

OCTOBER 6th 2005

IMPORTANT AMENDMENT TO THE RULES OF CHART ELIGIBILITY.

The Chart Supervisory Committee (CSC) as part of its ongoing review of the chart rules has voted to amend the rules relating to competitions connected to audio releases.

With immediate effect, competition entry inserts related to singles and albums in either physical or digital format will no longer be eligible under the chart rules. This decision extends to competitions that are non-exclusive to purchasers of a specific release.

Labels and retailers remain free to organise and run competitions independently from a release however;

- a) Entry to a competition should not be dependent on the purchase of a specific release.
- b) In the case of digital formats of a release (digital single or album) consumers should not be automatically entered into a competition upon purchase.
- c) Competition inserts within a release or featured on the packaging of a release are ineligible under this amendment to the chart rules.
- d) This extends to enhanced CD's and DVD formats where competitions may no longer be included on the enhanced section of a release or accessed via a weblink to a microsite, *or* via any other chart eligible application and/or multimedia element included on the format.

All labels who have consulted OCC for signing off of competitions for specific releases up to and including October 6th 2005 and have received confirmation of the eligibility of those competitions will remain chart eligible even if they are due to be released on or after October 6th 2005.

Any label planning further competitions around a release who wishes to ensure the eligibility of their release is unaffected by these changes is encouraged to contact OCC in the first instance for clarification.

Please find attached a revised copy of the rules for chart eligibility with the corresponding amendment to the rules relating to competitions. In particular we draw your attention to the changes to the following sections of the Chart Rules:

Main Chart Rules: Section 4.4 and 7.4

Digital Downloads Chart Eligibility Document: Section A1

If you have any questions regarding the amendment to the chart rules please contact either Nadya Jones or Paul Want on the following email addresses.

nadya@theofficialcharts.com or paul@theofficialcharts.com