

RULES AND REGULATIONS

It is very important to read these as there are changes this year

COPIES OF MUSIC: Must be brought to the festival and given to the adjudicator at the start of the class.

COVID 19: In the event of the return of a large breakout of Covid 19, social distancing must be strictly adhered to. All government rules will be followed.

ELIGIBILITY: The festival is for amateurs, except for open classes. This does not apply to accompanists and conductors.

AGE: All ages of competitors will be calculated as of 31st August 2023. Open classes have no age limit.

ENTRIES: All entries should be made online. Where this is not possible a paper form may be requested.

NUMBER OF ENTRIES: You may enter up to TWO classes in EACH SECTION. This still gives you the flexibility to enter, for example, 2 piano PLUS 2 speech and drama PLUS 2 string classes. The EXCEPTION is for Classical and Musical Theatre Singing where 2 classes in each section may be entered.

LATE ENTRIES: The online entry system has a cut off date when no further entries can be made.

ENTRY FEES: The total correct entry fee must be sent via BACS to the Festival account on the day entries are made. Fees are not refundable.

ACCOMPANISTS: We no longer have official accompanists and therefore you are responsible for arranging and paying for someone to play for you. A suggested list of people to contact can be found on our website and in our printed syllabus. If your piece requires an accompanist it is best to use one rather than play unaccompanied. Contact your accompanist as soon as you have received your date and time.

PHOTOCOPIES: Adjudicators will require a copy of your piece. During COVID 19 NO photocopies should be brought and given to the adjudicators. E mail copies should be sent to the section leader when you make your entry. See 1 if no restrictions.

OWN CHOICE PIECES: Please do not play the same piece in more than ONE class.

REPEATS: No repeats to be played but da capo is necessary.

TIME LIMITS: Time limits of pieces must be strictly observed. Your introduction (if giving one) should be counted in the time.

TIME OF THE CLASS: The start time of each class will be sent to all competitors. We endeavour to start a class on time. Please arrive at the venue at least 10 minutes before the start time. Sometimes classes do over-run.

WHEN YOU HAVE ANOTHER CLASS: If you have another class in another room or building don't worry. We will change the order of competitors and call you again at the end.

MUSIC STANDS: A music stand will be provided for all SOLO competitors. Duettists and larger groups must bring their own stands.

ADJUDICATORS: The adjudicator's decision is final. Speaking to the adjudicator during the progress of a class is not allowed.

ASSESSMENT: Adjudicators are provided with our assessment criteria and marking scheme. A copy can be found on the website and in our printed syllabus.

CERTIFICATES: All competitors are awarded a certificate which we try to present after each class.

MEDALS: We are no longer awarding medals for high scores.

TROPHIES: We have a number of trophies which, over the years have been kindly donated by Chelmsford dignitaries, businesses and individuals. They are on loan to you for the year and care should be taken with them.

TROPHIES: If a trophy is allocated to a class the winner of the class should be awarded 85 or more marks to receive the trophy.

TROPHIES: All trophies must be returned by September 23rd 2023.

MARKSHEETS: The adjudicator will write comments about your performance giving hints and tips for the future. These should be collected after each class.
RECORDING AND PHOTOGRAPHY: It is strictly forbidden to use video or audio recording during performances, nor should you take photographs. This is against our Safeguarding policy and you will be removed from the premises if you are found to be doing this.
PHOTOGRAPHY: You may be able (if time permits) to take a photograph of your child with their certificate/trophy/adjudicator at the end of a class and with the permission of the steward and adjudicator. Please adhere to our safeguarding policy regarding social media.
PHOTOGRAPHY: With parental permission an officer of the festival may ask to take a photograph to be used on our Facebook page or website. When this is done, no names of children will be published.
DISQUALIFICATION: No competitor will be disqualified for whatever reason without the sanction of the Festival Chairman.
COMMITTEE DECISIONS: These are final, whether they be before the festival or during the events. We reserve the right to alter any arrangements.
COMMUNICATIONS: By e mail is preferred please.
PERSONAL DATA: Please see our GDPR policy. We hold data purely for the purposes of running the festival.
COPYRIGHT: All performances using music from shows in current production are subject to copyright law. They may be sung as a concert item with no costume or movement without the need for copyright. Where movement and costume is included copyright permission is required and the festival committee accepts these entries upon the understanding that permission has been sought.
AUDIENCE: Audience members are very welcome. Tickets may be obtained from the door for a nominal fee. Card payments are accepted as well as cash.
COACHING: No help or coaching of any kind should be given from the audience. No mouthing of words, no gestures etc.