

THE AEOLUS INTERNATIONAL
COMPETITION
FOR WIND INSTRUMENTS

JURY RULES

INTERNATIONALER AEOLUS BLÄSERWETTBEWERB

1. General

1.1. Terms and conditions for the competition

Terms and conditions for the competition shall be part of the jury rules.

1.2. Jury Membership, Moderator

(1) The management of the competition shall determine the members of the jury (jurors) and the chair from among the jurors. The management of the competition may appoint a deputy chair of the jury. The members and the chair of the jury shall have the duties laid down in the jury rules and in the terms and conditions of the competition.

(2) The management of the competition may appoint a moderator to assist the jury. The chair of the jury may transfer to the moderator entirely or in part the duties incumbent upon him/her under No.2.5 and 3.2 to 3.6, except for the assessment of entrants and the duties under No.3.2, Para.3.

1.3. Participation

(1) Every juror and the moderator shall be obliged to comply with all provisions of the jury rules.

(2) Every juror shall be obliged to attend the preparatory discussions, deliberations and exchanges of information as well as auditions scheduled by the competition management, and shall cooperate in assessing the entrants unless the jury rules contain express different provisions.

1.4. Confidentiality

All statements about entrants for the competition, point scores or results made orally or in writing in deliberations of the jury shall be strictly confidential both during and after the competition.

1.5. Jury Deliberations

(1) The entrants for the competition shall be assessed by the jurors in jury deliberations in accordance with the provisions of the jury rules. The deliberations of the jury shall be held within the framework of, and/or immediately after, the auditions.

(2) The deliberations of the jury shall not be public. Unless expressly specified differently in the jury rules, the jurors and the moderator shall have the right, and the duty, to participate.

(3) The deliberations of the jury may be attended by Board members of the Sieghardt Rometsch Foundation and members of the competition management without any rights of deliberation or voting rights.

1.6. Pupils of Jurors

(1) If there is a pupil of a juror among the entrants for the competition, that juror shall not be allowed to participate in the assessment of that entrant, his pupil. Jurors shall not teach their pupils for the duration of the competition; otherwise, that entrant and/or juror shall be excluded by the management of the competition.

(2) Pupils shall be persons being taught or, prior to the competition, taught by a juror for at least three consecutive months, which training ended less than three years ago. This shall not include participation in master classes.

(3) When assessing their pupils, jurors shall return blank assessment sheets.

(4) For as long as entrants are engaged in the competition, jurors should avoid contacts with entrants or teachers of entrants happening to be present.

2. Auditions

2.1. Public Performance

Auditions within the competition shall be public and shall be organized on an open platform.

2.2. Program

Auditions shall be guided by the repertory included as the mandatory program in the invitation. The jury shall not attend the rehearsals for the finale.

2.3. Piano Accompanist

Entrants may bring their personal piano accompanists for rounds 1 to 3. Should any of these accompanists fail to meet artistic standards, the jury may propose his/her replacement by an accompanist recruited by the competition management.

2.4. Outcome of the Competition

After rounds 1 to 3, the outcome shall be disclosed, following deliberations by the jury, and announced by the competition management. The results of the finale shall be announced to the entrants and to the public by the chair of the jury after the jury deliberations.

2.5. Private Advice

After each round of the competition, the jurors shall be available on request for brief personal advice to failed entrants and, after the final round, also to the prize winners. If an entrant addresses a problem or a complaint to a juror, that entrant shall be referred to the chair of the jury or to the competition management.

2.6. Prize Winners' Concert

The finale shall be organized as a prize winners' concert with the Düsseldorf Symphony Orchestra. After the deliberations of the jury, the public prize awarding ceremony will be held at which the chair of the jury will present the certificates and the money prizes.

3. Assessment

3.1. Principles of Assessment

(1) Entrants shall be assessed on the basis of such benchmark level as must be applied to young artists mature for public performance (not to talented students).

(2) The criteria assessed are

- (I) artistic personality
- (II) musical interpretation,
- (III) technical proficiency.

(3) Each audition shall be assessed individually.

(4) The deliberations of the jury shall be held in separate rooms whose doors can be locked. Jurors are requested to refrain from talking during auditions in the recital rooms. Moreover, there should be no expressions of approval or disapproval.

(5) Should a juror be prevented by illness or for other reasons from participating in a full round of assessment, he/she may not participate in assessing that full round. If necessary, the whole outcome of the assessments will have to be recalculated in that case.

(6) In case of doubt, the chair of the jury shall decide.

(7) The management of the competition determines as objective of the assessment of the entrants in the first to the third round, that the best entrant in each instrumental category of the competition reaches the fourth round.

3.2. First Round

(1) The jury shall decide about admitting an entrant to the second round by voting YES or NO. Votes shall be cast in writing in a concealed form on an assessment sheet provided by the competition management. A simple majority of votes shall suffice. In case of a tie, the outcome may be discussed, and a new secret vote shall be taken afterwards. In case of another tie, the decision shall be made in favor of the entrant. Each juror shall note his/her short impressions on the entrant's assessment sheet. The jury shall have the right, after assessment of all entrants, to discuss the overall outcome of the assessment and then once more vote, multiple times if necessary, on admitting each entrant to the second round. This shall be subject to sentences 1 to 6 analogously, with the proviso that, in case of a tie, a decision shall be taken in favor of the entrant without another vote.

(2) At the end of each deliberation by the jury, the assessment sheets shall be handed over to the chair of the jury. The sheets shall be locked up by the competition secretariat. They shall be open for inspection only to the management of the competition and to the chair of the jury.

(3) If there are more than twenty entrants, the management of the competition may subdivide the entrants into several groups of entrants and arrange the jury in an equal number of jury groups, with each jury group assessing the group of entrants assigned to it by the management of the competition. Each jury group must consist of at least three jurors. Para.1 shall apply analogously to the assessment of entrants.

(4) If possible, not more than twenty entrants should be allowed to enter the second round. By agreement with the competition management, the jury may admit a larger number of entrants to the second round. While maintaining an adequate artistic level of the competition, the jury should admit to the second round entrants from all categories of instruments represented in the competition.

3.3. Second Round

(1) The jury shall express its assessment of the entrants for each category of instruments separately in a point scoring system ranging between 0 and 25 without decimal points. For outstanding performances, the scale used should extend to a score of 25 points.

(2) Each juror shall note his/her score and impressions on the assessment sheet prepared by the competition management. Number 3.2, Para.2, shall apply analogously. The average shall be calculated by first deleting one maximum and one minimum number of points. The remaining points shall be added up and the sum total shall be divided by the number of jurors entitled to vote less 2. The result shall be announced to the jury. If necessary, the announcement of the first assessment by the jury may be followed by repeating the scoring procedure. The point score then determined shall be valid. In case of doubt, the chair shall have the casting vote.

(3) Not more than ten entrants should be admitted to the semifinale. On the proposal of the jury the competition management may admit a larger number of entrants to the semifinale. In principle, admission should be based on the ranking order resulting from assessment pursuant to Para.2. At least two entrants for each instrument category shall be represented in the semifinale.

3.4. Third Round - Semifinale

(1) Number 3.3, Para.1 and 2, shall apply analogously to the assessment of entrants.

(2) Of each category of instruments the entrant with the highest score in the semifinale shall be admitted to the finale. In duly substantiated exceptional cases the competition management may admit on proposal of the jury a fourth entrant to the finale.

3.5. Fourth Round - Finale

Entrants shall be assessed in accordance with No.3.3, Para.1 and 2, unless different provisions are indicated below.

3.5.1. Determination of Prizes

First, the average of points is calculated for the fourth round. The results of scoring constitute the basis for the decision about awarding the prizes. In case of several entrants having the same ranking, or if there is only a marginal scoring difference between two or more entrants in the fourth round, the scores of those entrants of the third round should be taken into account. The Jury shall decide with simple majority whether the scoring difference between these entrants is significant. In the event of a tie, the difference shall be regarded as significant; in this case, the scores of those entrants of the third round shall not be taken into account.

3.5.2. Prizes

(1) The amount of money prizes available to the competition shall be seen from the terms and conditions of the competition.

(2) Prizes shall be awarded solely by the jury. As a matter of principle, a first prize should be awarded. This applies to the second and third prizes as well.

(3) With the approval of the competition management, prizes may be awarded more than once or not at all.

3.6. Special Prize for the Best Interpretation of Contemporary Music

(1) The special prize for the best interpretation of contemporary music shall be awarded, irrespective of the instrument category for the interpretation of a contemporary piece of music included in the mandatory program of the second round.

(2) In a separate additional deliberation, the jury shall decide about awarding this prize. Each juror shall be allowed to propose up to two entrants for the special prize. No.3.3, Para.1 and 2, shall apply analogously to the entrants so selected, with the proviso that, notwithstanding No.3.2, Para.2, each juror shall be able to use for his/her decision the assessment sheets he/she compiled for the second round.

(3) Awarding a prize under No.3.6 shall not preclude awarding a prize under No.3.5 to the same candidate.

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Wildenbruchstrasse 9
D-40545 Düsseldorf, Germany