

LOUD & CLEAR

Audio Competition Rules

Saturday, 5 December 2026 • Dubai, United Arab Emirates

1. Competition Classes

Seventeen classes are contested across three formats: Sound Quality, Shoot That Bass, and SPL. Competitors may enter more than one class provided the system meets the definition of each.

#	Class	Definition
SOUND QUALITY		
1	6.5" Single Component	One set of components up to 6.5", active or passive, 2-way or 3-way, plus subwoofer/s and unlimited amp wattage
2	6.5" Single Component — Expert	As above, expert division
3	6.5" Unli Component — Raw	Unlimited sets of components up to 6.5", active or passive, 2-way or 3-way, plus subwoofer/s and unlimited amp wattage
4	6.5" Unli Component — Expert	As above, expert division
5	6.5" Single Raw	One set of tweeters and raw driver speakers up to 6.5", active or passive, 2-way or 3-way, plus subwoofer/s
6	6.5" Single Raw — Expert	As above, expert division
7	8"-10" Single Raw	One set of tweeters and raw driver speakers up to 10", active or passive, 2-way or 3-way, plus subwoofer/s
8	8"-10" Single Raw — Expert	As above, expert division
9	Unli Raw	Unlimited number, size and type of tweeters, speakers and subwoofers, and unlimited amp wattage
10	Unli Raw — Expert	As above, expert division
SHOOT THAT BASS		
11	124 dB	Any set of components, midrange or midbass in active or passive, 2-way or 3-way, plus any subwoofer size and unlimited amp wattage
12	134 dB	As above, at the higher decibel ceiling
SPL — OWN CHOICE OF DEMO TRACK		
13	Single 10" or 2 x 8" subwoofer	
14	Single 12" or 2 x 10" subwoofer	
15	Single 15" or 2 x 12" subwoofer	

#	Class	Definition
16	Unlimited subwoofers	
17	Wall subwoofers	

Only one set of each speaker size is accepted in Single classes. In Unlimited classes, only matching sets of each speaker size are accepted. Bullet-type tweeters are not permitted in Unli Component.

2. Judging Distance

Systems are judged from a fixed distance measured from the front bumper of the vehicle. Competitors may keep the trunk open or closed, whichever best suits the playability and sound production of their setup.

Class	Distance	Measured from
Single Component & Single Raw 6.5"	5 metres (15 ft)	Front bumper of the vehicle
Single Raw 8" and 10"	10 metres (33 ft)	Front bumper of the vehicle
Unlimited Component & Unlimited Raw	15 metres (45 ft)	Front bumper of the vehicle

3. Demo Tracks

- Sound Quality classes are judged on a track nominated by the organiser.
- Shoot That Bass (124 dB and 134 dB) demo tracks will be announced during the event.
- SPL classes are judged on the competitor's own choice of demo track.

4. Scoring

Each system is scored by the judging panel against three criteria. All criteria are scored in 0.5 increments to reduce the likelihood of tie-breakers.

Criterion	Judged on	Score range
High / Tweeters	Harshness, crispness, sizzle, and overall compliment to the music	1 to 15
Midbass / Midrange	Voice quality, attack and decay of instruments, natural sound of instruments	1 to 15
Lows / Bass / Sub Bass	Control, extension, and accuracy	1 to 15
MAXIMUM TOTAL	All three criteria scored in 0.5 increments to reduce tie-breakers	45

5. Volume Control

- The competitor decides the volume level for the judging period.
- Volume may not be altered once the judging track has started playing.
- Judges may request an increase in volume only. Such a request does not affect the score sheet.

6. System Malfunction

- A full system malfunction receives the lowest score in every category on the score sheet.
- A partial malfunction — subwoofers, midrange or tweeters not working — is judged on the working speakers, and receives the lowest score in the affected category only.
- Once the judging track has been played, judging continues even if a malfunction occurs.

7. Tie-Breakers

- Where a tie occurs, a demo song of the judges' choice is played.
- A new score sheet is issued and attached to the initial score sheet.
- The final score is calculated from the tie-breaker score sheet.

8. General

- The decision of the judging panel is final.
 - Competitors must be present with their vehicle at their allocated judging time.
 - Any breach of these rules may result in disqualification at the organiser's discretion.
 - The organiser reserves the right to amend these rules; any changes will be announced before judging begins.
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