

LABBS CONVENTION 27th OCTOBER – 29th OCTOBER 2023

HARROGATE CONVENTION CENTRE

CHORUS COMPETITION

Chorus Contestant Information Notes

The competition will be held in accordance with current LABBS Contest and Judging Rules (2023) which can be downloaded from the LABBS website, with which you should be familiar. All singing members must have paid full convention registration fee.

Lanyards and badges must be worn (**round your neck**) at **ALL** times when you are in the convention centre apart from when on stage. Please note that the convention centre may have additional security in place at every entrance each time you enter the centre. Please allow yourself extra time for these checks to take place.

1. A list of your registered LABBS members will be sent to you in advance and should be checked, to ensure that only the names of the chorus members who will be singing on stage during the competition are recorded. Cross off any chorus members who are not singing and add any additional chorus members who are not listed. In addition you will need to declare how many of your singers are first-time competitors in any barbershop organisation's convention.
2. The list of 'singers on stage' must be handed to LABBS **Reception** staff (not to the Contest Administration Category), during Friday or before 08:30 am on Saturday 28th October 2023. Any later changes must be reported to the Contest Administration Category table as soon as possible prior to performance.
3. There will be no chorus stage time prior to the competition. Should you require special equipment on the risers (e.g. chairs) please email Donn Roberts in advance of convention at stagemanager@labbs.org.uk
4. Dressing Areas will be in Studio One and clearly marked: Access to Studio One will be via Hall D. If you have members with walking difficulties please email Tom Knight at chiefcourier@labbs.org.uk for more information.
 - a. Males are not permitted to enter this dressing area at any time.
 - b. The changing facility for male MDs will be in Queens Suite and will be clearly marked. Male MDs should meet their chorus in the warm up area at the appropriate time.
 - c. Choruses are responsible for bringing their own dress rails.
 - d. You will need to move your dress rails to the allocated area by the time your chorus should be out of the dressing area.
 - e. All belongings and dress rails must be removed from Studio One immediately after the contest.

- f. Competitors are advised not to bring valuable items to the Convention Centre and these remain the responsibility of the owner at all times, They should not be left unattended in the dressing areas nor placed in handbags and left with the couriers.
5. Contestants should be considerate of others whilst in the dressing areas and only use them at the time indicated on the timetable. The use of aerosols and sprays (Deodorant and hairspray included) is **not permitted anywhere in the venue**. Please leave the dressing area in full stage attire (including shoes), carrying no more than a **SMALL** handbag and a named leak proof water bottle. Water will **NOT** be provided this year. Please bring your own water bottles, which can be filled from water stations in the building and keep them with you. These will be taken by the courier along with your small bag. Handbags must be small, light and should only contain essential, non-valuable items. These will be collected prior to the performance and returned afterwards.
6. Contestants who do not wish to use their allocated dressing area must be available for collection from this location at the time specified on the chorus competition timetable.
7. A courier will collect contestants from their dressing area, escort them to their warm-up area and onto the stage. After contest, a courier will escort contestants back to their dressing area.
8. Warm-up Rooms are A, B & C in the Queen's suite. Risers will not be provided but there will be a podium for the MD.
9. **Stage**
 - a. Curtains will NOT be used for the chorus competition.
 - b. Twelve four-step risers with back and side rails will be provided. There will be foldback speakers on stage.
 - c. The centre of the stage will be clearly marked.
 - (1) Competitors will enter stage left and exit stage right.
 - (2) Only the chorus and its director will be allowed onto the contest stage. Any other person will be refused entry by the Stage Manager.
 - (3) White stage lighting will be used throughout the competition. Full stage lighting will be illuminated when the chorus is announced by the MC.

When a competitor is ready, the MD should indicate their readiness to the Stage Manager and when the judges are ready, the MC will then make the announcement as follows: The MC will ask Stewards to close the doors and the house lights to go down, and then introduce the competitor using the following phrases:

- (1) **Contestant number**
- (2) **From...**
- (3) **Under the direction of...**
- (4) **Chorus name (Full stage lighting).**

2. Mic warmers should note the following instructions:

The Stage Manager will inform the mic-warmers whether the chorus is required to stop after their first song. If so, wait for confirmation from the Chair of Judges before continuing.

3. Judging will begin immediately following the formal announcement of the competitor by the MC. No further signal will be given to the competitor to commence their performance.
 - a. Chorus MDs are requested to keep acceptance of applause to a courteous minimum.
 - b. If there is a false start to either song, the MD should stop the singing and restart the song. It should be noted that Performance Judges will continue to judge the performance but Singing and Music Judges will restart their marking at the recommencement of the song.
 - c. At the end of the performance, the MD should give the Stage Manager a clear signal that their performance is finished.
 - d. Should an emergency situation arise which, in the opinion of the Chairman of Judges, adversely affects the performance, Article XIV of the competition rules shall be applied.
4. If the competitor has any complaint about the conditions they experienced during their performance, **the Chorus MD** must inform their courier immediately upon leaving the stage. Any repeat performance will be at the discretion of the Chairman of Judges in accordance with Article XIV of the competition rules.
5. Competitors and members of the audience should not engage the judges (including shadow judges) in conversation whilst at the judging table.
6. The awards ceremony will take place following the mic-coolers' performances. Trophy winners are reminded that they are liable for any engraving costs.
7. Due to time constraints, the winning chorus will not be asked to perform an acceptance song. However, they will be performing in the show on Saturday evening.
8. Competitors may collect their score sheets from the Chief Courier's table (NOT Contest Admin) at the conclusion of the competition. They are located at the top of the escalators.
9. Written evaluations will be emailed to the email contact on your contest entry form within 3 weeks following contest if this was your preferred method of evaluation, otherwise contestants will be contacted via their 'evaluation email contact' to arrange a convenient evaluation date and time, either in person or online with a few representatives as appropriate. Competitors are requested not to contact any judge other than the one providing the evaluation.