

# LABBS CONVENTION 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER – 29<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2023

## HARROGATE CONVENTION CENTRE

### QUARTET COMPETITION

#### **Quartet 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.

Lanyards and badges must be worn (round your neck) at **ALL** times when you are in the convention centre, the only exception will be for competitors whilst on stage.

Please note that the convention centre will have additional security in place at every entrance each time you enter the centre. Please allow yourself extra time for any checks to take place.

**Please make this information available to all members of the quartet.**

Quartet semi-final & final will be held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

1. **Eligibility:** In order to compete, all competitors must be full members of LABBS and have paid a full convention registration fee. Additionally, quartets must be registered with the LABBS Quartet Registrar ([quartetregistrar@labbs.org.uk](mailto:quartetregistrar@labbs.org.uk)) and any changes in personnel since registering for the competition must be notified to her prior to the competition.
2. **Stage Time:** Quartet stage time will be on Thursday evening and will commence at 21.00. This is just for stage familiarity, NO singing and will last no longer than 3 to 4 minutes per quartet. Quartets must email their request for stage time in advance to by **Thursday 19th October** at the latest to [eandjchair@labbs.org.uk](mailto:eandjchair@labbs.org.uk).
3. **Dressing Areas:** These are in Studio One. If you have members with walking difficulties, please email Tom Knight at: [chiefcourier@labbs.org.uk](mailto:chiefcourier@labbs.org.uk) for more information.
  - a. Males are not permitted to enter this dressing area at any time.
  - b. Quartets are responsible for bringing their own dress rails.
  - c. All belongings and dress rails should be removed from the dressing areas immediately after the contest.
  - d. Competitors are advised to not bring valuable items to the Convention Centre. Personal items remain the responsibility of the owner at all times.
4. 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 by the venue.
5. Competitors who do not wish to use their allocated dressing area must be available for collection from this location at the time specified on the timetable.
6. A courier will collect contestants from their dressing area and escort them to their warm-up area and then onto the stage.

Performers requiring special assistance to move through the system should ensure that they are accompanied by someone to help them if required. Prior to the competition, please inform the Chief Courier who will provide specific instructions. The Chief Courier's table will be situated at the top of the escalators.

7. Handbags and water bottles will be looked after by your courier. Please ensure they are small and light and only contain essential, non-valuable items.
8. **Warm-up Rooms** will be A, B and C in the Queen's suite.
9. **Stage**
  - a. The centre of the stage will be clearly marked.
  - b. Quartets may enter and leave the stage from either side.

Nobody other than the quartet will be allowed onto the contest stage and anyone attempting to do so will be refused entry by the stage manager.

White stage lighting will be used throughout the competition. Full stage lighting will be illuminated when the competitor is announced by the MC.

- c. When you are ready to commence your performance, indicate your readiness to the Stage Manager, who will then inform the MC. The MC will ask Stewards to close the doors and the house lights to go down and then introduce the quartet using the following phrases:

(1) **Contestant number**

(2) **From**

(3) **First names and Registered Quartet Name**

10. Mic-warmers should note the following instructions:

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

11. Judging will begin immediately following the formal announcement of the quartet by the MC. No further signal will be given to the quartet to commence its performance.
  - a. Quartets are requested to keep acceptance of applause to a courteous minimum.
  - b. If there is a false start to either song, the quartet should stop 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. Quartets should take note of Article XII of the LABBS competition rules in relation to making verbal comment during their performance. If you intend to use the "speaking" microphone during your performance please email Jackie Mumford at: **contestadmin@labbs.org.uk** as soon as possible giving the name of the quartet and exact timing or clear description of when you need to use it so that arrangements can be made to ensure the microphone is turned on at the correct time.

- 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.
- 12. If the competitor has any complaint about the conditions they experienced during their performance, they 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.
- 13. Competitors and members of the audience should not engage the judges (including shadow judges) in conversation whilst at the judging table.
- 14. The awards ceremony will take place following the finals round. Trophy winners are reminded that they are liable for any engraving costs.
- 15. Due to time constraints, the winning quartet will not be asked to perform an acceptance song. However, they will be performing in the show on Saturday evening.
- 16. Contestants placed 10-16 and mic warmers may collect score sheets from the Chief Courier's table at the conclusion of the semi-finals. All other contestants may collect the score sheets and recordings from the Chief Courier's table after the final results have been announced.
- 17. The winners are welcome and expected at the Chairman's reception on Saturday after the evening show, to sing a couple of songs.
- 18. 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 email contact to arrange a convenient evaluation date and time, either in person or online as appropriate. Competitors are requested not to contact any judge other than the one providing the evaluation.