

2016 MAD Mixed Harmony Quartet Contest Rules and Guidelines

(established 11/2014; revised 12/2015)

- 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.
- All singers are welcome regardless of their affiliation or non-affiliation with the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS), Sweet Adelines, International (SAI), and/or Harmony, Incorporated. Non-affiliated singers are welcome.
- Previous MAD Mixed Quartet champions are not eligible to compete for placement (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc) the year immediately following their championship year. They may, however, compete for evaluation and score in order to attempt to qualify for the International Mixed Quartet Competition.
- 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 March 12, 2016. Additional mixed quartet entries will be added from the established “waiting list”.
- 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. Checks should be made payable to Mid-Atlantic District and sent to: Gary Plaag, MAD Contest and Judging VP, 128 Brockton Court, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

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!