

Washington State Auxiliary Ritual Rules 2024-2025

The only changes to the Washington State Auxiliary Ritual Rules this year is the addition of a new class for competition, Sure Shot. This is similar to shot gun except that you will know which part you will be competing in prior to the competition. The rules are listed below in the Divisions of Competition Section

The following is vital information that needs to be shared with each team and Auxiliary.

The following rules apply to all spectators:

1. Spectators must be Eagle Members
2. No chairs will be added to those already in the room
3. No one will be allowed to stand or sit on the floor during competition.
4. Nothing will be allowed on laps or in hands.
5. No ritual books will be allowed other than those in the possession of the judges
6. Nothing will be unwrapped or eaten
7. Nothing will be sipped or drank
8. Recording of the competition is not allowed
9. No cell phones or pagers allowed.

Good Luck To All!

All Divisions of Competition, except for 'One Woman' consist of five (5) officers, Junior Past Madam President, Madam President, Madam Vice President, Madam Chaplain and Conductor. Secretary and Inside Guard are optional, you may furnish them or the State will upon request. Time allotted for each team will be one (1) hour.

Each team will supply five (5) paperback ritual books to be used by the judges for scoring in competition. Ritual books will be returned to the teams with all judges' markings. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR TEAM IS IDENTIFIED ON THE COVER. If you are using ritual books from previous competitions MAKE SURE THAT ALL PREVIOUS MARKINGS ARE ERASED. You wouldn't want to be marked the same

error again. Be sure to check out the books prior to competition, WHETHER THEY ARE NEW OR USED printing errors have been found.

CLASS 'B': Officers can be any members, in good standing, of the same Auxiliary

CLASS 'B-2': Officers must be qualified ELECTED Auxiliary Officers of the competing Auxiliary. It can be the officers having just completed their year or it can be the newly elected officers for the current year.

CLASS 'B-3': Officers shall consist of any member in good standing from any Auxiliary. No Auxiliary may have more than two members on a team. **A member must compete as a member of her home Auxiliary, not as a dual member.**

CLASS 'B-3A': Officers shall consist of any member in good standing from any Auxiliary. No Auxiliary may have more than one member on a team. The members know what part they have but cannot practice together. **A member must compete as a member of her home Auxiliary, not as a dual member.**

SHOTGUN: Any member in good standing can register and participate. The Ritual Chairman will count off as the entries arrive in multiples of five (5). Each group will be notified as soon as five (5) are received as to the time and place of competition. Entries will be returned if there are not enough to form a team. Competing members will report for competition one half (1/2) hour prior to scheduled time. Members will pick one (1) of five (5) regalia (turned down on the table). The office of the regalia chosen is the chair in which that member will compete. Teams will have ten (10) minutes to organize. This time would be to discuss items such as who will do each function (such as the 'Ode', where to stand during the 'Ode', death scene, house lights, how lights are turned on and off, etc.) EACH INDIVIDUAL COMPETITOR WILL SUPPLY ONE (1) PAPERBACK RITUAL BOOK to be used by the judges in scoring the competition. Teams will not be required to stand inspection except to show receipts to the head judge.

SURE SHOT: Any member in good standing can register and participate. On the entry form you will indicate which part or parts you want to compete in. You may choose more than one, but only one will be assigned to you at the time of the drawing. As the entries come in the names for each entry for President, Junior Past President, Vice President, Chaplain, and Conductor will be placed in a box for that station. After all the entries are received, the Ritual Chairman will draw one

from each box to form a team of five and continue to do so until there are no more entries for one of the stations. Keep in mind that the if the number of entries for, for example, President are only two that will limit us to only 2 two teams. If we are unable to put you on a team your entry fee will be refunded to you. The drawings will be completed after the May 15th deadline for entries and as soon as possible you will be notified which team you are on and what part you will be doing. Please arrive for competition at least 30 minutes prior so you can organize with your team mates as to who will be doing the ode, death scene, house lights, and such. EACH INDIVIDUAL COMPETITOR WILL SUPPLY ONE (1) PAPERBACK RITUAL BOOK to be used by the judges in scoring the competition. Teams will not be required to stand inspection except to show receipts to the head judge

ONE WOMAN: May be any Auxiliary member in good standing. Grand does not recognize 'One Woman' competition. See the One Woman section below for additional information.

GENERAL RULES GOVERNING ALL CLASSES OF COMPETITION

GENERAL RULES FOR ENTRY INTO COMPETITION:

- 1. ENTRY FORMS:** Names of all competing members and that of the coach must appear on the official entry form. This must be attested to by your local Auxiliary Secretary to show them as paid members of your Auxiliary. This means dues paid beyond the date of the competition. Attesting to these names by the Madam Secretary also means that all contestants have been registered with the State Madam Secretary as a Delegate, Past Madam President, or a Visitor to Convention.
- 2. DEADLINE:** All competing teams and individuals must be registered with the STATE RITUAL CHAIRMAN and the STATE SECRETARY by the 15th of May. Please remember to submit the appropriate fees in each case.
- 3. TIMES:** To compete at the time you desire, a reservation must be made of the Chairman well in advance of the time of competition. If that time has been previously requested, you will be contacted with other available

times. If no reservation has been made, the Chairman will assign the teams a time and place of competition, as completed entry forms and fees are received.

- 4. OPTIONAL OFFICERS:** A competing team may use it's own secretary and Inside Guard or, if requested, ones can be furnished by the State Chairman. In either case, IN NO EVENT, will they be marked for any error of any kind or given any credit of any kind.
- 5. SUBSTITUTIONS:** If your team needs to make a substitution after the chairman has received your entry, you must state your reasons and get permission from the chairman by letter, or in a last minute emergency, by phone. This will not alter the classification of your team. ALL SUBSTITUTIONS MUST BE APPROVED PRIOR TO COMEPETITION.
- 6. COMPETITOR ENTRY LIMITS:** Any one individual may be on a 'B' Class, 'B-2' Class, 'Shotgun', 'Sure Shot' or 'B-3A' as well. She MAY NOT SERVE THE SAME STATION ON ANY OTHER TEAMS, except 'Shotgun' or 'Sure Shot'. Exceptions can be made in the case of substitutions, at the discretion of the Ritual Chairman, if requested in advance. We do not want to exclude any competing teams if someone is sick or cannot attend the convention due to unforeseen circumstances. REMEMBER: This is for State Competition only. At Grand, you can only serve as an officer on one (1) team.
- 7. QUESTIONS:** If you have a question, you should contact the State Chairman PRIOR to your competition. Judges are NOT allowed to answer them. No request will be made to any judge for advance rulings on any questions.
- 8. FEES:** An entry fee of \$30.00 for teams: \$20.00 for 'One Woman'; and \$6.00 for each individual registered 'B3-A, 'Sure Shot' or 'Shotgun' competitor must accompany each fully completed entry form. Your check or money order must be made out to WASHINGTON STATE AUXILIARY and sent to the STATE RITUAL CHAIRMAN. Send your entry by registered mail to ensure delivery without loss to anyone.

GENERAL RULES FOR INSPECTION

1. **REPORTING TIMES:** Classes 'B3A', 'Sure Shot' and 'Shotgun' must report not less than 30 minutes prior to inspection. All other classes must report 15 minutes prior to inspection.
2. **INSPECTION:** Every team entered must stand inspection, however, only the five (5) officers are inspected. 'One Woman' also stands inspection but not her 'Conductor'. Prior to inspection the coach must present to the head judge all books and declarations (1 copy). During inspection, you will be inspected by two (2) judges and they both must mark off an infraction before it is counted off. Bear in mind that they will have a check off list as to what needs to be inspected. The inspecting judges will ask what office you hold. The 'B3-A', 'Sure Shot' and 'Shotgun' teams are not judged on attire.
3. **DECLARATIONS:** If you have any declarations they need to be declared to the head judge prior to inspection. These are to be written on the forms provided and they must be one (1) copy. The officer responsible for the 'dimming' and 'turning up' of the lights shall be declared. Be sensible and reasonable with your declarations. If declared they will not be marked against you. Declare anything that could hamper or impede the performance of the team or an individual. USE COMMON SENSE.
4. **CANDIDATES:** Candidates are optional in competition. If you want 'candidates' you will need to provide them.
5. **REGALIA:** Regalia is put on and adjusted in the anteroom before the team enters the room for inspection. The coach, who may or may not march with her team, may further adjust any attire and regalia prior to inspection. When the team is ready for inspection the coach will so state. (Ex. Anyplace Auxiliary #9999 is ready for inspection.)
6. **RECEIPTS:** All teams and individuals must show their current, paid up receipt. It may be carried in the left hand, under a watchband or wristlet on the left arm, or pinned to the left shoulder. If carried in for inspection, they may be left behind during the competition, motioning with the left hand as if showing it. One thing to remember – JUDGES MUST SEE THE WHOLE RECEIPT so have them displayed. The judge should not have to ask to see your receipt.

7. **ATTIRE:** Attire shall consist of dresses, skirts, or dress slacks with blouses and/or jackets. Shoulders are to be covered. Attire must be the same style but not necessarily the same color. Dresses and skirts may be either floor length or street length. Dress shall be uniform for the whole team so as not to distract from the ritual. Shoes should be the same color, but not necessarily the same style.
8. **WATCHES AND JEWELRY:** If a watch is worn by anyone in the competition, all must wear a watch. Wedding sets are considered one ring and you can wear one ring on each hand. State is the same as Grand: **all jewelry must be alike except for hand jewelry.**

GENERAL RULES FOR ALL COMPETITIONS

1. The **Auxiliary Room** will be set up as noted in the Ritual, prior to and during competition. You may designate where the door is located. The room should be set up according to what you are used to, not necessarily according to the room involved. The failure to have the complete and proper regalia and paraphernalia shall be marked against the Conductor. If any team provides special equipment, the statement thereof should be set forth in writing and filed with the Ritual Chairman prior to the team competing.
2. All **competition** includes Opening, Initiation, and Closing.
3. The **State Ritual Committee will furnish:** stations, Mother Head, bible, gavel, flag, flag standards, and regalia. If you wish to furnish all or part of your own paraphernalia it is only acceptable with permission from the Ritual Chairman.
4. If **candles** are used during competition, candles, matches, or candle lighters and snuffers will be placed on the RIGHT- HAND side of the station. At the Altar they will be placed on the OUTSIDE of the Altar, either on the LEFT or RIGHT in accordance to where the door is. NOTHING is to be placed between the FLAG, BIBLE AND MOTHER HEAD.
5. **Music** may be played for Ritual work. If you want music you must furnish your own keyboard, or, have your music on a tape/CD and provide your own tape/CD player.

6. The **Flag** will be handled as stated in the Ritual by both the Madam Conductor and the Madam Vice President.
7. **Transparencies:** These will be illustrated by each officer raising the right hand to indicate a pulling down motion OR snapping fingers in the front region of the stations OR a twist of the fingers as if turning on a switch. This is to show that the officer knows when to turn the transparencies on or off.
8. Any seated officer may **SIMULATE THE DIMMING AND RELIGHTING OF THE LIGHTS** at the appropriate time during the competition. Madam Conductor will look at the officer for a demonstration of turning the lights **DOWN** and **UP** when preparing the room for initiation. During initiation if this officer fails to 'dim' or to 'turn up' the lights at the appropriate times, she will be marked off. This motion can be made as one of the three described under transparencies. However, it would be to your advantage to do it differently than you do the transparencies.
9. **When setting the Altar**, each officer will hand the Mother Head, the flag and the Bible over her station.
10. **Regarding the gavel:** If the Madam President raps the gavel at the wrong time and the team either sits or stands (in unison) at the wrong time (whichever the rap is directing them to do) they have obeyed her command. The Madam President only is in error. The team should respond to her command, even though it is at the wrong time according to the Ritual. However, if they do not respond to an incorrect command they must do so in unison, again only the Madam President is in error. (This shows that the team knows the Ritual,)
11. **At the conclusion of the Opening and the Closing prayers**, Madam Chaplain is not required to repeat **Amen** with the membership.
12. In the Initiatory Ceremony when the **Madam Inside Guard** responds to the rap of the Madam Conductor and the Madam Inside Guard 'inspects', there will be no verbalization of any kind between them.
13. While in competition, **your hands** will not rest on the stations. Hands may be at your side or cupped as in prayer. All officers must have their hands alike when sitting, when standing, or in prayer.

14. Each team is to give their **OWN INTERPRETATION** of the requirements of the Ritual. Be sure to read the fine print in your ritual. Competitors will conform to the fine print as stated in the Ritual for all stations. Absolute conformity to the Ritual is a must.
15. **All competitions will be open**, depending on the size of the rooms and at the sole discretion of the Ritual Chairman. **No one may request a closed competition.** The number of spectators allowed will be based on the size of the smallest room.
16. **Impression** will be based on conformity and unity.
17. If a competitor needs **prompting**, the Prompting judge will wait 15 seconds. The judge will give a 3-word prompt, wait 15 seconds, then give the same 3-word prompt plus 1 (one) more word prompt, etc. The penalty will be 1/10 of a point for EACH group of words; plus ½ point for Departure from the Ritual but, maximum penalty is 1 (one) point, no more. (This would be five prompts plus the departure penalty.)
18. **At the close of the Initiatory Ceremony** and the Madam President has directed the Madam Conductor to direct the new Sisters to a seat in the Auxiliary, she, the Madam President, will wait until the Madam Conductor returns to her station before seating the Auxiliary. She shall then proceed as per instructions.
19. **Charging errors in the 'Ode'** will be against the Madam President if the presenter is someone other than one of the five chair officers and if another officer has not been declared to be responsible for it.
20. When the **Madam President addresses** an officer, the officer shall rise and give the salutation sign after the title of the office is spoken by the Madam President. (Except the Inside Guard during the opening Ceremony.)
21. In the Opening Ceremony when the Conductor and the Chaplain **inspect** the official receipts of each one present, they are only to inspect the official receipts of the team which includes the **Inside Guard and the Secretary.**
22. The Mother Head and Bible shall be carried in a **reverent** manner.
23. The Madam Conductor must 'show' that the Candidates are being **escorted in twos** when entering the room and moving from station to station.

24. **The Madam Conductor is to be at the extreme right and in line** with the candidates throughout the Initiatory Ceremony. 'Extreme right' is defined as: one to two steps to the right of the candidates.
25. The Madam Conductor will show that she is **turning** the candidates to face all stations and the Altar while moving from station to station.
26. The Madam Conductor will take **two steps forward, turn, and face the candidates** when delivering the 'Death Scene' part at the President's station.
27. After the Madam President says, 'The Auxiliary will salute the flag' it is now mandatory that the **Pledge of Allegiance** be recited.
28. **Corners should be squared.**
29. If you discover an error was made in the tallying of your books and you want to file a **protest**, it must be filed with the State Ritual Chairman no later than Saturday evening at State Convention.

ONE WOMAN RULES

1. **Chairs** may or may not be placed to indicate candidates. They may be indicated by motion, pretending they are in place
2. **A glass of water** may be placed on each station during competition for the competitor to drink **ONLY BEFORE OR AFTER EACH CHARGE**.
3. The competing officer **must give all** charges, raps, including a rap on the President's station to indicate the Conductor's rap at the door; turning lights and transparency off and on both as a demonstration in answer to Madam Conductor when preparing the room for initiation and during initiation; as well as salutes and return salutes, these must be demonstrated as two separate motions.
4. The competitor will have a **Madam Conductor**, who will assist in setting up the Altar in the Open Ceremony. She is the competitor's 'legs' only! In case of an error on her part the competitor will so be charged. 'Legs' has the option of either sitting in the Madam Conductor's chair, or placing a chair behind the conductor's chair to use while waiting to set up the Altar for the Madam President. She stands at the Altar until after 'For Home, For Country and for God', then she immediately leaves the floor and sits in a spectator's chair, but not an officer's chair.

5. The **competing officer** will remain at the President's station while the Mother Head is placed on its pedestal, in the Opening Ceremony, before reciting.
6. The **competing officer** will remain at the President's station during the Opening ceremony. In the Initiatory Ceremony, she will go to the Altar to administer the Obligation, return to the President's station to continue the Ritual. After saying 'Madam Conductor you will escort the candidates to the station of the Junior Past Madam President,' she will leave her station out of the left side, assume the position of the Madam Conductor and continue going to each individual station, stopping to announce the station before entering to give the charge. She will not be required to turn the candidates. She enters each station correctly, but exits from the left side each time. This signifies she is assuming a different office. She will return to the Madam President's station to complete the ceremony.
7. The **competitor will step** from the Madam President's station and assume the position of Madam Conductor before giving the lecture beginning with 'no mortal'.
8. In the **Closing Ceremony**, the competing officer has the option of: either placing her fingers on the station of the Madam President while giving the pledge OR exiting from the left side of the station, going to the Altar and placing her fingers on the bible. If she opts to go to the Altar this should take place after she has said, 'My Sisters, what pledge do we give before the gavel falls'. If she is at the Altar, she will now return the Flag, the Bible and the Mother Head to their places and then return to her station entering on the left side. If she opts to remain at the President's station she will now exit from the left side, go to the Altar, and return the Flag, the Bible and the Mother Head to their places, returning to her station, entering on the left side and finishing the ceremony.
9. The competitor does not have to indicate she turns the candidates unless she chooses to as One Woman is not recognized by Grand and this rule does not have to be followed.

HINTS – SUGGESTIONS – WORDS OF ADVICE

1. Strict attention should be directed to the proper phrasing of sentences and paragraphs. Watch your punctuation. Effectiveness of delivery is one point on which you will be judged, so, give some thought to the story you are telling. Pay attention to your expression – are you talking too fast, too slow or in a monotone? If you talk too slow, you may be charged with the adding of punctuation. If you talk too fast you may be charged with the omission of punctuation.
2. Check your general impression – how you do your floor work; how officers carry themselves; how well the team works together.
3. Neatness of team – Not only your dress or uniform, but also your posture and overall general appearance.
4. Attention should be directed to the correct use of signs; use of transparencies; turning off and on the lights; correct use of time; salutation signs; and proper approach to and from your station and the Altar. Be careful how you salute, your hand must be placed over your heart and all team members must salute alike and in unison. The acknowledgement should always be a gracious wave of the right hand. It should NOT look like a salute.
5. Each traveling trophy MUST be returned to the following year's convention to be awarded to the new winner in each class.
6. Time and place for all competition will be announced. Results will be given at State Convention. Please check to see if there will be a Parade of Champions. This includes all the teams for this year's competition as well as last year's teams.
7. In scoring, it will take a minimum of two (2) judges to catch an error

REMEMBER – UNIFORMITY AND UNISON IS THE KEY AND HAVE FUN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

**I PLEDGE ALLEGIENCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS
ONE NATION UNDER GOD
INDIVISIBLE,
WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.**