

REGULATIONS OF THE FESTIVAL

1 ENTRIES

1.1 Entries shall be submitted on the appropriate Entry Form; a copy of the appropriate form is to be found in the centre of each syllabus or can be obtained from the website.

Completed Entry Forms must be received at the address shown at the bottom of the form, together with the relevant fee,

not later than **MONDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2011**.

Late entries will only be accepted upon payment of a late entry fee, of an amount equal to **double the normal entry fee, until**

MONDAY 5th DECEMBER 2011. After this date no further entries will be accepted.

The full names of each Entrant in any Solo, Duet, Trio or Quartet class must be entered on the Entry Form.

1.2 No refund of fees will be made unless the Festival Committee finds it necessary to alter or cancel any class.

1.3 The Festival Committee reserves the right to accept or reject an entry and no entry will be considered to have been accepted unless accompanied by the entry fee.

The Festival Committee also reserves the right to discontinue acceptance of entries before the closing date for any class if it is considered that numbers have reached the maximum.

1.4 Substitutions to entries in duets, trios or quartets requested after **5th DECEMBER 2011** will only be permitted if accompanied by a fee of £1 per entry. For requests received after **1st JANUARY 2012** the Festival Committee cannot guarantee that an official mark sheet or certificate bearing the substituted name will be provided. Only one substitution is allowed in any duet, trio or quartet entry. No substitutions will be allowed on the day of competition.

2 QUALIFICATIONS

2.1 Only amateurs may enter for any of the classes. A professional may, however, take part as a conductor or as an accompanist. For this purpose, a “professional” is one whose living is, or has been at any time during the period of five years prior to the Festival, dependent upon teaching or performing in a relevant discipline, or who is a post-graduate student in such a discipline.

2.2 No person who is being, or who has been taught by an Adjudicator for any class may compete in that class. In this context, advice and instruction given in workshops or master classes during the Festival will not be counted as teaching.

2.3 Entrants may enter classes for which an age limit is stated only if their age, taken at the 31st August preceding the Festival, falls within that limit. For classes specifying an “under” age, competitors must be under that age on the 31st August preceding the Festival. In classes for duets, trios, quartets and groups, this restriction applies to each competitor.

No Entrant is allowed to enter a class where there is another class in the same discipline for a younger age group for which they would qualify.

2.4 Entrants who have won the same class for three years in succession are not eligible to compete in that class in the following two years.

2.5 Entrants are only allowed to compete once in each class for Solo, Duet, Trio or Quartet unless the Regulations to a specific class permit otherwise.

3 ORGANISATION

3.1 Each Session is under the control of a Session President. Entrants, teachers or members of the public must not approach the Adjudicator during any Session, except to hand in a copy of their chosen work.

3.2 Entry to or exit from a Performance Room will not be permitted during individual performances or adjudications.

3.3 The Festival Committee reserves the right to merge, cancel, limit or divide classes according to the number of entries received.

3.4 The Festival Committee will determine the order of performance in each class. **Entrants should be present five minutes before the start of their class and report to the Session President**, unless prior notice has been given to the Session President of difficulties relating to other commitments within the Festival. Those absent at the appointed time will be able to compete only at the discretion of the Session President. When reporting, Entrants must hand in their entry ticket.

3.5 The Festival Committee reserves to itself the right to appoint other Adjudicators if those announced are prevented from attending, or if additional help is needed. Under such circumstances, Rule 2.2 may be waived at the discretion of the General Committee of the Festival.

4 PERFORMANCE DETAILS

4.1 The Entrant must use the prescribed edition of any set piece, where stated. Simplified versions of any test piece will not be accepted.

4.2 A copy of all “own choice” works must be provided for the Adjudicator at the time of performance, by the person giving the performance. See individual Section Regulations for specific details.

4.3 Where in any class a Time Limit is prescribed, Entrants are required to complete their performance within that time. If an Entrant overruns the allocated time, this fact will be drawn to the attention of the Adjudicator who will make a deduction of one mark for every ten seconds, or part thereof, overrun. If, however, the overrun is excessive, the Entrant will be asked to stop and will be ineligible for any award.

4.4 Bearing in mind the potential age range of the audience, “adult material” must not to be used. The Session President who is presiding over any class, may at his/her sole discretion stop any performance which breaches this rule and declare such entry null and void. The Session President’s decision shall be final.

5 QUERIES and PROTESTS

5.1 Any queries must be addressed to a member of the Festival Committee before the start of the class.

5.2 Members of the public are invited to offer any constructive comments on the Festival, which should be addressed to a member of the Festival Committee.

5.3 Protests must not be made in public but put in writing before the end of the Festival, stating the grounds on which they are based, and sent to the Hon. Secretary with a fee of £15, which will be refunded if the protest is upheld.

6 OTHER MATTERS

The decision of the Festival Committee will be final in any matter relating to the interpretation of these Regulations and any other matter relating to the Festival. The Festival Committee reserves the right to determine or qualify any of the general regulations as necessary. **However, in any class during the Festival, the Adjudicator's decision in relation to that class is Final.**

7 PHOTOCOPYING

Photocopying of copyright work is generally strictly forbidden, and the Festival Officials will not accept photocopied items except as specifically laid down in the individual Section Regulations.

8 RECORDING at the FESTIVAL

The use of Tape Recorders, Cameras or Video Cameras during the course of any Class is strictly forbidden, and any person violating this rule will be asked to leave the Festival forthwith.

9 AWARDS

9.1 An Entrant must achieve a minimum of 84 marks to be eligible for an award (a Medal or a Trophy). All awards will be presented in such a manner as the Festival Committee shall decide. If a winner is unable to attend, a representative should claim the award on their behalf, as the Festival cannot undertake to forward it. All winners of a Trophy must sign a receipt for the Trophy, and should ensure that they are adequately covered against loss through damage, burglary, etc., while the Trophy is in their possession.

9.2 Winners will be responsible for returning all Trophies to the Festival Awards Co-ordinator (whose name and address may be found in the Festival Syllabus and the Festival Programme) not later than 1st February of the following year.

9.3 The Festival Committee has arranged for the engraving of the winners' names on a Trophy at a special reduced fee by their nominated engraver. Any engraving carried out by another engraver must be first co-ordinated with and approved by the Awards Co-ordinator.

10 DRESS & PERSONAL APPEARANCE

10.1 All Entrants are expected to maintain the high standard of dress appropriate to a Festival. Entrants who disregard these regulations are liable to be penalised.

10.2 (a) In Speech & Drama classes where practice clothes are worn, they may be a white or black shirt, blouse or T-shirt; black trousers or black skirt. Shoes, wherever worn, must be black and well polished. Black trainers or black jazz shoes may be worn in classes requiring greater freedom of movement. Bare feet for mime classes if preferred.

(b) In Music classes dress should be appropriate for performance and can include smart trousers/skirt and smart shirt/blouse. Shoes must be polished. **Trainers or running shoes are not to be worn.**

10.3 School uniform is not compulsory for Individual Verse Speaking, but Entrants must be smartly dressed.

In the Music classes school uniform should not be worn, with the exception of participating "School Choirs" where it is optional.

10.4 School uniform remains optional for Choral Speaking classes.

11 ENTRY

Parents and others escorting Entrants are not entitled to be admitted without payment.

12 SAFETY & SECURITY

PARENTS & TEACHERS ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN SUPERVISION OF THEIR CHILDREN & PUPILS **AT ALL TIMES** WHILST THEY ARE ON FESTIVAL PREMISES.

Important: The Regulations are published in both the Syllabus & Programme. Please read them carefully. All Entrants will be presumed to have read and accepted them.



Special Regulations for the Music Section

The following additional Regulations apply to the competitors in the Music Section

- M1 Only one Recital Class may be entered. Entrants may not repeat music they played in last year's Festival or in any other class in this year's Festival.
- M2 In the Recital Classes, string competitors must tune their own instruments, unless the Session President can be satisfied that there are extenuating circumstances.
- M3 Grade Classes: In these classes, Entrants may enter only ONE class in each section, and should not have passed the examination for a higher grade by the start of the Festival and must play a piece equal to the grade of the class (or

where there is more than one grade in a class, equal to one of those grades). If the class covers more than one instrument (e.g. a String solo class could include violin, viola, cello etc.) then an Entrant is allowed to enter that Class more than once provided they play a different instrument on each occasion..

M4 In “own choice” Music classes, Entrants may not use any piece set in any class in the current Festival.

M5 Photocopying of copyright work is generally strictly forbidden. However, when an “own choice” work is selected from a publication containing several different works and is not published separately, one copy may be made for the use of the adjudicator at the Festival, but the copy made is to be retained and destroyed by the Session President immediately after the event.

If an Entrant uses music downloaded from the Internet, then they should also print off the permission statement that accompanies the music and hand it to the adjudicator.

M6 Copies of all “own choice” music must be provided for the adjudicator to follow **WHILE THE COMPETITOR IS PERFORMING**. Anyone not complying with this regulation will be liable for disqualification.

M7 No tape or other mechanically recorded accompaniment is allowed.

Entrants in all “Own Choice” classes are reminded that quality of performance is the first consideration. The adjudicator will not necessarily take into account the standard of difficulty of the pieces performed.