

Rules Governing All MCMTA Events

The following rules apply to all MCMTA events. Adherence will avoid any misunderstanding, and/or the disappointment from having students disqualified from participating in an event.

A student is not considered enrolled in an event unless the application is complete, legible, and on time. Otherwise applications will be returned and deadlines will still be enforced.

Specific rules that are applicable to individual events can be found on the application.

General

1. Presenting teachers must be members in good standing of MCMTA, MSTA, and MTNA as of 30 days prior to the event deadline.
2. Students must have studied with the presenting teacher for at least six months preceding the event.
3. All piano competitions, and judged recitals are restricted to teachers who live in Montgomery County and maintain studios in Montgomery County. Competitions for instruments other than piano are open to teachers in the District of Columbia and Maryland, regardless of residence or location of studio.
4. It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure that students and parents are apprised of all of the rules and decorum of the event. Matters such as proper attire and recital etiquette should be discussed before filing an application.
5. **Teachers of students participating in events are expected to assist with the event. If there is an unavoidable conflict, it is the teacher's responsibility to contact the chairman of the event to arrange for alternate service. Failure to do so will result in disqualification of the teacher to present students in any MCMTA activities in 2009-2010.**
6. Teachers should advise parents that no video cameras using artificial light, or cameras using flash equipment will be permitted during a performance.
7. All participants in MCMTA judged events, and their parents, should be advised that the decision of the judges is final and not subject to question or protest. Further, judges have the prerogative to declare no winner, alternates, or honorable mention, if they so deem.
8. Negative discussions about the event procedures or disputes with the chair during MCMTA events are unacceptable.

9. To avoid any perception of unfairness, the following rules apply to all competitive events:
- a. Teachers may not sit with, or identify in any way, their students in the presence of judges.
 - b. Students, parents, and teachers must not engage the judges in conversation until decisions have been announced.
 - c. Only the chair may know the identity of teachers and students. Teachers may not judge in any competitive event in which their student is participating. The monitors will refer to competitors only by program numbers.

Repertoire

1. In competitive events, no repertoire changes may be made after the entry deadline. Students who fail to perform the submitted repertoire will be disqualified.
2. The Chair has the right to refuse inappropriate repertoire. Except in the case of Elementary Recitals, no simplified arrangements of standard repertoire are permitted.
3. In all solo piano events, works must be performed from memory.
4. Students must bring one original score of each work to be presented to the judges. No photocopied music **without written permission from the publisher will be allowed.**

Application Procedures

1. Applications and checks must be made out by MCMTA teacher. One check, covering all students' entries should be made out to MCMTA.
2. All information must be typed or printed legibly.
3. Specific information including key, opus number, and movement of presented works must be included.
4. Teachers should photocopy the needed applications and retain the original for their records. *No substitute forms will be accepted.*
5. *Entries postmarked after the deadline will not be accepted.*
6. No refund of entry fees is available should a student fail to participate in an event for any reason.