there are no awards being given on the last evening, what will the Evaluator talk about?*

**A: Their thoughts; a review of the festival as a whole? What worked and what didn't; suggestions for future festivals: or indeed anything else! And maybe a surprise!**

FAQ 21

*Q: Are participating groups obliged to bring 'something new' to the festival or can they still bring a more traditional one-act play?*

**A: The Organising Committee would welcome any group that wishes to try 'something new' but are equally happy for a group to submit a more traditional one-act play.**

FAQ 22

*Q: Will groups still have to observe the timings for rehearsals, setting and striking?*

**A: Yes. Each group will need to unload their van at the time allocated to them. They will be given a 2-hour rehearsal spot during the day of their performance. In the evening, they will be given 10 minutes to set the stage with their Crew of 5 and 5 minutes to strike with the Crew of 5.**

FAQ 23

*Q: Will the Festival Back Stage team still be timing everything?*

**A: Yes. This is to encourage the participating groups to be conscious of the time and not to waste it as this can hinder the smooth running of the festival.**

FAQ 24

*Q: Will the FEATS Rules be updated to reflect the changes?*

**A: Yes. They will be temporarily amended for FEATS 2022.**

FAQ 25

*Q: Will the Evaluator be available for further consultation in the morning following a group's performance?*

**A: Yes. This will remain the same as in previous years.**