

# Madison's Funniest Comic Competition 2026

**SIGN-UP:** Begins Wednesday, March 4th, Ends Thursday, March 26th @ 4pm. Sign up is online only. To sign up visit [madisoncomedy.com](http://madisoncomedy.com). Contestants and Preliminary show placement will be posted on Friday, March 27th on the Club website ([www.madisoncomedy.com](http://www.madisoncomedy.com)) under MFC contest tab.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Comics must be based in Wisconsin in order to be eligible to compete. 3-5 minute video clip required for audition.

**SHOW TIME:** 8pm; Doors @ 6:30pm. Seating is a first come first serve basis. We recommend showing up early as these shows do fill up quickly and sell out.

## PRIZES:

**1st Prize:** \$1000 Cash, \$100 gift card to Comedy on State, 20 minute professionally recorded video plus 2-3 clips

**2nd Prize:** \$250 cash, \$50 gift card to Comedy on State

**3rd Prize:** \$100 cash, \$50 gift card to Comedy on State

**CHECK-IN:** All comics performing must arrive and check in 30 minutes prior to showtime. Check in at greenroom. Failure to check-in results in disqualification from the competition.

**LINE-UP ORDER:** Will be drawn randomly for each week. Order will be posted at 6:30pm the night of the show.

## Competition Breakdown:

Round	Date	# of Comics Performing	Time Allotted	Winners Posted
Preliminary 1	Wednesday, April 1st	30	3 Minutes	Thursday, April 2nd @ 5pm
Preliminary 2	Wednesday, April 8th	30	3 Minutes	Thursday, April 9th @ 5pm
Round 1	Wednesday, April 15th	25	3 Minutes	Thursday, April 16th @ 5pm
Round 2 (Semi-finals)	Wednesday, April 22nd	12	5 Minutes	Thursday, April 23rd @ 5pm
Round 3 (FINAL)	Wednesday, April 29th	5	10 Minutes	End of the show

## Judging Criteria:

Our panel of judges will follow these guidelines when judging your set. The panel will be announced closer to show dates. Judging will be based on 60% panel judging and 40% crowd voting. Each crowd member will be given one ballot at the beginning of the night to be turned in after all comics have performed.

**Time-** Comic utilizes allotted time. 30 seconds over/under results in points deduction, 1 minute over or under results in immediate disqualification.

**Stage Persona-** Comedian has a strong stage presence and unique style

**Creative Material-** Original jokes

**Crowd Reaction-** Laughs, gasps, boos, crying, etc.

**Memorization of Lines-** Jokes not forgotten or stumbled over, no notes on stage

**Professionalism-** Entering and exiting the stage, works the entire room, head up and projection of voice, mic handling, etc.

**Topic Choices-** Comedian avoids material that is dirty or offensive for the sake of getting an easy crowd reaction

**New Material-** No repeat material. Take into consideration crowd and judges may dock points for repeat material.