

2015 MAD Mixed Harmony Quartet Contest Rules and Guidelines

(established 11/2014; modified 1/9/2015)

- Quartets must be composed of one, two or three members of one gender (M/F) and at least one member of the opposite gender, e.g., MMMF, MMFF or MFFF. Any vocal configuration (T, L, Br, Bs) is acceptable.
- **UPDATE: RULE CHANGE:** ~~Singers must be members of the Barbershop Harmony Society (SPEBSQSA), Sweet Adelines, International (SAI), and/or Harmony, Incorporated.~~ This event is open to ALL singers, regardless of BHS, SAI or HI affiliation. While this event is open to ALL singers, regardless of affiliation with BHS, SAI and/or HI, in addition to the required all-events registration, each non-affiliated singer will be charged a \$10 participation fee, and each mixed quartet will be charged a \$10 MAD mixed quartet participation fee or a \$20 non-MAD mixed quartet participation fee, whichever applies. Examples follow:
 - Example 1: If none of the mixed quartet members is a member of BHS, SAI and/or HI, (and the quartet is located outside of the MAD borders and therefore, is not a MAD mixed quartet), their entry into this mixed quartet contest would involve the following fees: \$20 non-MAD quartet participation fee + four (4) \$10 non-affiliated member participation fees, in addition to four (4) all events registrations.
 - Example 2: If one of the quartet members is a member of BHS, SAI and/or HI, and the quartet has at least 3 members residing within the MAD, entry fees would be: \$10 MAD quartet participation fee + three (3) \$10 non-affiliated member participation fees, in addition to four (4) all-events registrations.
 - Example 3: If one of the quartet members is a member of BHS, SAI and/or HI, and the quartet has one member residing within the MAD, entry fees would be: \$20 non-MAD quartet participation fee + three (3) \$10 non-affiliated member participation fees, in addition to four (4) all-events registrations.
- Quartet members may compete in only one mixed quartet at this event.
- Competitor entries will be accepted first-come, first-entered, based on the receipt date and time of the contest entry form (electronically submitted forms are encouraged). An initial maximum of ten (10) mixed quartets will be accepted to participate, with MAD quartets having priority (MAD quartets are defined as those with at least three (3) members residing in the Mid-Atlantic District). A ‘waiting list’ will be maintained from which additional quartets may be selected from within and outside the MAD. The initial maximum of ten (10) mixed quartets may be expanded once the number of male international preliminary and MAD senior quartet competitors is determined on February 13, 2015. Additional mixed quartet entries will be added from the established “waiting list”, regardless of district affiliation.
- Quartets from geographical areas outside of the Mid-Atlantic District (M-AD – see <http://www.barbershop.org/about/districts.html> for details regarding BHS district borders and boundaries) may participate in this contest, at the discretion of the M-AD Vice President for Contest and Judging (see bullet point above). Quartets from outside the MAD will not be eligible to collect MAD awards.
- Quartets are expected to perform two songs, arranged in the barbershop style, as defined by BHS/SPEBSQSA (see <http://www.barbershop.org/competitions/contest-a-judging-system.html> and click on the “Contest and Judging Handbook for further details.”).
- Other than a pitch pipe (manual or electronic) used for brief pitch taking prior to beginning a song, no musical instruments or instrumental accompaniment is permitted.

- All quartet members must purchase and be in possession of all-events registrations to the Mid-Atlantic District Spring Convention and International Quartet Preliminary contest held in conjunction with this event.
- All competing mixed quartets will have the opportunity to participate in evaluation sessions with the judges.
- Competing quartets must also pay an entry fee of: \$10 (MAD quartets) or \$20 (non-MAD quartets), as applicable, as well as any applicable fees for members not affiliated with BHS, SAI and/or HI. (Explained above in the second bullet point.)
- **UPDATE:** All-events registrations can be ordered from the MAD website. Mixed quartet participation fees and non-affiliated quartet member fees should be made by check payable to “Mid-Atlantic District” and sent to Gary Plaag, DVP Contest and Judging @ 128 Brockton Court, Williamsburg, VA 23185, and should be received by February 28, 2015. Please note quartet name on the check.

Behavior: All participants at this event are expected to behave in a professional, collegial, and respectful manner. While everyone may not agree with the judges’ decisions (scores, rankings, feedback, etc.), everyone who participates is expected to behave respectfully toward each other and toward the event staff (judges, organizers, etc.) before, during and after the event. Those who fail to behave respectfully may be disqualified from this event (and possibly future events) and may be asked to leave the event and the facility immediately. Please help us make this event fun and enjoyable for everyone!