CONTEST BRIEFING DOCUMENT

National Mixed Chorus Final
Sunday 26th May 2019

Bournemouth 24th - 27th May 2019

www.sing2019.com
BABS 45th Annual Convention

The information in this document is intended to provide you with all the necessary information needed to plan your time for the mixed chorus contest at Convention. There will be no briefing at the event.

BRIEFING DOCUMENT CONTENTS

* **Contest Information: Pages 2 to 5**
  Three pages covering everything from stage set up to evaluations.

* **General Information: Page 6 & 7**
  Other relevant information and outline timetable for the weekend.

* **Stage Risers & Mood Lighting: Page 8**
  Riser layout and information on the introduction of mood lighting.

* **Sound & Vision Technical Information: Page 9**
  An insight in how the technical aspects of this event are implemented.

* **Convention Centre Plan: Page 10**
  Floor plan of Bournemouth Convention Centre.

* **Contestant Declaration - Appendix A**
  This form needs to be completed and returned by 12th April 2019.

* **Convention Show Declaration - Appendix B**
  The 2019 Mixed Chorus Champions will be asked to perform a 15-18 minute package of songs, including dialogue, on the Sunday Evening show. Please complete the Declaration Form if you are aiming to achieve this position.

  *In the event of the First placed mixed chorus being unable to appear on this show, the second placed mixed chorus will be asked to perform.*

* **Contest Recording & Social Media Policy - Appendix C**
  Details of who owns the copyright and what you can upload.

* **Contest Schedule**
  Timing schedule for the Mixed Chorus contest on Sunday 26th May.

**Contest Queries** - If you have any questions relating to your contest performances please contact the BABS Mixed Chorus Contest Manager. Email: mixedchoruscontest@singbarbershop.com

**Convention Queries** - Any general convention queries should be referred to: Alan Bithell, the BABS Convention Manager.
Email: conventionmanager@singbarbershop.com

**Sound/Lighting Test Chorus -- Thursday Evening**

There is an opportunity for all competing choruses (if in Bournemouth on Thursday evening) to send a maximum of four representatives to the sound and lighting test on the Thursday evening. This will be on the convention contest stage at 20:00 and could last up to a couple of hours.

Apart from providing us with a chorus to test the technical set-up, it will allow someone from your chorus to see and experience the contest stage and so report back to your singers of their experience.

If you have anyone available for this opportunity, please send their names (and singing part) to Ali Jack at registrationsmanager@singbarbershop.com, and then ask them to report to the BABS Reception Desk at 19:45. Please use the subject heading "sound-test chorus".

All contestants must be registered for convention by the 12th April 2019. These can be bought online from the BABS Box Office at www.sing2019.com
STAGE FAMILIARISATION
Two representatives of your chorus are invited to attend this brief slot on Friday, immediately following the Quartet semi-finals.

THE STAGE
There will be 12 four-step 4ft risers on the contest stage and no acoustic shell. Foldback will be present. At the midpoint of risers there is 5.60 metres of clear performance space to the front edge of the stage. See page 8 of this document for stage and riser layout. There are no stage Tabs/Curtains. Enter stage left, exit stage right.

CONTEST RULES
Please note the rule which bans the use of confetti or explosions on stage and would be subject to disqualification. A full set of Contest Rules can be found in the Document Centre on the BABS Guild of Judges web site www.babsguildofjudges.com

CHANGING ROOM
This will be in the Solent Hall which will be divided and screened in two parts, for male and female contestants (see plan on page 10). Contestants must report to the Courier Team on arrival, their desk will be located at the entrance to the Solent Hall. All contestants are allocated a timed schedule for entry to the changing area. A contestant bag drop facility is available for storage of any stage uniforms prior to and following your vacation of the changing areas. Please note this is limited space and will be unsupervised.

CONTEST CYCLE
From this point you are on a timed contest cycle. Please observe the timings for your chorus.

COURIERS
You will be collected by a contest courier from your changing area and taken to the warm-up rooms. Do not leave any valuables in your dressing area, please leave the dressing area in full stage attire. Please note that there will be no pre-performance photographs nor risers.

WARM-UP ROOMS
From the changing room you will be escorted to your allocated warm-up room (approx 20 mins). Please note there will be NO water coolers and there will be NO risers in the warm up rooms.

MEMBERS ON STAGE
All performers must be a BABS member/Dual member. If in doubt, please check with the BABS Membership Secretary membershipsecretary@singbarbershop.com

Remember it is the responsibility of your club to ensure that all singers are BABS members and have a valid Convention Registration.
CONTEST TIMING
Each contestant has been allocated an 10 - minute cycle to allow for entering the stage, performing their contest songs and exiting. If you need longer than the allocated 10 minutes, please contact the Contest Manager immediately so the final timing schedule can be produced.

ACCESSIBILITY
The convention centre is a fully accessible building. Please notify us in advance on your Contest Declaration Form of any accessibility needs. Also inform the Courier Team on your arrival of these needs, so they can allow extra time for those concerned to move through the contest cycle, as routes may vary from direct walking routes. If you need any equipment such as a wheelchair, please bring yours with you.

STAGE ACCESS
Entry to the stage area will be at the discretion of the Stage Manager.
* Enter Stage Left. All contestant access is from backstage. This is via a short flight of 8-10 steps.
* Exit Stage Right. All contestant egress will be from the front of the stage on to the floor of the Auditorium, this is also via a short flight of 8 -10 steps. Your Courier will then lead you to the changing room.
* Wheelchair access & egress is stage left. A small lift is available from the backstage area.

As soon as you are in position on the risers, the Stage Manager or his assistant will ask you to indicate when you are ready. Your readiness will then be signalled to the MC.

CONTESTANT ANNOUNCEMENT
The MC will then commence your announcement on the lines of:

Stewards please close the doors - Can we have the house lights down. Contestant number.......... From............ Under the direction of .............. Chorus Name...............

At this point the stage lights will come up and you will be judged for Performance. There will be no further signal to start singing in either song, or to make your exit. In the interests of the timetable, please keep acceptance of applause to a courteous minimum. If there is a false start to either song, stop and restart. Performance judges will continue to judge but other categories will restart their marking with your fresh start.

VERBAL COMMENT
Non-singing dialogue is generally not part of a contest performance. However, relevant brief comment with supporting visual communication is permitted, to help establish a mood and/or theme, before, in between and at the end of the performance package. Spoken words deemed to be excessive or detrimental to the performance shall be penalised by the Performance Judge(s) up to and including forfeiture. If required please use the Lecturn microphone positioned stage left.
END OF CONTEST PRESENTATIONS
All competing Club Chairmen and Chorus Directors are asked to assemble on stage for the results and trophy presentations. Please make your way to the front of the auditorium (stage left) in preparation for announcement to the stage.

JUDGES
Judges are not permitted to talk with competitors or members of the audience during the contest and the award presentations. Please do not approach the Judges area for scoresheets these will be available from the BABS Reception Desk after the contest.

CONTEST RECORDINGS
Individual chorus performances will be made available on line for post event viewing. Full instructions on how to access these will be circulated to clubs separately to this document.

Please Note: There will be no Directors Cam.

EVALUATIONS
In order to continually improve the service to competing members, each contestant is offered the choice of three evaluation options.

* A Coached Evaluation - covering comments from all three judging categories, delivered by one member of the BABS Guild of Judges, which would take place in June or July
* A Written Evaluation - covering comments from all three judging categories, delivered by email within 3 weeks of contest.
* No Evaluation Required.

Please indicate your preference on the Contest Declaration Form (Appendix A)

RIGHT OF APPEAL
If you have cause for any complaint about the conditions whilst competing please advise your courier immediately you leave the stage. Any repeat performances will be at the discretion of the Chairman of Judges. Should an emergency situation arise which, in the opinion of the Chairman of Judges would adversely affect your performance or your safety, he may stop the contest.

PHOTOGRAPHERS
There will be no pre-performance photographs on risers before going to the warm up rooms. Only live action photographs will be taken during your contest performance. All photographs will be available to purchase from the official Convention photographer Event Photos. Their stand will be located on the ground floor in the main reception area.

NO PHOTOGRAPHY OR RECORDING OF ANY KIND/TYPE IS PERMITTED DURING THE COMPETITION
WINNERS BURSARY
To encourage further development, a £500 bursary will be awarded to the winners in the Mixed Chorus Contest plus a trophy. Members of the winning chorus will also receive gold medals.

CHORUS CHAMPIONS EXPECTATIONS
SHOW PERFORMANCE - SUNDAY
The 2019 BABS National Mixed Chorus Champions will be expected to appear on the Sunday Evening show at Convention. Please see Appendix B for requested show package information, which should be returned by 12th April 2019.
CONTEST LOCATION
All contests will take place in the main auditorium (Windsor Hall).

ENTRY TO AUDITORIUM - WINDSOR HALL
Entrance to and from the Auditorium will only be permitted between performances. Whilst we have never banned children or set a minimum age, we would ask you to consider carefully if you wish your members to bring children under the age of 5 into the auditorium during your performance. A “Barbertots” live screen viewing area for children under 5 will be made available.

CONTEST SEATING
All contest seating is unallocated. There is adequate seating available for anyone wishing to watch the remainder of the contest.

VENUE CATERING
Hot and cold food will be available throughout the weekend in the Bourne Lounge, located at the top of the escalators.

BABS RECEPTION & REGISTRATION DESK
This will be open in the main foyer. We recommend that registrations and show tickets are purchased prior to arrival to avoid queuing. Contestants must register by 12th April 2019 at the latest.

COPYRIGHT & SOCIAL MEDIA
To comply with copyright rules only officially approved visual recording, audio recording and photography may take place in the Auditorium. This includes any form of digital photography whether by camera device, mobile telephone or IPAD/Tablet devices.

Anyone found infringing this ruling will be asked to leave. The competition will be stopped if this happens, which could have a serious impact on a competitor’s performance. Please remind your members and supporters to ensure that they are not the one to jeopardise a performer’s chances on the competition or show stage.

Please note that there will be official BABS Media Team members who have permission to use their equipment during contest.

So as not to interfere with any performance, please ensure that mobile phones, pagers, watch alerts or any other electronic communication equipment with an audible facility are switched off at all times.

Uploading of any unofficial recorded material to social media sites is strictly prohibited.

WEEKEND TIMETABLE
The outline timetable for the weekend can be found on the next page, all events and times subject to change. Please keep an eye out for any amendments on the convention web site.
Visit www.sing2019.com for the latest details on the Biggest Annual Barbershop Event outside North America
Stage

12 risers on the contest stage. The distance from the centre of the risers to the end of the stage is approximately 5.60 metres and 2.17 metres from the edge of the front riser to the edge of the stage. The performance area will be lit to provide an even “face light” so the performers may be seen easily. The background of the stage will be lit with colour “mood” lighting (see heading below).

Risers Layout

Mood Lighting

Mood Lighting For Contests
Choruses will have background lighting for each of their contest songs. Coloured lighting will NOT be focussed on the stage performance area, this will be lit with a general stage wash as in previous years. This will permit proper lighting for video.

There are 7 choices of colour:
Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo and Violet.

• The chosen colour will be displayed on a “cyc cloth” behind the performance area.
• You may choose the same colour for both songs or a different one for each song.
• The colour you choose for the first will be displayed at the introduction of the chorus and will continue until the applause ends after your first song.
• The colour you choose for the 2nd song will be displayed at the end of the applause for the first song and will continue until the stage lights go down at the end of your performance.
• The background colour cannot be changed mid-song. It remains in place for the entire song.
• If you do not request a specific colour, the technicians will choose one at random.
As in previous year’s, an active line array foldback system is in use on the stage to provide an ambient acoustic environment for performers.

The chorus contest is amplified to the main auditorium in the following way:
A selection of DPA microphones are suspended above the chorus risers. These microphone’s provide the audio source for both the amplified sound and the recording, audio and video. The audio signals are split into two defined systems, one to amplify the sound for the auditorium and one to provide the audio for recording of the videos.

All the amplified feeds are provided into the auditorium in a mono format to ensure as even coverage as possible for all spectators in the audience. For the avoidance of doubt, NO compression is used anywhere in the audio chain.

**Recorded Audio!**
Sound to a barbershop person is clearly the most important thing!.
When we record this audio for the video we DO NOT alter this in any way. Please bear in mind that when you watch the video back on a computer, iPhone, YouTube etc, the playback device you are using may alter the sound in many ways. For example, the speakers on an iPhone are very small and will sound very different to the sound through a home hi-fi system. With all of this is mind; we do hope you enjoy the record of your performance from this event.

### Video

**What’s the Purpose of the Videos?**
It is created to give you a record of your performance on the day. We use High Definition cameras and recording equipment to give the best possible picture. We do not use any “artistic” video work, such as panning the picture, so that the best possible overall record is made for the club to review their performance.

The videos take a few days after the event to edit, title and check. A copy of the individual contest performance is made available to the club to view and download. Details to follow.

Every competitor’s performance will again be made available, free of charge, to all members via the BABS On-Demand Free-to-View service. Full details to be published separately.
Address:
Bournemouth International Centre
Exeter Road
Bournemouth
BH2 5BH

SOLENT HALL
Changing Room
screened off into
male & female
sections

Bag Drop Area

WINDSOR HALL
Competitions and Shows

Stage
ON STAGE TIMING

Each contestant has been allocated a 10-minute slot to allow for entering the stage, performing their contest songs and exiting. Please indicate below, the total time in minutes, that you will be on stage, from the first person entering to the last person leaving the stage.

Time on stage: ********

Song Title Declaration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Song</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Lighting Colour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use of Stage Props: Yes/No
(If Yes, please provide details)

Mood Lighting Colour Choice
Choose from 7 colours (Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo and Violet). The chosen colour will be displayed on a “cyc cloth” behind the performance area. The background colour cannot be changed mid-song. It remains in place for the entire song. If you do not request a specific colour, the technicians will choose one at random.

Return this form by 12th April 2019 to:
Yvonne Hughes
BABS Mixed Chorus Contest Manager
Grandsa’s House, 1 Birchmeadow Road
Broseley, Shropshire
TF12 5NF
Email mixedchoruscontest@singbarbershop.com

SING 2019

Contestant Declaration Form

This is to register the TWO song titles your chorus is planning to sing at Convention on the 26th May 2019 in Bournemouth. Song titles Must be received as soon as possible. Please advise any subsequent changes (if any).

Please remember it is your responsibility to ensure that all singers have a valid Convention Registration.

Chorus Name: ____________________________________________

Chorus Director: __________________________________________

Number of Male Members on Stage: __________

Number of Female Members on Stage: __________

Total Number of Members on Stage: __________

Evaluation Option: Coached Evaluation [ ] Written Evaluation [ ] No Evaluation [ ]

Please return this form no later than 12th April 2019

Please note by filling in and submitting (or posting) the above information, we agree to the below:

Declaration:

* We agree to abide by the current BABS Contest Rules.
* We also certify that we have complied with the copyright law in the acquisition and learning of our contest songs/arrangements, any violation of which will lead to ineligibility.
* We understand that the British Association of Barbershop Singers (BABS) may wish to use recordings of our competition performances for educational use and/or commercial resale. We give our unconditional consent for all such recordings to be used for such purposes.
* We give our consent that the official photographs of our chorus, taken by Event Photos during our contest performance, may be used for marketing and publicity purposes by BABS.
* We understand that any recorded material taken at convention is not to be used for uploading to social media networks, duplicated or resold by the performer(s).

Signature: _____________________ Date: _____________________
The new Mixed Chorus Champions will be asked to perform a 15-18 minute package of songs, including dialogue, on the Sunday Evening show. Please complete the Declaration Form if you are aiming to achieve this position. To assist with the planning, please provide details of your provisional song package. The package should not exceed the allotted times shown within the tables below. You must ensure that all material used on stage is fully legalised. By appearing on a show you are giving your consent for all such recordings to be used for educational use and/or commercial resale.

Please return this form no later than the 12th April 2019 to:  
Yvonne Hughes - BABS Mixed Chorus Contest Manager 
Email: mixedchoruscontest@singbarbershop.com

Name of Chorus:

---

Our Show Package

Total performance time 15 - 18 mins, including dialogue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Song Titles</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Performance Content
Show performers are requested to keep their non-singing time to a minimum. Personalised thank you’s should be kept brief and factored in to your overall stage time. Congratulations messages for other contestants and medal winners will be announced by the Show MC.

Performance Timing
We agree to abide by the convention shows timing allowances.

Copyright Clearance
We also certify that we have complied with the copyright law in the acquisition and learning of our show songs/arrangements. By Signing this declaration and by appearing on any of the conventions shows, we give our unconditional consent for all such recordings to be used for educational use and/or commercial resale.

CHORUS CONTACT DETAILS
Name:__________________________________________________________
Position held in chorus:_________________________________________
Email:________________________________________________________
Telephone:_____________________________________________________
Signature:__________________ Date:___________________________

It is understood that any recorded material taken from convention is not to be used for uploading to social media networks, duplicated or resold by the performer(s)
We would like to draw your attention to the BABS policy on uploading contest videos on to YouTube. The BABS Board of Directors has sought external legal advice, and our advisor has confirmed that copyright of BABS contest performances has two elements: Copyright of the Recording and Copyright of the Music.

1. Copyright of the Recording
BABS owns the copyright of all the contest videos and approval for use is required from BABS.

2. Copyright of the Music
The copyright of the songs remains with the copyright holders of those songs, but YouTube in the UK has a blanket agreement with music publishers and separate approval is not required. However, should the owner of the copyright of a particular song not be part of this agreement, then that copyright owner may ask Google, owner of YouTube, to remove that song. It is not however necessary for whoever uploads that recording to get specific permission.

It is still a prerequisite that Clubs get full approval from the copyright holder to sing their songs in contest, and as part of your repertoire.

Uploading to YouTube
The Board of Directors, given the legal clarification, has decided that contestants may load the recording of their performance on to YouTube. This is conditional upon any person or body that uploads this recording, being responsible for any and all costs and payments incurred as a result of any legal action.

Other BABS Events
Any recordings taken at BABS educational events like Harmony College or Directors Academy plus any non-contest activity at Convention or any other BABS organised event, are the copyright of BABS. Any recordings taken at these events may not be uploaded to YouTube or any other social media site, as permission to do so has not been granted.

Questions
Please refer any questions on the operation of this policy to the BABS Administration Director email: administrationdirector@singbarbershop.com
# BABS Mixed Chorus Final

**Sunday 26th May 2019**

## Contest Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contestant</th>
<th>Dressing Room</th>
<th>Report Time</th>
<th>Warm Up Room</th>
<th>Hold</th>
<th>On stage</th>
<th>Off stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>In</td>
<td>Room</td>
<td>In</td>
<td>Out</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1   Endeavour</td>
<td>Solent Hall</td>
<td>10:13</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>11:03</td>
<td>11:23</td>
<td>11:28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2   E Q Rendezvous</td>
<td>Solent Hall</td>
<td>10:23</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>11:13</td>
<td>11:33</td>
<td>11:38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3   Hull University Barbershop Society</td>
<td>Solent Hall</td>
<td>10:33</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>11:23</td>
<td>11:43</td>
<td>11:48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5   Southern Acappella</td>
<td>Solent Hall</td>
<td>10:53</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>11:43</td>
<td>12:03</td>
<td>12:08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7   Bristol A Cappella</td>
<td>Solent Hall</td>
<td>11:13</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>12:03</td>
<td>12:23</td>
<td>12:28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8   Black Cat Harmony</td>
<td>Solent Hall</td>
<td>11:23</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>12:13</td>
<td>12:33</td>
<td>12:38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Last performer off stage**: 13:10