

LABBS BARBERSHOP CONVENTION 25th OCTOBER - 27th OCTOBER 2024

BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

LABBS CHORUS COMPETITION

LABBS Chorus contestant briefing

The contest will be held on Saturday 26th October 2024.

Lanyards with an All Events pass MUST be WORN and visible at all times apart from when you are in the contest system.

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

All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

1. A list of your registered LABBS members will be sent to you 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 members who are not listed, along with their membership number.
 - a. Additionally, you will need to declare how many of your singers are first-timers on the singing list (in any contest arranged by a recognised barbershop organisation).
2. This list must be handed to LABBS Reception staff (**not** to the Administrative Judges), before 08:30 am on the day of the contest (i.e. anytime on Friday 25th October 2024 or early on Saturday 26th October 2024). Any last-minute changes must be reported to the Administrative Judges table as soon as possible prior to performance.
3. There will be no chorus stage time prior to the competition, however, you may send representatives to be part of the sound check chorus. The sound check takes place on the Thursday evening. Details are available on the LABBS Website.
4. Should you require special equipment on the risers (e.g. chairs) please email Donn Roberts at stagemanager@labbs.org.uk in advance.
5. Dressing Areas will be in Solent Hall and clearly marked. 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 the female dressing areas at any time.
 - b. Choruses are responsible for bringing their own dress rails.
 - c. You will need to remove your dress rails by the time your chorus should be out of the assigned dressing area. You could take them to the cloakroom (£2 per item).
 - d. **ALL BELONGINGS AND DRESS RAILS MUST BE REMOVED FROM SOLENT HALL IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.**

- e. Competitors are advised not to bring valuable items to the Convention Centre, and they remain the responsibility of the owner at all times; they should not be left unattended in the dressing areas, nor placed in handbags that are left with the couriers.
 - f. No water will be provided in the dressing rooms, please bring your own prefilled reusable water bottle, which should be named or otherwise identifiable.
 - g. The changing facility for male MDs will be in the Solent Lounge and will be clearly marked. Once changed, male MDs should meet their chorus by the warm-up rooms.
6. Contestants should be considerate of others whilst in the dressing areas and only use them at the time indicated on the timetable. Please leave the dressing area in full stage attire (including shoes), carrying no more than a small handbag and a filled, identifiable reusable water bottle, if needed. Handbags must be **small and light** and should only contain essential, non-valuable items. These will be collected prior to the performance on exit from the warm-up room and returned afterwards.

PLEASE MAKE ALL YOUR MEMBERS FULLY AWARE OF THE STRICT BAN ON AEROSOLS/PERFUMES/HAIRSPRAY ANYWHERE IN THE CONVENTION CENTRE, TO AVOID ANYONE BEING ESCORTED OUT! PHOTOS ANYWHERE IN THE DRESSING ROOM IS ALSO NOT ALLOWED. (See details on the info page of the convention mini-website).

- 7. Contestants who do not wish to use their allocated dressing area must be available for collection from that location, at the time specified on the chorus competition timetable.
 - 8. A courier will collect contestants from their dressing area, escort them to their warm-up room and from there into the holding area for the stage. After the performance, a courier will escort contestants back to their dressing area.
 - 9. Warm-up Rooms are: A – Branksome, B – Meyrick, C – Westbourne. Risers will not be provided, but there will be a podium for the MD. **NO** water will be provided in the warm-up rooms, please bring your own if needed in a pre-filled, identifiable, reusable water bottle.
10. **Stage**
- a. There will be no curtains.
 - b. Twelve four-step risers with back and side rails.
 - c. Foldback speakers are being used.
 - d. The centre of the stage will be clearly marked.
 - (1) Competitors will enter stage LEFT and leave stage RIGHT.
 - (2) Only the chorus and its director will be allowed on to 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 competitor is announced by the MC.
 - e. 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, then introduce the competitor using the following phrases:

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

- f. Please be aware that the panel judges will be sat in one row with a row of shadow judges behind.
 - g. Mic-warmer 1 must stop at the end of their first song and await confirmation from the Panel Chair before continuing. The Stage Manager will inform the MD of mic-warmer 2 whether or not the chorus is required to stop after their first song, as instructed by the Panel Chair.
 - h. 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 either at the start or between songs.
 - i. Official photographs will be taken during the performance.
 - j. Chorus MDs are requested to keep acceptance of applause to a courteous minimum.
 - k. 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.
 - l. At the end of the performance please exit stage right.
 - m. 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.
11. 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 Panel Chair in accordance with Article XIV of the competition rules.
 12. Competitors and members of the audience should not engage the judges (including shadow judges) in conversation whilst they are seated at the judging table.
 13. The awards ceremony will take place following the mic-coolers' performances on Saturday. Presentations will be made on stage, then photographs will be taken immediately on stage.
 14. Trophy winners are reminded that they are liable for any engraving costs. Please ensure that you collect the trophy box from the Administrative Judges. It is your responsibility to ensure that any trophy awarded is returned the following year, cleaned and with the original box, to the Administrative Judges.
 15. Unfortunately, due to time constraints, the winning chorus will not be asked to perform an acceptance song. However, they will be performing in the Saturday evening show. The silver and bronze choruses are invited to perform in the Celebration Song Spot - 2024 in the Foyer on Saturday night after the show.

16. From Convention 2024, there will be no printed copies of scores. All scores will be loaded onto the LABBS Website as soon as possible after the Contest. Please do **not** approach the Administrative Judging table for these. Access to your performance recordings will be sent by email.
17. **Written evaluations** will be emailed to the email contact for evals supplied on your contest entry form. All competitors will receive their written eval on **Sunday 17th November** and competitors are requested not to contact any judge other than the one providing the evaluation. If you have not received your evaluation by Monday 18th November, and you've checked your spam folder, please contact the Education Director on educationdirector@labbs.org.uk.

If you selected to have a virtual evaluation, a member of the judging panel will be in touch to organise this at a mutually convenient time.