

NMMEA District VI

Large Group Choral Festival Rules and Regulations

Adjudicator's Duties and Responsibilities

1. Judges are not to accept unauthorized photocopied scores. If a director fails to provide an acceptable score with measures numbered, or a permission to photocopy, they may perform for comments only but no rating will be given.
2. Comments, both oral and written, should be positive and constructive; and should help the students understand the rating given.
3. It is expected that judges will not confer with each other about ratings to be given.
4. Groups should be judged on the music performed. Since this district is composed of many types of schools representing varying demographics and educational philosophies, the following general points should be considered:
 - Individuals and groups of all ability levels should feel that participation in a district festival is worthwhile.
 - The festival is not competitive; each group is to be adjudicated on its own merit.
 - Pursuit of excellence in musical performance should be of paramount importance.
5. Ratings used at adjudicated festivals shall be as follows:
 - I – Superior in every aspect of the performance or sight-reading.
 - II – Excellent performance or sight-reading. Some minor errors or flaws readily apparent and noted.
 - III – Good performance or sight-reading. Good preparation has taken place, but there is still much improvement to be made in the categories listed on the adjudication sheet.
 - IV – Fair performance or sight-reading. Some preparation has taken place, but there are major areas of improvement to be addressed in the large group's preparation, instruction, and curriculum as per the categories as listed on the adjudication sheet.
 - V - Poor performance or sight-reading. Major improvement is needed in all aspects of the student's, or group's, instruction and curriculum.

Plus or minus signs may be used.

6. Teachers may help the judge know their students by writing comments on the optional Judge's Information Sheet.
7. Judges should help keep the festival on schedule.
8. If time allows, clinic/comments may be given by one or more of the adjudicators after a performance. All comments should address the music performed, no single student(s) should be singled out for negative comment or criticism.
9. Judges should keep in mind that the standard of performance cannot be that of a professional musician. A class AAAAA performance should not be

expected from a class A school, nor should a class A performance from a Class AAAAA be accepted as superior.

NEW MEXICO ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION SCHOOL CLASSIFICATIONS

High School

Class AAAAA High School

Class AAAA High School

Class AAA High School

Class AA High School

Class A High School

Mid-High School

Class BBB – (500 and above, grades 8, 9)

Class BB – (250-499, grades 8, 9)

Class B – (1-249, grades 8, 9)

Middle School

Class CCC Middle School (500 and above, grades 6, 7, 8)

Class CC Middle School (250-499, grades 6, 7, 8)

Class C Middle School (1-249, grades 6, 7, 8)

10. Performance and sight-reading judges are to follow the established procedures as described by the section vice-presidents at the judges meeting prior to the start of the festival.

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Large Group Choral Festival Rules and Regulations

Music Requirements

1. Music performed should be of good quality and an appropriate challenge to the students. There is no list of required music.
2. Teachers must provide adjudicators with original music scores with numbered measures. **No photocopied scores will be allowed without official documentation attached to each score explaining that it is “on order,” “out of print,” etc., and that publisher’s permission to photocopy has been granted.** Failure to provide scores for the judges will result in a performance for comments only with no rating (NR) being given.

Participation

1. All performing groups shall have the option of performing for and receiving ratings or receiving non-rating “comments only” from the adjudicators in concert performance and/or sight-reading.

Registration and Fees

School Fees:

Entry fees must be paid before the groups can perform. This may be in the form of a check or purchase order made payable to:

Central District VI
Jeannine Grayson
Eagle Ridge Middle School
800 Fruta Rd., SE
Rio Rancho, NM 87124

You may bring the check or purchase order to the festival and present it upon arriving and registering your students.

Large Group Fee - \$75.00 per group plus \$1.00 per student participating.

Site Mechanics

1. Directors are expected to adhere to scheduled performance times as established by the site host. Performing groups are scheduled at 20 – 30 minute intervals.
2. Rating sheets will be released to the director of a participating group only after the adjudication sheets have been checked for completeness and

the ratings recorded on the festival master list. Ratings are not to be shared with the students at the festival site.

3. Directors are responsible for arranging transportation for students, adult chaperones, and all necessary equipment to and from the festival.

4. Sight-reading Procedures

- a. The sight-reading exercises will be given as each choir enters the sight-reading room. Choirs are not to look at the exercises until instructed to do so.
- b. The sight-reading will consist of rhythmic reading and/or clapping exercises and sight-singing exercises. Up to three different examples of both rhythmic and sight-singing examples shall be provided for choirs to perform at each of the following experience levels:

Level I – Semester Long or Beginning Level Choir
(MS, Mid-H, & HS)

Level II – Year Long Choir
(MS, Mid-H, & HS)

Level III – 2nd and 3rd Year Advanced Choir
(HS)

- c. Sight-reading content requirements are as follows:

Rhythm Reading and/or Clapping Exercises:

- i. All choirs will perform a simple chanting and/or clapping exercise that is eight measures long, 4/4 time signature, combination of whole, half, and quarter notes.
- ii. In addition to the above, all year long choirs will perform an exercise which also includes quarter and half rests.
- iii. In addition to numbers 1 and 2 above, all high school choirs will perform an exercise that includes other simple meter time signatures, eighth notes, and eighth rests.

Sight-singing exercises:

- i. All choirs will sight-sing an exercise that is four measures long, 4/4 time signature, step-wise skips only, beginning and ending “do”, treble clef, quarter and half notes only. The exercises will be restricted to the following keys: C, F, and/or G.
- ii. In addition to the above, all year long choirs will sight-sing an eight measure exercise, 4/4 time signature, starting and ending on “do”, composed of quarter, half, and whole notes, had one “do-mi” skip and one “mi-sol” skip.
- iii. All year long advanced choirs will perform a sight-singing exercise that includes all of the above and the addition of at least one interval skip of “sol-do”; either up (P4) or down (P5).

- d. Students may sing using numbers, solfege, or a single syllable (la, do, etc.) All are acceptable and none will be weighted higher than the other by the judge. Teachers are encouraged to direct the students or use hand signals to indicate pitch (e.g., Curwin hand

signs). However, the use of any verbal or audible instruction is not allowed.

- e. All groups will be given five minutes to look over the music, explain the exercise to the group and practice chanting the piece using numbers, solfege or a single syllable.
- f. Before beginning, at practice time, teachers may talk through the exercise and have students chant through the piece (**no singing**). They may use the hand signals to indicate pitch (e.g., Curwin hand signs) as well as verbal and audible instruction to assist with rhythm.
- g. No accompaniment is allowed during the sight-reading. Teachers may use the piano to establish the key before beginning. Teachers may not sing intervals or clap rhythm prior to performance.

Ratings

1. Performances will be rated in five divisions as follows:

Division I Superior

A Division I rating represents a SUPERIOR performance and indicates exceptional training and understanding of the composition performed.

Division II Excellent

A Division II rating represents an EXCELLENT performance but is not worthy of the highest rating, lacking finesse and polish.

Division III Good

A Division III rating represents a GOOD performance but there is considerably lack of polish and finesse.

Division IV Fair

A Division IV rating represents a FAIR performance and indicates a great need for improvement of fundamentals and basic musicianship.

Division V Poor

A Division V rating represents a POOR performance and indicates an immense need for improvement of basic musicianship and preparation.

A plus or minus on a division rating is only an indication by the adjudicator that reflects the status of the rating. It does not change the official rating.

2. The following chart indicates the five divisions in Roman numerals. The chart will be used when three adjudicators are serving to determine the final rating.

I	II	III	IV	V
I, I, I	I, II, II	I, III, III	I, IV, IV	I, V, V
I, I, II	I, II, III	I, III, IV	II, IV, IV	II, V, V
I, I, III	I, II, IV	I, III, V	III, IV, IV	III, V, V
I, I, IV	I, II, V	II, III, III	IV, IV, IV	IV, V, V
I, I, V	II, II, II	II, III, IV	III, IV, V	V, V, V
	II, II, III	II, III, V	II, IV, V	
	II, II, IV	III, III, III	I, IV, V	
	II, II, V	III, III, IV		
		III, III, V		

Awards

Large groups will receive a Concert Plaque for earning a Division I rating in Concert Performance.

Attachments

The following forms are to be completed by all participating Choral Directors. They will need to present four (4) copies of these forms to the site facilitator on the day of Large group Festival.

NMMEA District VI – Large Group Choral Festival Registration Form

(Please print or type, and prepare a separate registration form for each group you are entering.)

Name of School (and/or name of group): _____

Number of students in this group: _____

Class Level of Choir: _____

Selections To Be Performed:

TITLE	COMPOSER
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TITLE	COMPOSER
-------	----------

TITLE	COMPOSER
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TITLE	COMPOSER
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No photocopied scores will be allowed without official documentation attached to each score explaining that it is “on order,” “out of print,” etc., and that publisher’s permission to photocopy has been granted.

_____ We will perform for ratings from the adjudicators on our selected repertoire-performance.

_____ We will **NOT** perform for ratings from the adjudicators on our selected repertoire-performance.

_____ We will perform for ratings from the adjudicators on the sight-reading portion of the event.

_____ We will **NOT** perform for ratings from the adjudicators on the sight-reading portion of the event.

Scheduling Considerations and Other Comments:

Director’s Signature: _____

Choral – Large Group

Order or time of appearance _____ Event No. _____ Class _____ Date _____ 20__

Name of Organization _____

School _____ Number of Singers _____

City _____ State _____ District _____ School Enrollment _____

Selections _____

	Unprepared <i>Does not demonstrate proper:</i>	Fair <i>Rarely demonstrates proper:</i>	Good <i>Sometimes demonstrated proper:</i>	Excellent <i>Frequently demonstrated proper:</i>	Superior <i>Consistently demonstrates proper:</i>
Articulation/Diction	1	2	3	4	5
Balance/Blend	1	2	3	4	5
Breathing/Phrasing	1	2	3	4	5
Dynamics	1	2	3	4	5
Interpretation/Style	1	2	3	4	5
Intonation	1	2	3	4	5
Musical Effect	1	2	3	4	5
Technique	1	2	3	4	5
Tempo	1	2	3	4	5
Tone Quality	1	2	3	4	5
				TOTAL	
				POINTS	_____

<p>Adjudicator: For each individual category listed above circle the appropriate rating (1-5). Every category must receive a score (1-5). Total the points and assign a rating from the scale below:</p> <p>45-50 pts. I Superior 37-44 pts. II Excellent 24-36 pts. III Good 15-23 pts. IV Fair 0-15 pts. V Unprepared</p>	<p>This section does not apply to final rating: Please check: <i>Appropriate</i> <i>Not Appropriate</i></p> <p>1. Appearance _____ _____ 2. Behavior _____ _____ 3. Stage Presence _____ _____ 4. Choice of music _____ _____</p>
<p>RATING: _____</p>	

<p>Strengths:</p>	<p>Areas to Improve:</p>
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Adjudicator's Signature: _____

Adjudicator's private comments for _____, to be detached by adjudicator and sealed in attached envelope furnished by Festival Chairman. (Name of Director)

Vocal Large Group Sight Reading Adjudication Form

Performance

Time: _____ Date: _____ Class Level: _____ Final Rating: _____

School: _____ City: _____

Ensemble Name: _____ Director: _____

Comments must deal with fundamental principles and be constructive. Minor details may be marked on music furnished to adjudicator.

RATING

CORRECT NOTES: _____

CORRECT RHYTHMIC VALUES: _____

INTONATION: _____

FLEXIBILITY (response to director): _____

CONFIDENCE: _____

TONE: _____

GENERAL COMMENTS: _____

Signature of Adjudicator _____