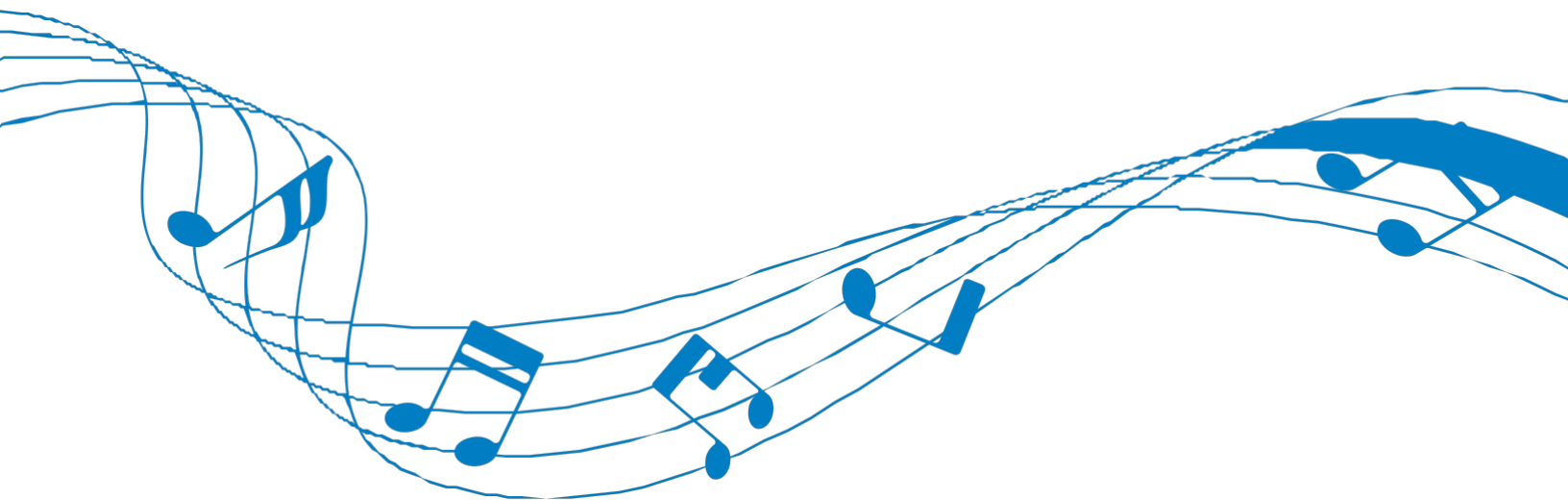


2018 Regional Competitions

Quartet Competitor Information



2018 Regional Competitions

This e-packet includes the following items to assist as you finalize your regional competition preparations.

- Important Documents overview
- Rules for Entering the Competition
- Overview of Competition Options
- Overview of Competition Specifics
- Details on Qualifying for International Competition
- Extras

Remember, we are here to answer any questions or concerns you may have. If you have questions throughout the regional competition season, please feel free to contact [Competition Services](#) at International headquarters.

Best wishes for a successful competition!

RESOURCES ON YOUR WEB PAGE

Be sure to check out your web page for updates and additional resources. The following items are currently posted to and only available through your [Regional Quartet Competitor](#) web page:

- **Quartet Registration**
- **Quartet Open Division Cue Sheet**
- **Regional Competition Eligibility Requirements**
- **Evaluating Your Contest Performance**
- **Performance Level Guidelines**
- **Copyright Matters, Q & A**
- **Guidelines for Evaluation or Open Division Video Recording**
- **Regional Judging Panel**
- **2018 Regional Dates and Deadlines**
- **2018 Regional Competition Schedule (dates and locations)**
- **Competition Handbook**
- **Judging Category Description Book**

PACKET INFORMATION

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[Competition Weekend: pg. 7](#)

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NOTES OF INTEREST

- A quartet consists of four people. Only the four quartet members may appear on stage during a competition performance.
- Open Division competitors are placed in the random order of appearance draw with International Division competitors. Evaluation Only competitors will still compete first in their respective riser configurations.
- Competitors disqualified from any competition, in any division, **will receive a scoresheet.** However, the level scores will be torn off.
- Performance time for International Division, (including Evaluation Only) is not to exceed seven minutes, while performance time for Open Division is not to exceed 10 minutes.
- The International Board of Directors continues to reaffirm the policy requiring that only copyright music is sung at the regional competition. By signing the entry form, quartets warrant they have obtained appropriate clearance permission for the arrangements they plan to sing.
- For a complete explanation of the requirements and category weights of each of the four judging categories, along with the Open Division elements, refer to the Judging Category Description Book.
- If you have any questions specific to your **regional convention**, please contact your events coordinator (EVC) or chair of regional convention (CRC).
- If you have questions regarding the **competition**, please feel free to contact Competition Services at international headquarters.

CONTACTING SWEET ADELINES

Jen Haggard, Director, Events and Competition Services, ext. 138

Natalie Bennett, Sr. Coordinator, Events and Competition Services, ext. 119

Kaitie Bailey, Coordinator, Events and Competition Services, ext. 124

Emily Mock, Competition Services Specialist, ext. 121

Email: competition@sweetadelines.com or call Toll Free: 800-992-7464

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

- **2018 Quartet Entry Form**

Registering online is the quickest, most convenient way to register for competition. If you choose, you may fax your completed entry form to Sweet Adelines International. You can print a hard copy of the competition entry form from the Quartet Competitor webpage.

- **2018 Regional Dates and Deadlines**

This chart lists important dates for your competition, including the date you can first register online, the date the order of appearance is drawn, and the date of the competition (available in region numerical and contest date order). **Please note the 60-day entry submission deadline.** Additional mailings from your region are sent closer to the competition date in regards to housing and convention registration deadlines.

- **2018 Open Division Cue Sheet**

A copy of this form **MUST** be turned into the region's competition coordinator (CC) at the briefing.

- **Competition Handbook**

Sweet Adelines International's Competition Handbook explains official rules and regulations for all competitions. The handbook is also available through International Sales.

- **Regional Competition Eligibility Requirements**

Information for choruses/quartets to determine eligibility for regional competition.

- **Guidelines for Evaluation or Open Division by Video Recording**

An informative guide on the rules for performing for Evaluation Only or Open Division by Video Recording.

- **Evaluating your Contest Performance**

An informative guide on how you and the judges evaluate your contest performance.

- **Performance Level Guidelines**

These charts, separated by judging categories (sound, music, expression, showmanship) and levels (A+ through D-), help you evaluate your scoresheet comments.

- **Entertainment Level Guidelines**

These charts, separated by judging categories (sound, music, expression, showmanship) and levels (A+ through D-), help you evaluate your Open Division scoresheet comments.

- **Copyright Matters Q & A**

Instructions addressing copyright issues; an informative guide on copyrights/arrangements of music.

ENTERING THE 2018 COMPETITION

Rules to Enter:

- In order to compete, the quartet name and personnel must be registered with Sweet Adelines International.
- Members must be in good standing with their chapter(s) and region(s) and current on international per capita fees and regional assessment dues by the regional entry deadline.
- New quartets registering after January 15 will be charged an additional **\$50.00** processing fee.
- **Your competition entry will not be processed until the quartet registration is complete.**
- Refer to the Quartet Handbook and Competition Handbook for a complete list of competition policies and procedures.

Entry Fee:

- Quartet entry: \$100.00 (up to 60 days prior to competition)

Late Fee:

- Quartet late fees: \$100.00 in addition to standard registration fees (59-45 days prior to competition)
- Entries received after 45 days prior to contest are not processed

Entry Deadline:

- Entries **MUST** be received at international headquarters by the entry deadline. Refer to the 2018 Regional Dates and Deadlines to view your region's schedule.

Sending in Your Entry Form:

- Competition entries are accepted on the Sweet Adelines International website 105 days prior to your competition. Please consult the Dates and Deadlines document for your dates.
- Entries may also be printed and faxed to Sweet Adelines International. Both the entry fee and completed form must be received by international headquarters no later than 60 days prior to the regional competition to avoid late fees. Allow ample time for the materials to be processed through the postal system.
- **Be sure to include your region number and quartet ID on the entry form.**
- Submitting your entry late affects your order of appearance. Entries received during the late period (59-45 days before competition) will not appear in the initial order of appearance drawing, but instead in a second drawing placing your quartet at the beginning of your chosen division of the competition.
- All faxed entry forms should be sent to 1.918.388.8083
- *Note: please do not fax an entry form that has already been processed online; this could result in duplicate charges.*

Paying for Your Entry:

- Include payment in U.S. currency only. You can by Visa, MasterCard or Discover.

Withdrawing Your Entry:

- Anyone withdrawing must submit a written notification to international headquarters via email to Competition Services.
- Competition entry fees are non-refundable.

COMPETITION OPTIONS

INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

- International Division is the traditional competition option.
- Contestants in the International Division should prepare to sing two separate competition songs or medleys.
- International Division serves as qualifier for international quartet semifinals and Harmony Classic competitions.
- Competitors have seven minutes to sing their two contest songs.
- Contestants may choose to perform for placement or evaluation within the International Division.

Performing for Evaluation Only

- The International Board of Directors provides that all quartets, current or past international champions, or current international semifinalists (placing 2-15), may perform in a regional competition for Evaluation Only or Open Division. This should be indicated on the entry form.

OPEN DIVISION

- Open Division is an evaluative competition option. It is **NOT** a qualifier for the international quartet semifinals competitions.
- Contestants in the Open Division should prepare to sing one competition song performed as part of the entertainment package.
- Only level scores are given.
- Level scores are posted in performance order. They are posted alongside the International Division scores.
- Competitors have 10 minutes to complete their Open Division package.
- Contestants choosing to compete in the Open Division shall present an entertainment package that includes:
 - One song or medley appropriate for use in a Sweet Adelines International competition
 - At least one other song
 - Emcee material

EVALUATION OR OPEN DIVISION BY VIDEO RECORDING

- The regional competition policies give competitors the option of evaluation through Evaluation Only or Open Division by video recording. Quartets choosing these options are required to pay the competition entry fee.
- The official panel evaluates the video recording after viewing the level performances, prior to judging the contest.
- Refer to Section VI of the Competition Handbook for complete guidelines.

COMPETITION SPECIFICS

PROCEDURE AND GUIDELINES

- The competing quartet indicates on the entry form its desire to perform in the Open Division, International Division (placement), or Evaluation Only. *The full entry fee is required even when performing for Evaluation Only and Open Division.*
- Quartets performing for Evaluation Only are automatically part of the drawing for first appearance.
- Each judge writes comments on her category scoresheets and indicates a level score for each song. **No numerical score or total score is given for Evaluation Only or Open Division.**
- Level scores for Evaluation Only performances are considered confidential and are not published.
- Quartets competing for Evaluation Only are **NOT** eligible for awards presented by the international organization or for regional awards determined by total score or final placement.
- Open Division competitors will be in the random order of appearance draw with International Division competitors. Evaluation Only competitors will still compete first in their respective riser configurations.
- Competitors may not change from International Division to Open Division (or vice versa) after the final order of appearance has been conducted at headquarters.

MIC-TESTING

A quartet invited to mic-test may also perform for Evaluation Only or Open Division at the end of the regional contest. Mic-testers choosing to perform for Evaluation Only or Open Division at the end of the regional contest *must complete the entry form and pay the entry fee.*

COMPETITION WEEKEND

- Competing quartets receive the following:
 - Official tabulated results of the regional chorus competition
 - Judges' scoresheets for their performance
 - Recording of their performance
 - Evaluating Your Contest Performance
 - Performance Level Guidelines
 - Entertainment Package Guidelines
 - Panel Directory

QUALIFYING FOR INTERNATIONAL

The 2018 Regional Quartet Champions are eligible to compete in the 2018 International Quartet Competitions held October 15-20 in St. Louis, Missouri.

ELIGIBILITY

- If the first place quartet withdraws from international competition, the second place quartet is invited. If the second place quartet is a wildcard or declines, an invitation is not extended to other placements.

WILDCARDS

- The wildcard quartet pool is not announced until after all the regional contests are complete. Ten wildcard quartets are chosen from the highest scoring of all non-first place quartets.

PENALTIES SUBJECT TO DISQUALIFICATION

- Time penalty: 30 seconds over or more.
- Competition songs not sung primarily in English.
- Official song of the Corporation.
- Religious or patriotic songs. (Does not apply to non-competition songs.)
- Performance included spoken material and/or noise making devices. (Does not apply to non-competition songs)
- Throwing object(s) into audience or judging pit from the competition stage.
- Crowns worn by contestants.
- Conduct of contestants, including director, deemed prejudicial to the welfare of the organization.
- Delay of contest.
- Quartet competition performance is limited to the four officially registered members of the quartet.
- Non-singing member, in addition to director, on stage.
- Deviation from submitted prepared program.

POST-COMPETITION

- Competitors listen to the recording of their performance and critique the performance by using the scoresheet, Evaluating Your Contest Performance, Performance Level Guidelines, or Entertainment Package Guidelines.
- If there is a question regarding a comment or score, the competitor may write directly to the judge. Competition Services should receive all copies of correspondence.

For more information regarding Open Division, please visit the [Open Division](#) page on our website.

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS:

December 1, 2017 – Region 10

December 8, 2017 – Regions 11, 14, 25

December 29, 2017 – Regions 1, 4, 8, 9, 19

January 5, 2018 – Regions 3, 6, 16, 21

January 12, 2018 – Regions 2, 5, 13

January 19, 2018 – Regions 12, 26, 35

January 26, 2018 – Regions 31, 32

February 2, 2018 – Regions 15, 17, 34