

59th Hong Kong Schools Music Festival

26 February to 31 March 2007

Rules and Regulations

Members / Competitors have the responsibilities to follow the rules and regulations, and to ensure that all information given are valid, complete and true.

The Association has the right to disqualify competitors found to have breached any of the rules and regulations at any time without further notice nor refund of entry fees.

Submission of an entry implies agreement by the members / competitors to abide by these rules and regulations.

Except for open classes, all competitors should enter the Festival through members. It is the members' responsibilities to pass all the relevant information to their students. The Association will not inform the competitors individually. For membership details, please contact the Association.

1 ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Entries will be accepted from Hong Kong residents who are full-time students at primary or secondary schools, kindergarten, or special schools in Hong Kong, which are, by the closing date for entries officially registered and paid up members of the Association (see 1.4.1 for Scholarship Classes). Full-time students of post-secondary institute or university can only enter open classes.

1.1 **School Entries** (Only school members can enter these classes): Choirs, orchestras, bands and ensembles classes, unless otherwise stated, must comprise students of one school which is a member of the Association. Ensembles classes include: N236, U/E/W303, 312, 313, 323, 324, N403, 404, 405, 572, 576 and 577.

1.2 **Solo and Duo Entries** (Associate members can only enter these classes): These include solos, duets, violin sonata (N209), cello sonata (N226) and art song (N801).

1.3 **Open Classes** may be entered by groups or individuals who are full-time students aged 23 and under. Professional musicians who gain or have gained the principal part of their livelihood from music are excluded.

Open Classes:

- Vocal Solo: Classes N801-N811
- Choral: Class N820
- Anthem - SATB in Chinese: Class N821
- Sea Sound Scholarship for String Concerto: Class N828
- Gold Medal Award (Pianoforte): Class N838
- Guitar Ensemble: Class N841
- Woodwind Concerto: Class N850
- Brass Concerto: Class N851
- Harmonica Concert Work: Class N860
- Original Composition: Classes N870-N871

1.4 **Scholarship Classes:** Classes N49, N150, N151, N200, N588, N828, N838, N870 and N871.

1.4.1 Competitors must be full-time students either born in Hong Kong, or have resided in Hong Kong for 7 consecutive years prior to 1 January 2007.

1.4.2 A previous first-place winner in the last Festival in that class cannot enter.

1.4.3 Please refer to the descriptions of the particular classes in the Syllabus regarding

special requirements and regulations.

- 1.4.4 Except for classes N49, N870 and N871, all scholarship classes will have finals. The adjudicators will choose three competitors who have obtained at least 80 marks to compete in the final. If the performance is not up to a sufficiently high standard, the adjudicators can decide to choose less than three finalists or even cancel the final.

2 ENROLLMENT

Please refer to “Enter Hong Kong Schools Music Festival Step by Step” on the Association web site for enrollment procedures.

2.1 Entry Form

2.1.1 All entries must be made on the official entry forms obtainable from the Association. A separate entry form must be used for each entry. Photocopied entry forms will not be accepted.

2.1.2 Competitors should use the same name as shown on HK ID card / birth certificates.

2.2 Competitors taking part in more than one class should bear the risk of giving up other competition(s) in case of clashes.

2.3 No substitution or change of name of competitor will be permitted after the form is submitted.

2.4 In classes which an age qualification is stated, the governing date shall be 1 January 2007.

2.5 For classes which age, grade, level, gender, etc. is/are specified, members / competitors should enter accordingly.

2.6 Area Code

2.6.1 U denotes urban area (including Tseung Kwan O).

2.6.2 E denotes the New Territories East (including Sheung Shui, Fanling, Tai Po, Shatin, Sai Kung, etc).

2.6.3 W denotes the New Territories West (including Yuen Long, Tin Shui Wai, Tuen Mun, Tsuen Wan, Tsing Yi, Kwai Chung, Tung Chung, etc).

2.6.4 N denotes classes which will not be divided into districts. These include open, scholarship, piano concerto, orchestra, school band, Western instrumental and Chinese instrumental classes.

2.6.5 Competitors may choose to compete in any one district (except those listed in 2.6.4).

2.7 The Association reserves the right to locate any competition in any venue.

2.8 The Association reserves the right to group any classes which have four or less than four entries into one class. If merging is impossible, the class may be cancelled. In such case, entry fees will be refunded.

2.9 When to Enter

2.9.1 Entries submitted in person will be accepted from 3 October to 20 October 2006 (4pm).

2.9.2 Entries sent by post must reach the Association no later than 14 October 2006 (as postmarked). Entries received after this date will not be processed.

2.9.3 Late entries submitted in person may be accepted only from 23 October to 24 October 2006 (4pm) on payment of a double entry fee. (Late entries by post will not be accepted.) The Association reserves the right to reject any late entries.

2.9.4 Please refer to annex “List of Important Dates” for submission deadline for other documents.

2.10 Entry Fees

- 2.10.1 Please refer to the current Syllabus for the entry fee of each class.
- 2.10.2 Members should collect all entry forms, entry fees and other documents from competitors, complete the Payment Record Form (PRF) and then submit with original membership card together with ONE cheque / cashier order to the Association.
- 2.10.3 Entry fees are neither refundable (except those being cancelled by the Association), nor transferable to other classes.

3 REGULATIONS

3.1 General Rules

- 3.1.1 The Association will decide the times at which the classes are to be taken, and the order of competing will be decided by ballot as soon as the list of entries is closed. Competitors who fail to show up in accordance with the published order will be considered as “not in assigned order”. They can only get comments with no marks and no certificates. Competitors of scholarship classes must report to the adjudicator assistant 15 minutes before the commencement of the session.
- 3.1.2 The Association reserves the right to vary the published order of competition and to modify and cancel any of the arrangements for the Festival as it may deem necessary or expedient.
- 3.1.3 Competitors are requested to bring along their ID cards / student cards / student handbooks when taking part in the competitions to prove their age qualification. (Spot checks will be made).
- 3.1.4 Except piano, competitors must bring along their own musical instruments to the competitions.
- 3.1.5 Members / Competitors are reminded that they must refer to the online Festival Timetable at the Association web site to check the details and times of their classes. If there is any request for changes, please complete the “Alteration Form” available from the web site and have it submitted to the Association before the deadline. The Association will then release the “Festival Timetable (Revised Version)”. For the aforesaid dates, please refer to annex “List of Important Dates”.
- 3.1.6 Since there is a time gap between the release of the Syllabus and the commencement of Music Festival, amendments, if any, will be posted on the Association web site before the Festival. The Association reserves the right to make any amendment on the Syllabus. Members / Competitors should always refer to the web site for any latest / updated information.
- 3.1.7 The Association reserves the right to assign any competition in any session on any day within the Festival period. Usually three sessions, namely morning, afternoon and evening, will be set for each day. Each session will normally last for three hours.
- 3.1.8 Adjudicator reserves the right to stop a competitor’s performance if the competitor has not well prepared or the performance is not up to the required standard.
- 3.1.9 Before the announcement of results, competitors, teachers or other members of the audience are not permitted to approach the adjudicator in conversation or discussion on any matter, otherwise disqualification or dismissal from the competition venue will be incurred. Please contact the competition assistants at the venue if there is any enquiry.

3.2 Number of Entries

- 3.2.1 Individual members of any school entry (see 1.1) can only perform for that

- particular group in only one class of each section / grade. This regulation does not apply to piano accompanists in some classes.
- 3.2.2 Where grades (advanced, senior, intermediate or junior / grade one to grade eight, etc.) or age levels (Age 19 or under, Age 17 or under, Age 16 or under, etc.) of classes are indicated, competitors are allowed to enter only one grade or one age level, and they shall not enter any other grades or age levels in the same section/category. This regulation applies to Classes U/E/W1-17, 27-29, 31-36, 47-81, 83-85, 87-89, 91, 94-95, 100-102, 104-106, 108-110, 112-114, 116-118, 120-122, 124-126, 128-130, 141-144, 155-158, 306-308, 325-336 and Classes N92, 148-151, 206-208, 210-220, 222-224, 227-234, 241-246, 401-402, 410-457, 470-472, 500-561, 804-811.
 - 3.2.3 Vocal Solo Classes: Competitors entering Classes U/E/W47-68 cannot enter Classes N804-811.
 - 3.2.4 Piano Classes: Competitors can enter only one grade, i.e. Grade One, Grade Two or Grade Three, etc, and select only one class in that grade.
 - 3.2.5 Chinese Instrumental Group Classes: Schools entering N573 or N574 cannot enter N572. (Even with different students)
 - 3.2.6 Original Composition Classes: Competitors can only enter either N870 or N871, and only one work shall be submitted.
 - 3.2.7 Competitors can only perform once in the same class.
 - 3.3 Orchestra / Band Classes (N241-246, U/E/W301, 302, 310, 311, 321, 322, N470-472, N573-575): If schools have AM & PM sections, they can group two sections to form one team to compete but they must specify which school section the team represents on the entry form.
 - 3.4 Competition Materials
 - 3.4.1 Competitors are advised to purchase the set pieces as early as possible. Competitors who have difficulties in obtaining the music should contact the music suppliers directly or order the music via the Internet.
 - 3.4.2 Set pieces for all classes shall be performed in the keys (if any) specified in the Syllabus and in accordance with the arrangements in the edition (if any) - excluding any instruction on bowing, fingering, phrasing and pedaling. If no edition is specified, any standard edition may be used.
 - 3.4.3 Where both a set piece and own choice piece are required, the set piece must be performed first, except for finalists in the scholarship classes who may play in whichever order they wish.
 - 3.4.4 New philharmonic pitch (A=440) has to be adopted in all competitions.
 - 3.4.5 Competitors performing a piece different from the set piece / submitted own choice piece will get no marks.
 - 3.4.6 Own Choice Pieces / Original Works
 - 3.4.6.1 Competitors are required to submit details of their own choice pieces, including name of work, composer, edition, key, opus number and duration of the work, with the "Own Choice Form" (OC Form) to the Association office in person before 20 December 2006. The Association will issue a confirmation slip upon receipt of each OC Form. (Only the first submission of details of own choice pieces per entry per class will be accepted.)
 - 3.4.6.2 All own choice pieces for the adjudicator(s), indicating any cuts or omissions or arrangement, should be handed to the Adjudicator Assistant before the start of the competition. (Competitors entering school band, orchestra and scholarship classes should prepare 3 sets of the pieces.) The own choice pieces must be in full scores.

- 3.4.6.3 Choirs performing an own choice piece in Chinese or any foreign language must provide an English translation of the lyrics for the adjudicator(s).
- 3.4.6.4 It is the competitors' responsibilities to ensure that they have not entered an own choice piece for more than one class in the Festival or selected any set pieces from the current Syllabus specified for the same section/instrument.
- 3.4.6.5 Competitors are reminded to seek prior permission from the composers/publishers as to any arrangement they wish to make. They have to show the original music when participating competitions.
- 3.4.6.6 Marks will be deducted when performances exceed the specified time limit and the performances may also be terminated.
- 3.4.7 **Copyright Law**
It is the competitors' responsibilities to ensure that the use of the materials complies with the copyright law. Competitors found to be using photocopied music, in infringement of copyright law, will be disqualified.
- 3.5 **Rules for Different Classes**
 - 3.5.1 **Violin Sonata, Cello Sonata and Art Song Classes** (Class N209, N226 and N801)
Both competitors of classes N209, N226 and N801 must be within the specified age limits. The name of the accompanist should also be stated on the entry form.
 - 3.5.2 **Choral Classes**
 - 3.5.2.1 Number of performers (including singers and instrumentalists, but excluding the conductor, piano accompanist and page-turner): 30 - 60 except for classes U/E/W 7, 8, 15, 16, N86, N90, N92, N96, N820 and N821 which must not exceed 80.
 - 3.5.2.2 Mixed Voice Choirs: Open to co-educational schools or combined choir from a boys' school and a girls' school. For classes U/E/W9 and 17, not less than one quarter of the choir members should be boys.
 - 3.5.2.3 Hymn Singing (classes U/E/W83-85, N86, U/E/W87-89, N90): Pieces can be sung in unison or two to four parts. Competitors may choose any one piece from the set five / six hymn books. Any arrangement may lead to disqualification.
 - 3.5.2.4 Folk Church Music: 30 - 60 performers (including singers and instrumentalists, but excluding the conductor, piano accompanist and page-turner). May be all girls, all boys or mixed. Competing groups may make their own arrangements (vocal or instrumental), and any combination of instruments may be used. Electronic instruments and amplifiers are not permitted.
 - 3.5.3 **Percussion Band Classes**
30 - 60 players. No electronic instruments and amplifiers are permitted. Non-percussion instruments are permitted up to one quarter of the total number of instruments.
 - 3.5.4 **Junior and Kindergarten Music Activities**
Classes U/E/W 41 - 44 will be divided into English and Chinese sections. Schools may enter either one or both sections but the children should not sing in both sections. Competing group should not exceed 30 children and they may perform with or without costumes and stage properties. Each group may interpret the set piece in any way they see fit and must complete the performance within the set time limit. Piano accompaniment is optional.

(3.4.2 does not apply.)

3.5.5 Western Orchestra

Classes N241 - N243: 30 - 60 players in one String Orchestra.

Classes N244 - N246: 30 - 80 players in one full Orchestra.

Time Limit for setting up (including tuning): 7 minutes.

3.5.6 School Band

30 - 75 players. The major instruments should comprise at least three quarters of the total number of instruments.

Time Limit for setting up (including tuning): 7 minutes.

3.5.7 Western Ensemble

3 - 9 performers with no conductor. The major instruments should comprise at least two third of the total number of instruments of the ensemble. Electronic instruments and amplifiers are not permitted.

3.5.8 Harmonica Band Classes

30 - 60 players excluding the conductor and piano accompanist. At least three quarters of the instruments used should be harmonica. Electronic instruments are not permitted. Amplifiers may be used.

Time Limit for setting up (including tuning): 7 minutes.

3.5.9 Melodica Band Classes

30 - 60 players excluding the conductor and piano accompanist. Electronic instruments and amplifiers are not permitted. Unless otherwise stated, at least three quarters of the instruments used should be melodicas.

Time Limit for setting up (including tuning): 7 minutes.

3.5.10 Recorder Band Classes

30 - 60 players excluding the conductor and piano accompanist. Electronic instruments and amplifiers are not permitted. Unless otherwise stated, at least three quarters of the instruments used should be recorder.

Time Limit for setting up (including tuning): 7 minutes.

3.5.11 Chinese Instrumental Classes

All Chinese Instrumental Classes – Double basses, cellos and Western percussion instruments may be used. No other Western-type of instruments (including piano) is permitted.

Orchestra: Class N573 — 45 - 60 players

Class N574 — 20 - 30 players

Class N575 — 20 - 40 players

Time Limit for setting up (including tuning) : 7 minutes.

Ensemble: 5 - 14 players with no conductor, should comprise wind, bowed-strings instruments and plucked-strings instruments.

Erhu Ensemble: 4 - 8 players, maximum 1 accompanist.

Pipa Ensemble: 4 - 8 players with no accompanist.

Solo: maximum 1 accompanist.

Chinese Instrument Solo Award (N588): maximum 5 accompanists.

3.6 Rules at Competition Venues

3.6.1 All venues will not open until 15 minutes before the start of each session.

3.6.2 Please refer to annex “Standard Setup/Provision at Festival Venues” for supplied facilities at the venues. No equipments, props, backdrops or electricity will be supplied.

3.6.3 Rearrangement in setup and facilities is prohibited in competition venues.

3.6.4 Anyone including competitors who cause undue disturbance in competition venues will be dismissed from the venue or in the consequence of being disqualified.

- 3.6.5 Using of communication and electronic devices, photo-taking, audio or video recording of any parts of the competition (including adjudicator's comments and announcement of results) in competition venues are prohibited. Anyone who violates this rule will be dismissed from the venue.
- 3.6.6 It is the attendees' responsibilities to take care of their personal properties. The Association will not be responsible for any loss.
- 3.6.7 Admission to all competition venues is free of charge except for some finals, and is first-come-first-served. However, admission priority will always be given to competitors. Certain competition venues require tickets which will be available at the door 15 minutes before the start of each session.
- 3.6.8 Since the seating capacity in most venues is very limited and being controlled under the Fire Prevention Ordinance, each competitor with only one accompanying teacher/parent will be admitted during the session / time slot they are required to perform. Audience and other competitors and accompanying teachers/parents can be admitted only if there are vacant seats. (No audience and parents will be admitted to the choral competitions at Martha Boss Community Centre Hall.)
- 3.6.9 No parking is permitted at all competition venues.
- 3.7 Prize-winners' Concerts
Upon recommendation by adjudicators, competitors obtaining the highest marks in their classes may be called upon to perform at one of the Prize-winners' Concerts in any venue, any time if required by the Association according to the programmes. Failure to comply without an acceptable reason will result in any award being withheld / withdrawn and no certificate will be issued.

4 AWARDS and MARKS

- 4.1 Competitors will receive mark sheets at the close of the class in which they have performed.
- 4.2 No placing, trophy or prize will be awarded under 80 marks in all classes.
- 4.3 All finals will be judged without giving marks. If the performance of the finals is not up to a sufficiently high standard, the adjudicators or the Association reserve the right to withhold the scholarship.
- 4.4 Certificates of different levels of achievement will be awarded:

Honours	90 or over
Merit	80 - 89
Proficiency	75 - 79
- 4.5 Certificates should be claimed by members only. Claims from individual competitors will not be entertained. Certificates can be collected between May and July of each year. Members will be notified the exact dates to collect the certificates. Members are responsible for distributing the certificates to their students. Request for issuance of certificates after the aforesaid period will subject to a handling charge.
- 4.6 Some of the trophies awarded, unless otherwise specified, are the property of the Association. They are to be held by the winner for one year only and must be returned, properly cleaned and in good condition. Holders will be responsible for any damage or loss incurred while in their custody or in transit.

5 Other Issues

- 5.1 In the case of class suspension being instructed by the Education and Manpower Bureau, all Festival competitions or activities will be cancelled until further notice, and entry fees will not be refunded.
- 5.2 The decision of the adjudicators on all artistic matters shall be final; while the decision

of the Executive Committee on all questions not provided for by the above Rules and Regulations and all administrative matters shall be final.

5.3 Handling fees will be levied on accepted, extra reasonable requests.

5.4 Proper / appropriate attire or school uniform is required during competitions.

6 Enquiries

6.1 Any complaints and suggestions should be made in writing (with true name and correspondence address) and addressed through members to the Complaints and Suggestions Handling Committee of the Association for discussion after the Festival. Replies, if deemed necessary, will be addressed to members only.

6.2 All Festival enquiries should be addressed to:

Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Association

7 Carmel Village Street, 2nd Floor, Homantin, Kowloon

Office hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 12:45pm, 1:45pm - 5:00pm

Saturday 9:00am - 12:30pm

Tel: 2761 3877

Fax: 2761 9995

Email: music@hksmsa.org.hk