

REGULATIONS

on the Procedure for Organizing and Holding the V.V. Rovdo International Competition for Choral Conductors

1. These Regulations define the procedure for organizing and holding the V.V. Rovdo International Competition for Choral Conductors (hereinafter referred to as the Competition, unless specified otherwise).

2. The purpose of the Competition is to support the creativity of young choral conductors, raise the level of their performance skills, enrich the national performing choral school with advanced international experience, improve modern education for choral conductors, and popularize choral art.

3. The Competition is open to choral conductors who are currently enrolled in secondary specialized or higher education programs, as well as graduates of educational institutions that implement secondary specialized or higher education programs, aged 18 to 27 inclusive as of the start date of the Competition (hereinafter referred to as the Contestants).

4. The organizers of the Competition are the Ministry of Culture and the educational institution "Belarusian State Academy of Music" (hereinafter referred to as the Organizers, unless specified otherwise).

5. The Competition is held once every four years. The Competition period is October–November. The specific dates of the Competition are determined by the Ministry of Culture.

6. Once every four years, no later than July 1, the Organizers shall post an announcement about the Competition on their official websites on the global computer network Internet (hereinafter referred to as the Official Websites), as well as in the mass media outlets selected by the Organizers. The announcement of the Competition contains the information provided for by Paragraph 4 of Article 927 of the Civil Code of the Republic of Belarus, as well as the email address to which materials specified in the first part of Paragraph 10 of these Regulations are to be sent, contact telephone numbers of the Competition Organizers, and other necessary information.

7. For the direct management of the organization and holding of the Competition, the Ministry of Culture shall establish a Competition Organizing Committee, which is formed from representatives of the Competition Organizers and other organizations (with their consent).

8. The Competition Organizing Committee shall:

Approve the composition of the Competition jury consisting of 5 members from among representatives of cultural organizations, educational institutions in the field of culture of the Republic of Belarus, and other representatives (with their consent);

Submit proposals for the expenditure budget for the organization and holding of the Competition to the Ministry of Culture for its subsequent approval;

Interact with interested subjects of cultural activity and other organizations regarding the organization, holding, and media coverage of the Competition;
Inform the Contestants about the results of their participation in the Competition;
Approve the program of the Competition;
Resolve other issues arising during the organization and holding of the Competition.

9. Meetings of the Competition Organizing Committee shall be considered competent if at least two-thirds of its members are present. Decisions of the Competition Organizing Committee are made by open vote and are considered adopted if voted for by more than half of the Organizing Committee members present at the meeting. In the event of a tie, the vote of the Chairman of the Organizing Committee shall be casting. Decisions of the Competition Organizing Committee are documented in minutes signed by the Chairman of the Organizing Committee.

10. To participate in the Competition, the Contestant shall send the following materials in Russian, Belarusian, or English to the email address within the deadlines determined by the Competition Organizers:

An application form for participation in the Competition in the format prescribed in the Appendix. For foreign contestants who do not speak Russian and/or Belarusian, the application form in English is posted separately on the official website of the Competition Organizer — the educational institution "Belarusian State Academy of Music";

A creative biography of the Contestant;

Two color photographs of the Contestant in JPEG format with a resolution of at least 600 dots per inch (dpi);

An unedited video recording of a competition performance with a choir, lasting from 3 to 7 minutes;

A letter of recommendation from the educational institution where the Contestant is currently studying.

The date of submission for the materials is determined by the timestamp of the sent email.

Materials submitted in violation of the requirements established in the first part of this Paragraph shall not be accepted for consideration by the Competition Organizing Committee.

11. The Competition consists of a preliminary qualifying round (by correspondence) and three in-person rounds.

12. In the preliminary qualifying round, the Competition jury shall:
Evaluate the Contestants' work with a choir by reviewing the video recordings submitted by the Contestants;
Decide on the admission of Contestants to the in-person rounds of the Competition.

13. The list of Contestants admitted to the in-person rounds of the Competition shall be published on the official website of the Competition

Organizer — the educational institution "Belarusian State Academy of Music."

An invitation to participate in the in-person rounds of the Competition shall be sent to the Contestants at the email address specified in their application form no later than two months before the starting date of the rounds.

14. During the in-person rounds, the Competition jury conducts public competitive auditions of the Contestants based on the following criteria:

Quality of auditory and intonational work with the choral ensemble;

Effectiveness of rehearsals with the choir;

Level of proficiency in manual conducting technique;

Accuracy in conveying the stylistic features of the performed works;

Artistic integrity of the concert performance;

Expressiveness and individuality of the performance.

The total score received by a Contestant is calculated as the average of the scores given by the individual members of the Competition jury.

15. In the first in-person round of the Competition, Contestants demonstrate a competition performance with a choir on one piece of the Contestant's choice. The time allowed for rehearsal work on the piece in the first in-person round is up to 15 minutes.

"The order of performances of the Contestants in the first in-person round of the Competition is determined by drawing lots and is maintained until the end of the Competition.

16. In the second in-person round of the Competition, the Contestants demonstrate a competition performance with a choir on two pieces. The time allowed for rehearsal work on the two pieces is up to 20 minutes.

The pieces are selected by drawing lots from the program of the second in-person round of the Competition upon the conclusion of the first in-person round of the Competition.

The number of participants in the second in-person round of the Competition is determined by the decision of the Competition jury, but shall not exceed half of the number of participants in the first in-person round of the Competition.

17. The third in-person round of the Competition is the final round and is held in the form of a concert.

No more than six participants from the second in-person round of the Competition shall be admitted to the third in-person round of the Competition.

On the day of the third in-person round, each Contestant is granted 30 minutes of rehearsal time with the choir on two pieces without the presence of the Competition jury.

The first piece for the rehearsal work in the third in-person round of the Competition is selected by the Contestant from among the pieces performed in the first or second in-person rounds of the Competition.

The second piece is selected by the Contestant by drawing lots from the

program of the third in-person round of the Competition upon the conclusion of the second in-person round of the Competition.

Based on the results of the third in-person round of the Competition, the Competition jury determines the winners of the Competition.

18. The replacement of pieces declared in the Competition program is not permitted.

The Contestant's work with the choir in all in-person rounds of the Competition may be carried out using sheet music scores.

19. The Competition jury shall:

Evaluate the work of the Contestants in the preliminary and in-person rounds of the Competition on a 100-point scale according to the criteria specified in the first part of Paragraph 14 of these Regulations;

Determine the Contestants eligible to participate in the next round of the Competition;

Determine the winners, diploma winners, and certificate recipients of the Competition, and submit their list to the Competition Organizing Committee for awarding.

20. The evaluation of results for each subsequent round of the Competition is carried out by the Competition jury without taking into account the results of the previous rounds of the Competition.

21. A member of the Competition jury who has a relationship with a Contestant (is a close relative, an in-law, or the person who trained/prepared the Contestant) shall not participate in the evaluation of that Contestant's performance.

22. Decisions of the competition jury shall be adopted at its meetings, documented in minutes, and signed by the chairperson and members of the competition jury present at the meeting.

The competition jury shall have a quorum to make decisions if at least two-thirds of the competition jury members, including its chairperson, are present at the meeting.

Decisions of the competition jury regarding the results of the competition shall be announced on the final day of the competition.

23. Competition winners shall be awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree diplomas and granted the title of Competition Laureate. Competition winners shall be awarded cash prizes in Belarusian rubles based on the base value amount established at the time of payment, in the following amounts:

1st prize — 230 base values;

2nd prize — 115 base values;

3rd prize — 75 base values.

24. Within the limits of the competition prize fund provided for in part two of paragraph 23 of these Regulations, the competition jury may choose not to award all diplomas and prizes, or may award several 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree diplomas, dividing the prizes in equal shares among the laureates

holding these diplomas.

25. Competitors of the third on-site (in-person) round of the competition who have not been awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree diplomas and the title of Competition Laureate shall be awarded diplomas and granted the title of Competition Diplomate.

26. Competition diplomates shall be awarded consolation prizes in the amount of 23 base values each.

27. Competitors who have not been awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree diplomas and the title of Competition Laureate, or diplomas and the title of Competition Diplomate, may, by decision of the competition jury, be awarded Certificates of Participation.

28. Based on the results of the competition, individuals who prepared the competitors—specifically the competition winners awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree diplomas and granted the title of Competition Laureate—may, by decision of the competition jury, be presented with certificates of appreciation.

29. The awarding ceremony for the competition winners, other competitors, and the individuals who prepared the competitors shall take place on the final day of the competition in a festive setting.

30. The final results of the competition shall be published on the official website of the competition organizer — the educational institution "Belarusian State Academy of Music".

31. Materials of the competition winners obtained during the competition (video materials, photographs of competition performances, interviews with competitors, and others) may be used by the competition organizers for the purpose of advertising the competition and conducting career guidance work with prospective applicants of the educational institution "Belarusian State Academy of Music" on the basis of agreements on the assignment of exclusive rights, concluded on a gratuitous (free of charge) basis by the educational institution "Belarusian State Academy of Music" with the competition winners.

32. Travel, accommodation, and meal expenses of the competitors and their accompanying persons shall be covered by the competitors, their accompanying persons, and/or the sending organization.

33. Financing of expenses related to the organization and holding of the competition shall be carried out within the limits of the republican budget funds provided to the Ministry of Culture for holding centralized cultural events (competition cash prizes, organization of the competition jury's work, including travel, accommodation, meals, transfers, and payment of remuneration to the competition jury members, production and/or acquisition of diplomas, certificates, printed and floral products, and the organization of the competition's advertising campaign), as well as from other sources not prohibited by law, in accordance with the expense estimate for the organization and holding of the competition specified in paragraph three of clause 8 of these Regulations.

For the purposes of these Regulations, the terms "close relatives" and "in-laws" shall be used in the meanings defined in paragraphs ten and eleven of Article 1 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus dated July 15, 2015, No. 305-Z "On Combating Corruption".