

# MTVA JUDGING PROCEDURES

Please take time to look over these procedures for judging. Any questions can be directed to the lead judges in your room for clarification.

ASSIGNMENTS FOR THIS YEAR'S AUDITIONS WILL BE POSTED ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 on the MTVA website, [www.mtva.org](http://www.mtva.org).

## JUDGES' MEETING

Prior to the beginning of auditions this year, we will be having a meeting for all participating directors. Terry Sanford will be with us to discuss the new score sheets/system and will give us some words of wisdom regarding challenges that have been encountered in other regions when using this system. Hopefully, this will help us avoid any similar situations. **ALL PARTICIPATING DIRECTORS SHOULD BE PRESENT AT RIVERDALE HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE MEETING NO LATER THAN 4:00 p.m.** We plan to begin auditions by 4:30 p.m. this year to allow more time for students on Friday earlier in the afternoon. **DO NOT BE LATE!** Every year, it seems that one director per room holds up the beginning of the process. Please make arrangements to leave your school at whatever time is necessary to allow for traffic and unexpected delays. We owe it to our students and ourselves to be prompt and professional!

## CATEGORY WEIGHTS

The judging categories and how they are weighted -  
Pitch = 24%, Tone = 21%, Rhythm = 19%, Technical Accuracy = 13%, Diction = 12%, Musicality = 11%

## CONSISTENCY

**MAINTAINING CONSISTENCY IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF YOUR SCORING. SCORE EVERY STUDENT FROM BEGINNING TO END WITH THE EXACT SAME STANDARD.**

**JUDGES SHOULD ASSIGN THEMSELVES NUMBERS 1-5, IN ORDER OF SEATING. EACH JUDGE SHOULD KEEP THE SAME NUMBER THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS AND SHOULD WRITE HIS/HER NUMBER IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER OF EACH SCORE SHEET FOR EACH STUDENT.**

Avoid the tendency to favor bigger over smaller voices or vice-versa. Listen for healthy, beautiful, prepared voices of all shapes and sizes. Judge the AUDITION, not just the voice. **MAKE SURE THE SINGERS ARE PREPARED!**

Discussion or other forms of communication in the room that could be construed as **an attempt to promote an opinion on any singers is inappropriate**. This can also undermine the consistency in standard issue, especially if it is done somewhere in the middle of the process. Resist the urge to second-guess your standard once into the process.



# JUDGE'S ROOM BEHAVIOR

**\*\*\*ALL JUDGES MUST STAY AT THE AUDITION SITE UNTIL THEIR PARTICULAR ROOMS HAVE CHECKED OUT IN THE TALLY ROOM FOR ACCURACY. DO NOT LEAVE THE BUILDING EITHER DAY UNTIL YOU HAVE BEEN RELEASED. IT IS THE LEAD JUDGE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK WITH THE TALLY ROOM REGARDING THIS MATTER.**

**\*\*\*ALL PARTICIPATING DIRECTORS ARE REQUIRED TO WORK BOTH DAYS OF AUDITIONS, UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THE EVENT. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN YOUR STUDENTS BEING DISQUALIFIED.**

\*\*\*There should be no competing media during an audition, including headphones, ipods, cell phones, computers, etc. All students deserve your full attention!

**\*\*\*. *Put yourself in the place of the students auditioning -- and when in doubt, Don't!***

**\*\*\*\*PLEASE WORK HARD TO MAINTAIN THE ANONYMITY OF ALL STUDENTS. DO NOT ANNOUNCE WHICH SCHOOL A STUDENT IS FROM, OR IF A STUDENT AUDITIONING IS YOURS. KEEP THE PROCESS OBJECTIVE AND PROFESSIONAL!**

\*\*\*\*Take the process seriously. Extraneous noise, including but not limited to talking, laughing, cell phones - are prohibited.

**\*\*\*\*PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: *Parents should NEVER be directed to MTVA officers or other members. We are an association of professionals, and all questions or grievances are to be brought by association members to the officers.***

**\*\*\*\*Please be on time!**

**\*\*\*\*Please be patient! Countless hours on the parts of many have gone into making this event happen.**

**\*\*\*\*Please try to remember that it IS MORE IMPORTANT THAT WE DO THIS RIGHT THAN THAT WE DO THIS QUICKLY.**

**Finally, thank you all so very much for your cooperation and hard work this year! I appreciate you!**