

Illinois District Quartet and International Pre-Lim Quartet Contests

**To be held in Bloomington/Normal on September 19th thru the 21st
Talk to your fellow quartet members and enter our fall contests now.
The CJ-20 System is up and running and waiting for your entries.**

This September 19-21, 2014, we, the Illinois District, will be conducting all but one of our annual chorus and quartet contests during a single convention. This will be our first convention that falls under our new, one convention per year format. This major change in our contest and convention format was approved at our 2014 Spring HOD Meeting. The only exception will be our ILL District High School Quartet Contest. That contest will still be held in the spring at an ILL District Spring Event to be announced later.

The CJ-20 system is up and running and I encourage all ILL District quartets to enter now. The contests will start on Friday evening, September 19, 2014. The 2nd quartet round will start on Saturday early afternoon or late morning. The chorus contest will be on Saturday evening.

Here is the list of quartet contests that will be part of our Fall, 2014 "Annual Convention":

1. International Quartet Pre-Lim (2 rounds)
2. International Senior Quartet Pre-Lim (1 round on Friday)
3. International Collegiate Quartet Pre-Lim (1 round on Saturday)
4. ILL District Quartet Champion (2 rounds)
5. ILL District Senior Quartet Champion (1 round on Friday)
6. ILL District Collegiate Quartet Champion (1 round on Saturday)
7. ILL District Novice Quartet Champion (1 round on Friday)

There are many rules that apply to our quartet contests. There is one very important rule that applies to International and International Pre-Lim Contests that does not apply to District Quartet contests:

For **each** of the International Quartet contests; International Quartet, International Senior Quartet and International Collegiate contests **including** the associated International Pre-Lim contests, an individual BHS member may only compete in one quartet.

For example, let's look at the International Senior Quartet Pre-Lim. I am the baritone of "Chicago Times". If I am also a member of another senior quartet let's say called "Four Guys" (any voice part), only one of those quartets may enter the International Senior Quartet Pre-Lim because I am a member of both quartets. Since both of those quartets are also qualified to enter the regular International Quartet Pre-Lim, again, only one of those two quartets is allowed to enter that contest.

This rule does not apply to District Contests. Both of the above quartets are allowed to enter the Illinois District Quartet Contest and "Four Guys" could also enter the Illinois District Senior Quartet Contest (that since Chicago Times has already won the ILL District Senior Championship and is not eligible to enter that contest again). Remember, the rule applies separately to each of the 3 International Pre-Lim quartet contests; International Quartet Pre-Lim, International Senior Quartet Pre-Lim and International Collegiate Quartet Pre-Lim. A member may compete one time in any International Pre-Lim where he meets the qualifications of the contest. Obviously, no member of a Senior Quartet qualifies to be a member of a Collegiate Quartet and visa versa. However, all of our ILL District Senior Quartets and current Collegiate Quartets may also compete in the International Quartet Pre-Lim.

Here are how our three Fall Quartet Pre-Lim Contests will work:

1. The 2015 Illinois District International Senior Quartet Representative and the 2015 Illinois District International Collegiate Quartet Representative will be determined at our 2014 Illinois District Fall Convention Contest. Other ILL District Quartets may compete for “Wild Cards” at either our 2014 Fall Convention or by competing “Out-of-District” at another District’s Fall Pre-Lim Contest. To be allowed to compete Out-of-District, a quartet must receive the permission of the President and VP of Contest and Judging from both districts and this permission must be granted at least 30 days prior to the earlier of the two contests. **For this Fall, that critical approval date is August 20, 2014 or earlier.**
2. The Illinois District 2015 International Quartet Representative will be the highest scoring Illinois District Quartet competing at either our 2014 Illinois District International Quartet Pre-Lim Contest or competing “out-of-District” at another District’s 2014 Fall Convention. All existing Illinois District Quartets scoring 76 or higher (current level always subject to change), while competing at our 2014 Fall Convention or Out of District at another District’s Fall Convention will also qualify as a wild card. The same rules for permission to sing Out-of-District apply as explained in #1 above.
3. All Contest Rules are subject to change following final approval by the BHS International Board of Directors. Some additional rules are being or have been presented to the International BOD. When and if those changes are approved, I will send out another letter explaining the changes to you.

If you have any questions on any of this, email or call me.

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