SCOTT DOONICAN
HOSPITALITY RIDER

Disclaimer: My rider may be wordy, but all of it is important, informative & insightful

Ah, riders... what a weird thing they are... a document that outlines how artists can seemingly scam free shit from hard working promoters and organisers. Well, I would like to think that my hospitality rider would comply with Henry Rollins' idea of how to treat backstage crew...

"Listen to the stage manager and get on stage when they tell you to. No one has time for your rock star bullshit. None of the techs backstage care if you're David Bowie or the milkman. When you act like a jerk, they are completely unimpressed with the infantile display that you might think comes with your dubious status. They were there hours before you building the stage, and they will be there hours after you leave tearing it down. They should get your salary, and you should get theirs."

If you feel that there is anything unreasonable in this document, please contact me immediately.

PARKING/LOAD-IN

For festivals, driving access to load-in for one car-sized van. If the show is at an indoor venue, a reserved car-parking space is definitely required. I *do* carry and am *happy to* carry all of my own gear, but I'm not Geoff Capes, so the nearer I can get to the stage/door, the better.

BACKSTAGE

A simple dressing room with a mirror would be nice, but not essential. I like to look splendid but have changed in some of the worst rooms on the planet like every other musician! No need for

chaise lounges, grapes and cut flowers for this lad. Every day millions of towels are washed in hotels around the world; many unnecessarily. To be environmentally friendly, many hotels have signs suggesting procedures to save the planet. I have a similar policy for stage performances. I'm not Gary chuffing Barlow so I don't need towels. I am far too nice for all this rock-star nonsense.

GUEST LIST

I'm not a savage, as I know that guest-lists eat into a festival's or venue's capacity. A single +1 (for my partner/merch seller/ photograher Amanda White) will usually more than suffice. If you offer more that is a pleasant bonus. Please note that Amanda *must* be given an Artist/Crew/AAA wristband at festival shows. We come as a team. Like John and Yoko, but one of us isn't dead, and the other can sing in tune.

ADVERTISING & PROMOTION

Don't hesitate to write, if you need posters, flyers, promo templates, logos, band photographs or pictures in various file formats. Just get in contact with us. We appreciate well designed advertising, whether it's professional or just made from the heart, but Scott Doonican is pretty nifty on Photoshop if you get stuck, and quite keen to ensure it looks good. **Please do *NOT* use generative AI to create the posters.** If you normally do, don't! Either pay a real human being to do it, because AI posters always look shite, or just ask Scott for a poster, because if you use AI, he WILL tell you to take it down!! He is more than happy to make them for you to promote the show, and will help to promote it because without an audience it's nothing!

For the benefit of advertising, websites etc. the name of the act is Scott Doonican. If you choose to add "(from The Bar- Steward Sons of Val Doonican)" – please note we aren't The Bastard Sons of Val Doonigun, The Barsteward Suns of Van Hooligan, or any of the other things we have been monikered by venues and festivals in the past. You may be amazed to hear that we have been mis- billed so many times, that we considered forming our own tribute band 'That Bastard Van Morrison'.

TOP TIP: If you can cut & paste, you'll most likely get it right.

You can download photos and logos here:

https://www.thebarstewardsons.com/scottphotos

IMPORTANT
Please ensure that you send an ‘approval proof’ to me of any advertising paraphernalia that is going out anywhere for before you go to print or upload it to the worldwide web. Ta!

MERCHANDISE

A table (of approx. 1.5m length if possible) and a small light and additional plug socket (if an indoor venue or festival appearance after sundown) for our merchandising is required. If the festival or venue has WiFi, access to this for our card reader would be a huge help.

If in an indoor venue, if merchandise can be in the same room as the show, that would be most preferred as my partner Amanda White, who runs my merch, also takes photos and needs to be able to move between both roles without leaving things unattended and unwatched for any length of time.

Merch tends to be our main income and costs money to produce, so as a totally independent act I don’t really welcome venues or festivals requesting a percentage of this. However in return, I do have Amanda to sell my merch, as we have lots of different albums, and she has an *expert* knowledge of these. Like an *encyclopaedic* knowledge. I am a strong believer that first impressions are always the best, and I’d much sooner have someone who genuinely cares about what I am doing selling my stuff because if the first person a punter talks to about what they just watched is Amanda, she’s going to leave a good impression. That’s *really* important to us both.

This should also hopefully reduce any pressure on any of the festival’s/venue’s regular merchandise crew, and also explain why we don’t expect anyone else to take a percentage, if we are running it. If you really *must* insist on it, it just means we have to put our prices up, and as the subject has been mentioned a lot in the media

since the pandemic, we now like to be *very* transparent with our fanbase about venues/festivals that take percentages nowadays via social media ahead of or after the show, because we don't feel that it is fair to the fans to have to pay extra for that without telling them. In fact some of them now ask us before a show if a commission charge is being applied because we like to raise awareness of this factor that faces touring musicians. Ultimately, we're not a big name. We aren't shifting millions of units. I mean, if you are happy for us to take an equal percentage of your bar's wet sales we'll happily consider conceding this minor but important point. We're just trying to make a living from an already tough business, so I hope you realise that I'm not making unfair demands on this. There are some great festivals and venues that have started to drastically rethink their policies since the pandemic and together we can make the live music experience great again for everyone. We thank you for understanding.

FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHY

In most festival photography pits there is a 'first three songs only' rule. Most of the fun stuff happens throughout, so I really don't mind photographers snapping throughout the show. Please let them know this. An 'open pit' is absolutely fine by me. If the organisers of an event have a film-crew, I am happy for footage to be used as long as I have chance to see it before it is uploaded to the internet. (The main reason for this is the comedy element: we try to avoid too many spoilers for future shows).
Amanda White, who usually runs my merch, often takes promotional photos during our set, so she should also be permitted to the stage (if a separate press or stage-pass is required for access to the photography pit and/or stage, one should be issued).

FOOD

I haven't forgotten where we have come from, so don't take anything for granted or expect anything. I'm not Elton John, I'm not a rock star... even if I look flamboyant. If you want to give Amanda and myself some food that'd be lovely. If not, we'll not starve. Given the choice I'd sooner have a drink over food. Talking of which...

DRINKS

I do like a drink, it helps to loosen up ready to do a good lairy show. I tend to have a couple before I go on, one for while I'm out there, and then a couple to unwind at the end. I don't need enough booze to fell an elephant, because I'm not Lemmy from Motorhead (God Rest His Soul). I like to do a good professional job, and I don't hold with that thing that some bands do where they take the piss and request a billion things for their ridiculous entourage.
This'll do if it's not too much trouble:

- 5 x bottles of nice real ale (you choose - around 5% ABV is fine)

- Still Water (either in a real glass, or in tins, paper cups, or a receptacle that is sustainable - no single-use plastics if you can help it)

- 1 x 250ml can of pre-mixed of Pink Gin & Tonic
  (less than 2 units of alcohol please)

RIDER OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Doonican Brownie points will be awarded if you provide any of the following items...

- 3 x Danish Dwarves (must be fluent in Arabic)
- 8 x large bouquets of assorted tulips (not red) preferably arranged in order of diameter
- 99 x Red Balloons
- 1 x Betamax video player and a selection of Betamax documentary films about the history of Barnsley Town Hall being built between 1932 and 1933.
- 3 x Andrew James Electric Hedge Trimmers all with 51cm blade and cover, and at least a 20.543m Cable (500-watt model only)
- A concert-sized orchestra gong, to be struck only when someone says, “Any way the wind blows”.
- A signed picture of another famous ‘Scott’ (not Scott Bakula from Quantum Leap, we have loads of them now)
- A fresh puppy
- A laminated map of the Bermuda Triangle showing all known plane and ship disappearances in 1983.
- A mysterious envelope marked “DO NOT OPEN UNTIL AFTER THE SECOND ENCORE”
- Talent
- The donation of another much bigger-named act on the bill’s food rider to a local food-bank – preferably the act that has really annoyed your lovely hospitality staff by being a bunch of knobheads. There is always one. You probably are thinking about them right now as you are reading this, and wishing they had been more like me.

Cheers!
Scott xxx