

FESTIVAL RULES

1. An entrant who does not comply with these rules may be disqualified from participating in the Festival.
2. In a class in which an age limit is prescribed, entry must not be over the prescribed age on the last day of December preceding the Festival.
3. (a) Entrants may enter older age groups than their actual age in a Section but must remain within that age group for all entries within that Section. (b) Grade choirs may enter an older level than their actual grade. (c) In duets and trios, an entrant may rise to his/her partner's age level and maintain his/her actual age for solo entries in the same section.
4. (a) A participant may compete in only one age group in any section as shown in the Syllabus, (b) A participant in brass, woodwind and percussion sections may compete in only one level in a section but may compete at different levels if he or she is entered in more than one section.
5. Conductors may be either professional or amateur. A conductor may conduct any number of groups in class or in any number of classes. Conductors may not perform with the groups which they conduct.
6. In CHORAL classes, the minimum number of voices required to compete is ten unless otherwise stated (e.g. Small Vocal Ensemble).
7. A GRADE CHOIR is a choir consisting of a group of pupils from any one grade in the school.
8. Except where otherwise provided, classes are competitive with marks and public adjudication.
9. CLASSROOM SINGING shall be the total number of pupils on the register of a classroom or a combination of classrooms within the same grade provided the total number of pupils in an entry does not exceed forty.
10. CLASSROOM SINGING will be non-competitive with no marks or individual public adjudication. Private adjudication sheets will be available.
11. Except where otherwise provided, Vocal, Piano and Instrumental Solo classes for entrants aged thirteen years and over are competitive.
12. Except where otherwise provided, Vocal, Piano and Instrument Solo classes for entrants aged twelve years and under are non-competitive.
13. An entrant in a Vocal or Choral class who has selected a song which is in a language other than English shall file an English translation, with the copy provided for the adjudicator.

14. Vocal solo and choral test pieces may be transposed. The adjudicator must be notified of any transpositions before the beginning of the class.

15. All Test pieces must be performed from memory.

16. In Brass, Woodwind and String sections, repeats are to be played where indicated. In the piano and voice sections, repeats shall not be played or sung; however, Da Capo repeats should be observed.

17. In String classes for juniors, entrants may have their own instruments tuned by a teacher or other person.

18. The chord may be given on the piano at the commencement of each piece of unaccompanied music.

19. An entrant who is arranging for his or her own accompanist shall:

(a) seek the willingness of the accompanist to accompany the entrant before the entrant enters the accompanist's name on the entry form;

(b) enter the name of the accompanist on the entry form. This information is of great importance to the program committee.

20. Entries must be submitted on the official entry form. The entry form must be signed by the teacher of the entrant and forwarded to the address specified on the entry form accompanied by the entry fees indicated in the Syllabus. Cheques should be payable to the Rotary Music Festival Inc.

21. Entry forms which do not give the requested information or which are improperly completed are subject to rejection.

22. Entry fees cannot be refunded except where an entry is rejected due to late entry.

23. In cases where an entrant has a conflict in time between two classes, an immediate call might enable the Executive Secretary to resolve the problem. If not, the competitor must elect to withdraw from sufficient classes in order to resolve the conflict.

(a) Entrants shall perform in the class order indicated in the program. The Chair reserves the right to change the order where circumstances warrant, provided a teacher who has entries in such a class is notified previously to the change. In the event of illness, accident or other emergency, a substitute may be made in duets, duos, trios, quartets, quintets or group classes provided the Chair is notified in writing, giving the reasons for the substitution prior to the time set for the performance, and provided the substitute is eligible under the rules governing the class.

24. The order of performance will not be changed to accommodate accompanists unless special circumstances warrant, in which case the Chair must be notified.

25. An adjudicator may stop a performance at any time.

26. The marks awarded by an adjudicator are final.

27. Certificates will be awarded to the three entrants gaining the highest mark in each competitive class, but a certificate will not be awarded unless the following percentages of the possible marks have been obtained:

(a) 75% in choral, orchestra and band classes.

(b) 80% in all other classes.

28. An entrant may be invited to perform at a final concert and should be prepared to appear if requested. This shall be without remuneration or payment for incidental expenses.

29. Complaints and protests shall be made to the Chair in writing and not to the adjudicator. A complaint or protest shall be accompanied by a fee equivalent to the entry fee of the class protested. The protest fee will be refunded if the complaint or protest is sustained by the Chair.

30. In classes in which any test piece is the competitor's own choice, the music should be passed on to the Secretary to the Adjudicator on the day of the performance. The following information should be provided on the cover sheet of the music: a. Class Number/Description b. Name of participant c. Title of selection and page number d. Length of time to perform e. Please number the first of each line in the music score.

31. Memorization is mandatory for all festival classes, except for multi-instrument ensembles, Bands or instrumental groups. If music is used, adjudication may be given but the entrant will not receive a mark, be eligible for awards or compete in the Rose Bowl Competition. Note: Provincial rules state that in order for participants to be recommended to Provincials, they must have performed their concert group from memory.

32. Laws regarding copyright must be fully observed by the Festival. Accordingly, photocopies must not be used in the Festival. Please note that adjudicators are obligated to stop a performance where photocopies are being used. Where test pieces are "Own Selection" the competitor must present to the Adjudicator, prior to his/her performance, an original copy of the test piece. It is the responsibility of all teachers to ensure that students and parents are aware of this. Students will not be adjudicated or given a certificate if they hand the adjudicator a photocopied piece of music.

33. No competitor may participate in more than 12 classes. Sight reading classes are included in this figure. Any competitor exceeding the limit runs the risk of having the excess entries refused by the secretary because of scheduling difficulties. No awards are given on the basis of the number of classes entered.

34. Vocalists shall not be over the age of 28. This is consistent with other disciplines and will be implemented at the provincial festival.

***** 35. All selections MUST be age appropriate and free of profanity and any other inappropriate language and/or actions. An adjudicator will stop a performance that does not adhere to this rule.

36. Students may not participate in more than once in the same class. (For example, they cannot perform in two Musical Theatre duets, or in two choirs, bands, etc in the same class.)

37. Groups performing in the 10-Minute Production categories may use minimal set pieces and props. The set up and striking of these sets, as well as the entire performance must fit in a 20 minute time frame.

38. Body mics can be used for the 10-Minute Productions and will be provided as long as they are requested by February 15, 2025.

39. Pre-recorded music or piano accompaniment can be used during the Musical Theatre 10-minute productions. Pre-recorded music must be sent to the festival committee by February 15, 2024.

40. The rights to perform the 10-Minute Productions must be obtained by the performing groups.

41. A stage manager will be responsible for playing any music tracks for the 10-Minute Musicals. Music will be tied into the sound system by the group's own device.

42. Pre-recorded music for dance selections must be sent to the festival committee by February 15, 2025.

43. Prop or small set pieces may be used by dance groups. Group will be given a total of 10-minutes to set up, strike and perform their numbers.

44. All classes under the Traditional and Indigenous Categories are non-competitive and will not be given a formal adjudication. These local classes have been created to share traditional and Indigenous music and cultures.