

## **Official Rules of Competition**

(Source: <https://www.usairguitar.com/rules>)

US Air Guitar obeys the rules set forth by the Air Guitar World Championships:

- Each performance is played to one minute (sixty seconds) of a song.
- The sixty seconds can start anywhere in the song.
- The instrument must be invisible and be a guitar.
- A competitor does not have to live in a city to compete in a qualifier held there.

### ***Rounds***

**Round 1, Freestyle:** Each competitor performs to a song of their choice.

**Round 2, Compulsory:** Top competitors from Round 1 perform surprise song.

### ***Judging Criteria***

All performances are scored on a scale from 4.0 to 6.0—6.0 being the highest possible. A single score is given to each air guitarist based on their overall performance in that round. The scores from BOTH ROUNDS are added to determine the contestants' final scores. The score reflects the quality of the performance based on three key criteria:

- **Technical merit**  
You don't have to know what notes you're playing, but the more your invisible fretwork corresponds to the music that's playing, the better the performance.
- **Stage presence**  
Anyone can do it in the privacy of their bedroom. Few have what it takes to rock a crowd of hundreds or even thousands—all without an instrument.
- **"Airness"**  
The last criteria is the most difficult to define yet often the most decisive of all. Airness is defined as the extent to which a performance transcends the imitation of a real guitar and becomes an art form in and of itself.