

Rules Governing All MCMTA Events

The following rules apply to all MCMTA events. Adherence will avoid any misunderstanding, and/or the disappointment of 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.

All event participants, including members, teachers, students, judges, organizers and observers, are required to adhere to all rules of MCMTA regarding events, behave in a professional manner, and always exhibit appropriate decorum. Any violation of the rules, or any disruptive, abusive or unprofessional demeanor, subjects the person to any disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from MCMTA membership and events. The Chair will report situations and persons involved to the Board of MCMTA for disciplinary decisions.

General

1. Presenting teachers must be members in good standing of MCMTA, MSMTA, and MTNA as of 30 days prior to the registration deadline.
2. Students must have studied with the presenting teacher for at least six months preceding the event. Exceptions to this could be made for transfer students, however, a letter of consent must be obtained from the previous teacher.
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 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 for one year.** Please follow the volunteer policy set forth in Section 3 of the MCMTA General Policies and Procedures.
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. Critical comments or judgments on students' playing are limited to official judges for the event.
10. 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.
11. In the case of disputes regarding MCMTA events, MCMTA will follow MSMTA guidelines for resolution.
12. Only students with legal music scores or proof of online purchase will be eligible for prizes and awards. Critique sheets and/or certificates may be given, however, the students may not use their documentation towards the Outstanding Music Achievement Award (MCMTA) or its corresponding points towards the Distinguished Music Achievement Award (MSMTA).
13. Students who are tardy to judged/competitive events will not be eligible for prizes and awards. Critique sheets and/or certificates may be given, however, the students may not use their documentation towards the Outstanding Music Achievement Award (MCMTA) or its corresponding points towards the Distinguished Music Achievement Award (MSMTA).

Repertoire

1. In all events, no repertoire changes, including the removal of repertoire when more than one piece is submitted, 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 except for non-critiqued events, or events where memorization is not specified.
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 the MCMTA teacher. One check, covering all students' entries should be made out to MCMTA.
2. After the registration deadline, no refund of entry fees will be given should a student and/or teacher decide to not participate in an event for ANY reason. Failure to pay the registration fee will result in the ineligibility of the teacher to participate in that event for one year hence.
3. *Entries postmarked after the deadline will not be accepted.*
4. If an application is downloaded and printed, all information must be typed or printed legibly.
5. Specific information including key, opus number, and movement of presented works must be included.
6. Teachers should copy the needed applications and retain the original for their records.
No substitute forms will be accepted.