



## REGULATIONS CHOIR /BANDS

### Performers

1. A choir/band may represent one school or two schools. (Combined schools)  
A choir/ band comprising students from three or more schools is not allowed. However special exemptions may be permitted for regional and certain interstate schools. Applications for combined school entries of more than two schools must be made in writing to echo fest for special consideration. (All participants must be current students).
2. Schools can enter more than one choir/bands in the same category provided each choir/band has different members. Schools, which enter more than one choir/bands in the same category, must supply separate performer list of each entry and allocate the names as eg: Bravo (A) and Bravo (B). This must also be clearly advised to the Stage Manager at the time of performance, otherwise only the first choir on the program may be eligible for a prize.
3. A student may perform only once in the same category. A student can appear with two different choirs/bands in separate categories provided they are registered participant on the performer list of both categories.
4. If a student is performing twice then they must be younger performing in a more advanced category and not vice versa. Eg: Bravo category Year 10 student performing in Alpha. Not year 12 performing in Bravo if that schools has multiple entries. If a senior student is performing with a younger choir, then they can only perform in that category and not both the junior and senior categories.
5. Students must be bonafide students at their school or combined school on the entry Performer list/s.
6. Age limits do not apply to conductors or accompanists in choirs, provided they do not sing with the choir.
7. A music director may conduct any number of choir/bands and across different schools, this has no limits. This information will need to be advised on registration to ensure no cross over in the performance program.
8. Warm up area time is allocated prior to scheduled performance. All choirs/bands will be asked to go straight onto the stage from the warmup area when it is their time to perform. No additional time will be permitted for tuning of any instruments.



## Performance

9. No bell or warning will sound at the expiration of timing. Timing is up to the school to ensure it is correct prior to performance.
10. Time limits are to be strictly adhered to and the Stage Manager will time each choir/ band for their chosen category. Overtime will be marked down with the adjudicators at the discretion of the Stage Manager.
11. A copy of complete choral scores, in order of performance, with bars numbered, must be sent to Echo Fest via email as a pdf to mailto: [info@echofest.com.au](mailto:info@echofest.com.au) Echo fest is all about environmental sustainability and endeavours to use the least amount of paper possible for the purpose of the competition.
12. Substitute instruments are permitted provided they are fitting to the performance. All substitute instruments are to be clearly handwritten on the score before submission to echo fest for clarity of the adjudicator.

## Music Scores

13. Published or unpublished work is allowed. Personal transposition of music is permitted.
14. The music director is responsible for correct selection of music applicable to their entry.
15. Simplified arrangements of existing works are acceptable.
16. All choir entries are required to provide a pdf copy of each score for adjudication via email no later than 20th August. Bands are not required to submit a score/chart for their performance.
17. All changes to the score must be clearly indicated (eg. Double bass part being played on the cello). Handwritten is preferred for easier identification of the amendment.
18. In the case that you need to bring a printed version, (2 copies please) each score is to be stapled together with the name of the school clearly marked with the performance scheduled time noted and bars numbered.
19. The stage compare will announce only the titles & composers/arrangers of the pieces before the commencement of each performance.



## Equipment

20. No recorded backing or amplification of voices is permitted, and no choral soloist is to use a microphone in any piece.
21. Recorded backing track in MP3 for Choirs is permitted, but must be supplied to the Echo Fest office no later than 20<sup>th</sup> August.
22. A keyboard and guitar amplifier are provided for accompanied singing for all relevant divisions. The position of the Keyboard/Piano or amplifier must not be altered, once placed on stage by Echo Fest.
23. Any specific instrument requirements should be requested in writing at least three weeks prior to the event at [info@echofest.com.au](mailto:info@echofest.com.au) and supplied by the school.
24. Instrument storage is required to be on the school bus locked away until your scheduled time to warm up. (Buses may not be parked on site, so please check with your driver regarding access.) Larger instruments can be stored on site in the stage waiting area, with clearly labelled name tags applied – This area is not always attended and whilst all care is taken, echo fest inc. takes no responsibility for any loss or damage to instruments left in this area. It is recommended to leave instruments with your bus until near your performance time. (Please ensure you have your bus drivers contact details as no paging devices are used for this purpose.)
25. All schools must use the nominated equipment supplied. All drummers must bring their own sticks.
26. Schools may not use their own drumkits but may bring their own cymbals. The changing of equipment is part of your performance time. All drummers must bring their own sticks.

## Scoring

27. Choirs are scored based on their performance which includes but not limited to:
  - Balance/Blend
  - Diction/Lyric interpretation
  - Intonation
  - Presentation
  - Musicality
  - Time/feel
  - Vocal technique
28. If there are two place winners on equal points, then the higher place is provided to the choir with the higher score of the first piece performed.



29. Communication with an adjudicator is strictly prohibited. If it is established that an entrant or person associated with an entrant has made personal contact regarding performance with the adjudicator before, during or after their performance, then that participant may be disqualified.
30. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places will be awarded and advertised on the website post event. Winning choir/ensembles from Alpha are invited to perform at the Awards Concert.
31. Only students who are enrolled at the school/s are to perform in the competition. No past students, professional musicians, music directors or tutors are to perform, if there is no option, then the school will forfeit the scoring rights and only receive adjudication comments for their performance.
32. As a respect to performers on stage. No entry or exit from the venue will be permitted during a school's performance. Please use clearly marked Exits to leave the venue quickly and quietly.
33. Adjudicator's decisions are final and are to be respected by all participants to echo fest.
34. Recorded adjudicator comments will be sent to school via email post event. If technical challenges prevent there being a recorded adjudication, then an adjudicators summary will be sent to the music director post event.

## Supervision

35. In accordance with the Victorian Education Department Student to Supervisor ratios, Echo Fest abides by the policy link below as a minimum requirement and your own school policy on this matter if there are additional requirements.
36. Conductors and Accompanists may be considered **Supervisors**. These supervisors must remain with their students, including settling the group on stage, assisting, and supervising the group before and after their performance.
37. Charter Bus Drivers are **not** classified as supervisors of students.
38. It is at the discretion of Echo Fest Inc. Board to refuse registration entry if a school has been in breach of our core values and code of conduct at Echo Fest.