



ACF Senior Club Carnival 2026

Information Booklet

About ACF Senior Club Carnival

The ACF Senior Club Carnival (ACC26) is a new national competition created to celebrate the highest level of club performance in Calisthenics in Australia, and to shape the future of the sport's national competition pathway.

This event represents the first pilot under the National Competition & Event Framework (NCEF) — a carefully designed step to test and refine the cornerstone events of the NCEF — with the goal that the Club Carnival event will, in time, welcome all age groups. By piloting with Senior Clubs, ACF can ensure the structure, format, and participant experience are robust, sustainable, and well-prepared for future national expansion.

The Senior Club Team Carnival brings together clubs from across Australia to perform, connect, and celebrate the creativity, teamwork, and excellence that define Calisthenics. It embodies the ACF's purpose:

More People, More Ways, Calisthenics Everywhere.

Whether your club is chasing elite performance or simply eager to experience competition on the national stage, ACC26 is your opportunity to be part of the beginning of something bigger — a new era of inclusive, club-based national events for Calisthenics.

Our vision is simple - to unite Senior Club Teams from every state and territory in a high-quality, inclusive competition that celebrates the unique spirit of Calisthenics — creativity, teamwork, and excellence — while growing national engagement and visibility for the sport.

Location & Dates

Venue Influencers Church - Paradise
Adelaide, SA

Dates Friday 16 & Saturday 17 October 2026

Questions?

Contact us at acfevents@calisthenicsaustralia.com.au

Expressions of Interest

Submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI) is a critical first step in the entry process for the ACF Senior Club Carnival. Clubs wishing to participate MUST complete the EOI form to receive access to the official entry registration details.

Please note:

- Submitting an EOI does not commit your team to participation, nor does it guarantee entry into the event.
- EOIs are used to inform event logistics, tier structuring, and planning.
- A waitlist will be maintained for teams who miss the EOI window, allowing them to be considered if space permits within the competition capacity.
- By submitting an EOI you agree to the event's Conditions of Entry as outlined on pages 7 & 8 of this booklet.

EOIs open 9:00am (AEDT) Monday 17 November and close at 5:00 PM (AEDT) Friday 28 November 2025.

To complete the EOI form, [click here](#).

The ACF National Senior Club Team competition will welcome up to eight clubs per Tier, inclusive of both first and second teams. This capacity has been set to ensure this pilot event remains manageable and well-supported, allowing ACF to test logistics, refine scheduling, and evaluate competition structures in a national context.

ACF reserves the right to close the EOI period if capacity becomes oversubscribed.

We strongly encourage all interested Senior teams to submit their EOI early to ensure inclusion in event communications and the official entry registration process.

Official Entry Registration

Official entry registration will open Wednesday 19 January 2026.

Full entry process details will be provided exclusively to clubs whose EOI has been formally acknowledged by ACF.

Please note:

- Only clubs that submit an EOI will receive details on official entry registration access
- Entries for each competition Tier will close once capacity is reached, or at ACF's discretion
- The ACF reserves the right to decline entries that do not comply with the event's Conditions of Entry, as outlined on pages 7 & 8 of this booklet.

Competition Details

Venue: Influencers Church - 57 Darely Road, Paradise, Adelaide, SA

Dates: • Friday 16 & Saturday 17 October 2026
• Final scheduling will be provided to Clubs who complete the EOI

Eligibility: Open to all Senior Club teams registered with their State Calisthenics Association, including CaliVic.

Tiers: • The competition will feature three Tiers, designed to promote participation across a diverse range of club and team profiles.
• We will welcome up to eight clubs per Tier, inclusive of both first and second teams.
• For details on how Tiers are determined, please refer to the Grading section on page 5.

Adjudication: All Tiers will be adjudicated by a Panel of 3 adjudicators under ACF Rules, adjudication processes, and critique sheets.

Items: To accommodate the diversity of State and Division fancy item rotations across Australia, the ACF Senior Club Carnival pilot will feature core items only, as follows:

- Figure March
- Free Exercises
- Club Swinging
- Rod Exercises
- Rhythmical Aesthetic

Rules: ACF Minimal Rules apply

Lighting: 10 cues per item

Stage Dressing: Choice of 3 items

Entry Fees: Entry fees must be paid in full at the time of official entry registration, via credit card. Please note that the competition management platform may apply a credit card surcharge.

Failure to complete payment at the time of registration—including any applicable non-ACF member levy—will result in the entry being declined.

All entry fees are non-refundable.

- \$80 per item
- \$20 non-ACF member levy per participant will apply to all Victorian entrants.

ACF Benchmarking Framework

The ACF Grading Committee oversees club gradings for inter-State competitions such as the Royal South Street Society (RSSS). These gradings reflect each club's performance, capacity, and competitive alignment.

The ACF Benchmarking Framework builds on this foundation to deliver a consistent, transparent, and fair approach to club benchmarking. Its purpose is to:

- Ensure clarity and consistency in tier placement
- Support participation across diverse club profiles
- Enable operational feasibility in scheduling, adjudication, and event delivery

ACF Club Team Grading

The 2026 Senior Club Team Carnival will pilot a three-tier benchmarking framework, grounded in the ACF Club Team Grading system. All participating Senior clubs will compete in Tiers based on their existing ACF grading, as outlined in the table below.

TIER	ACF CLUB TEAM GRADING
Tier 1	Championship Division Teams
Tier 2	Premier Division & Division 1 Teams
Tier 3	Division 2 and Subsequent Divisions
CaliBilities	Performance-only Participation Stream (Grading assessment not required)

Teams that competed in inter-State competitions in 2025 - such as RSSS - may already hold an ACF Club Team Grading.

Teams that do not currently hold an ACF Club Team Grading must apply to the ACF Grading Committee for assessment as part of the official entry registration process.

- Grading applications are to be submitted with official entry registrations
- Supporting materials will be required, with full details provided as part of the entry process.
- Teams without a current ACF Club Team Grading will be asked to estimate their Tier when submitting their Expression of Interest (EOI).

NOTE: Teams competing in the CaliBilities Tier are exempt from the grading assessment requirement.

Venue Information

Auditorium Capacity: The venue features raked seating with a capacity of approximately 1,000 seats. Additional floor-level seating will be reserved for accessible seating and overflow participant seating as required.

Stage: The stage is purpose-built for the event.

- Working area dimensions: 11 metres wide × 10 metres deep
- Riser: Positioned at the back of the stage behind the 10-metre mark, measuring 30cm (height) × 1.5 metres (depth front to back) × 11 metres (wide)
- Side wings: Included for entry/exit flow
- Curtains: No curtains are available — there are no back, front, mid, or scrim curtains
- Digital Light Projection (DLP): Content is projected via large LED screens

Clubs whose EOIs have been acknowledged will receive full stage dimensions and markings as part of the technical information pack, distributed prior to the opening of official entry registration

Lighting: A specified preset lighting package will be used for the competition. Clubs will receive details of the available lighting presets as part of the Technical Information Pack.

Dressing Rooms: All teams will be accommodated through a combination of large, open-plan dressing rooms with privacy screens and smaller enclosed rooms.

If your team has specific dressing room requirements, please ensure these are communicated to the ACF in the EOI (additional information section).



Conditions of Entry

The following Conditions of Entry outline the eligibility, compliance, and operational requirements for participation in the 2026 Senior Club Carnival. All clubs and teams must review and adhere to these conditions to ensure a fair, safe, and well-managed event.

By submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI) and completing the Official Entry Registration, all teams, coaches, and participants acknowledge and consent to these conditions. Without this formal acknowledgment and consent, ACF will not accept the entry.

For specific questions regarding the Conditions of Entry, please contact us at acfevents@calisthenicsaustralia.com.au prior to finalising your official event registration.

For the purpose of the ACF Senior Club Team Carnival Conditions of Entry, the definition of participants include:

- Competing performers
- Coaches and coaching staff
- Team and club management
- Team and club support staff and volunteers

General Condition of Entry: By participating in the 2026 ACF Senior Club Carnival, all participants acknowledge and accept that calisthenics competition involves inherent physical, logistical, and environmental risks.

ACF will take all reasonable steps to provide a safe and well-managed event; however, ACF accepts no liability for injury, loss, damage, or disruption arising from participation in the event, except where required by law.

It is the responsibility of each club and participant to ensure appropriate insurance coverage, risk management practices, and supervision are in place.

Participation in the event constitutes acceptance of these terms and confirmation that all individuals involved understand and assume the associated risks.

ACF National Integrity & Safeguarding: All participants (or their caregivers, if under 18) are required to complete an ACF National Integrity Framework (NIF) Acknowledgement as part of the official entry registration process. This ensures all participants have read the ACF NIF policies, understand and agree to the integrity expectations that apply to them.

Competition Guidelines: All participants agree to uphold the [ACF Code of Conduct](#) and [ACF Competitions Inclusion Guidelines](#).

ACF Rules:

- The ACF Rules and Regulations will apply in full for the competition.
- It is the responsibility of all teams and coaches to ensure they are working from the current version of the ACF Rules and Regulations.
- Please note: State-specific variations or flexible rule interpretations will not be recognized at this national event.

Volunteers:

- All participating clubs are required to furnish volunteers to support event operations. Volunteer roles will include ushering and audience management, check-in desk support, and manning the merchandise stall.
- The ACF will provide clear role descriptions, procedural guidelines, and pre-event briefing sessions to ensure all volunteers are confident and well-prepared to contribute to a smooth and welcoming event experience.

Media All participants acknowledge and consent to the following:

Acknowledgement:

- 1. General Photography & Videography**
 - Give permission for the ACF to take photographs and videos of participants during competitions and associated events. These images and videos may be used for:
 - Promotional materials, including social media, website content, and printed publications.
 - Training and development purposes for participant and team improvement.
 - All photography and videography will abide by the ACF NIF Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy, and:
 - Be taken by ACF-appointed accredited photographers or authorised personnel with a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC).
 - Be taken only in appropriate sporting contexts.
 - Never be taken in changing rooms, bathrooms, or other private areas.
 - Present the participant in a dignified and respectful manner, without misrepresentation of the individual, situation, context, or location.
 - Be stored securely and deleted when no longer required.
- 2. Publication of Names**
 - Give permission for the participant's FIRST NAME AND THE INITIAL OF THEIR SURNAME to be published on ACF social media platforms, for the purpose of recognising competition place-getters (e.g., results, awards). and for the participant's FULL NAME to be printed in official event programs.
- 3. Live Streaming**
 - Understand and consent to ACF live streaming all competition sessions - including award ceremonies.

AusCaliConnect

AusCaliConnect will be a vibrant village where participants, administrators, coaches, officials, families, and supporters can meet, connect, learn, and celebrate all things calisthenics

Nestled inside the foyer, it's more than a marketplace — it's the social and creative heartbeat of the ACF Senior Club Carnival.

Across both competition days, AusCaliConnect will feature:

Cali Market

A curated space showcasing the best of the Calisthenics community.

Discover boutique costume designers, training wear, accessories, photography and videography partners, and event merchandise — all under one roof.

It's the perfect place to pick up your exclusive ACC26 event pin or chat with vendors who keep the sport moving forward.

Cali Café & Chill Area

A relaxed lounge space where clubs and families can grab a coffee, debrief after a performance, and connect with others from around the country.

Music, seating, and a welcoming atmosphere will make this the go-to meeting point between sessions.

Photo Area

A dedicated photo area designed for teams, supporters, and families to capture the magic of the event.

Featuring branded backdrops this space will be open throughout the Carnival for both candid and team photos.

Why AusCaliConnect Matters

AusCaliConnect turns the Carnival into more than a competition — it's a community experience. It reflects the ACF's purpose — More People. More Ways. Calisthenics Everywhere — by celebrating connection, visibility, and shared pride in the sport we love.

Whether you're performing, cheering, or just exploring, this is where we reconnect as one Calisthenics family.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q What is the purpose of the ACF Senior Club Team Carnival?

A The Senior Club Team Carnival is part of the ACF's long-term plan to grow opportunities for club-level competition across Australia. It's the pilot event for the future ACF Club Team Carnival, which will include all age groups. Starting with Senior Clubs allows us to test the model and ensure the experience is professional, inclusive, and sustainable.

Q What are the competition tiers and who decides grading?

A The competition will feature three tiers to support fair and balanced participation - along with a CaliBility section. Tier placement will be determined using ACF Club Team Gradings, or—where a club is ungraded—through a grading assessment application. See page 5 for more details.

Q Who can submit an Expression of Interest (EOI)?

A All Senior Clubs across Australia, including those from Victoria, are invited to submit an EOI. EOIs are non-binding — they simply help the ACF confirm interest, logistics, and capacity before official entry registration opens in January 2026.

Q Will Victorian clubs have the same conditions as Member State clubs?

A All clubs will compete under the same ACF rules, adjudication criteria, and performance standards. To support participation from clubs outside the ACF membership framework, a \$20 per-participant levy will apply to Victorian entries—consistent with arrangements used for other national events such as the Pan Pacific Masters Games.

Q What happens if I miss registering in the EOI window?

A Clubs that miss the EOI period will be added to a waitlist and may be offered official entry registration details if space permits within the relevant Tier. Late EOIs will only be considered if capacity remains. Please note: ACF reserves the right to close the EOI period if capacity becomes oversubscribed.

To stay informed, clubs should still complete the late-EOI form so they receive updates about any additional entry opportunities.



*For inquiries, questions, or comments,
contact us.*

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