

QUARTET OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA

UNIT SOUND (0-70 points)

ARTISTIC SOUND (0-30 points)

VOCAL SKILLS

- Posture
- Breathing
- Phonation
- Resonation
- Articulation

ACCURACY

- Notes — some performance errors
- Intervals
- Chords
- Tuning/Intonation
- Section/Part Accuracy
- Synchronization

- Energized Vocal line
- Tone Flow
- Dynamic Flexibility
- Vocal Style

BARBERSHOP BLEND

- Tone Production
- Vowel Production

> need a more common approach for greater harmony accuracy

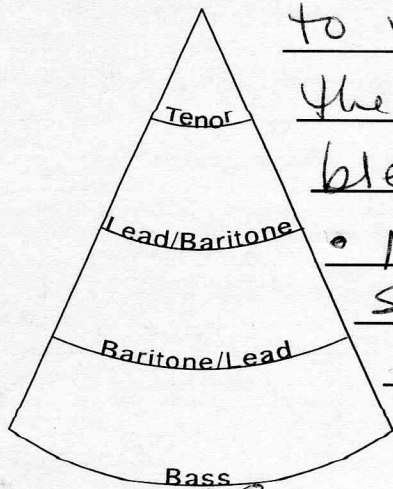
BARBERSHOP BALANCE

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Some really good singers here! Your educational efforts are paying off. A few thoughts:

• Breath management is an issue at all levels — either a deficit of air at lower levels, or manipulating air for dynamic variance or characterization at higher levels.

• Need a higher degree of common approach to vocal production — making sound the same way, together — for greater blend, unity, + harmony accuracy.



• Need more education on picking songs that showcase the best of singers' voices.

• Greater + more instant interval accuracy for better tuning + ring.

Judge B Smith

QUARTET OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA

SONG & ARRANGEMENT (0-30 points)

- Merit as Barbershop Material
- Form/Melody/Lyrics
- Arrangement
- Harmonization
- Voicing

overall good barbershop choices

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)

- Vocal Skills *more basic work needed*
- Harmony Accuracy *better chord accuracy needed*
- Barbershop Style
- Tempo *good understanding*
- Rhythm
- Musical Unity *attention needed*
- Phrasing *good planning*
- Dynamics
- Musical Energy
- Musical Artistry

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

The contestants chose good barbershop music. The arrangements usually matched their vocal skills. Of course the vocal skills need strengthening particularly breath management which would increase their frequency of harmony accuracy and thus improve their scores. Encourage quartets (particularly new quartets) to take a pitch to establish a firm tonal center to start the song. The quartets all exhibited a good understanding of the elements of barbershop style. Quartets could be encouraged to perform more frequently in public to increase their confidence level. We'd love to see double the number of quartets in the contest next year. Only one quartet will win 1st place but EVERY QUARTET can experience the fun of performing for the enthusiastic regional audience!

SUITABILITY TO PERFORMER
Song 1

Song 2

Thanks for a great evening!

Judge Ann Good

QUARTET OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA

(0-100 points)

TECHNICAL ELEMENTS

- Vocal Skills
- Synchronization/Unity
- Word Delivery
 - Vowels
 - Diphthongs
 - Consonants
 - Enunciation
- Musicality

It was a joy to be back in Region 6! Thank you all for the warm welcome and the opportunity to experience all of your performances. I hope to visit again soon!

ARTISTIC INTERPRETIVE PLAN

- Lyric Flow
- Phrasing
- Forward Motion
- Embellishments
- Dynamics
- Tempo/Rhythmic Elements
- Inflection
- Energy
- Finesse and Artistry
- Characterization
- Emotional Communication

Breathing with a purpose will enhance all story telling and artistic delivery of all of your performances.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Vocal skills in the B levels are basically solid, and much more refined at high B and B+ levels. E levels need some work on showing up those vocal skills to move to the higher levels. Most quartets have worked on vowel match to a certain degree. Many need more attention to detail on diphthongs - 1st by adding the secondary vowel, and then by giving it more attention and duration. Most all quartets had phrasing plans that worked well for them and for their music. All could explore more use of embellishments and inflections to enhance their artistic plans. Tempos were mostly well done, but everyone would benefit from a better understanding of pulse. There was a good amount of energy from most groups - a few could add more energy, and only a couple of groups let their energy get away from them. Characterization was only achieved by a couple of your top groups creating more emotional communication with your audience. Some had glimpses of character and all could benefit from a better understanding of how to achieve in the areas of finesse and artistry.

QUARTET OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)

COMMUNICATION OF THE VISUAL AND MUSICAL PRODUCT

Vocal Skills *Lots of excellent work in the area of vocal skills evident in this contest.*

Energy

Poise and Command

Entrance/break/exit

Characterization

Physical Expression

Choreography *→ plans were mostly minimal + appropriate*

Unity

Audience Rapport

Pitch pipe technique *Timing of pitch was done well and some good mood setting evident.*

Posture

PREPARATION (0-30 points)

VISUAL PLAN

Entrance/break/exit *walk ons + transitions all planned + rehearsed and contributed to overall seamless performances.*

Costume

Makeup/Grooming *Mostly well executed*

Choreography + Stage work *worthy looks with few needing more vibrant colors for the stage lights.*

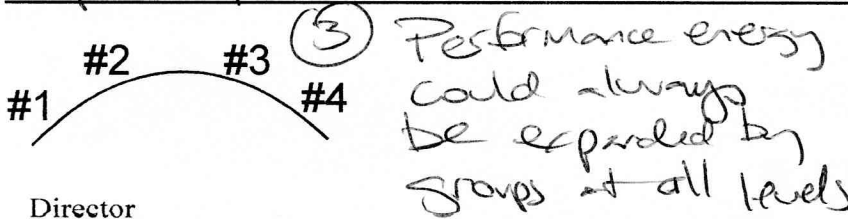
Creativity

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 _____ SONG #2 _____

① A deeper exploration into characterization and how the story telling is also enhanced by the infusion of natural physical movement could be the focus of some education for the region. In an effort to have freedom and "ease" and tension-free performance, sometimes replaced with very still physical expression.

② Clarifying focal points for quartets will assist many groups as they looked at different spots and not as impactful presentation resulted.



③ Performance energy could always be expanded by groups at all levels

SCORING LEVELS (for one song)	
94 - 100	A+
86 - 93	A
80 - 85	A-
74 - 79	B+
66 - 73	B
60 - 65	B-
54 - 59	C+
46 - 53	C
40 - 45	C-
34 - 39	D+
26 - 33	D
20 - 25	D-
0 - 19	F

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

score song 1

score song 2

BONUS POINTS

TOTAL SCORE

Judge J.F.T.

CHORUS OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA

UNIT SOUND (0-70 points)

0 = Work areas

many glimpses

ARTISTIC SOUND (0-30 points)

- VOCAL SKILLS
- Posture
- Breathing
- Phonation
- Resonation
- Articulation

- ACCURACY
- Notes
- Intervals
- Chords
- Tuning/Intonation
- Section/Part Accuracy
- Synchronization

- Energized Vocal line
- Tone Flow
- Dynamic Flexibility
- Vocal Style — LOTS!

BARBERSHOP BLEND

Tone Production — Explore resonance + round out harsh tones

Vowel Production

BARBERSHOP BALANCE

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

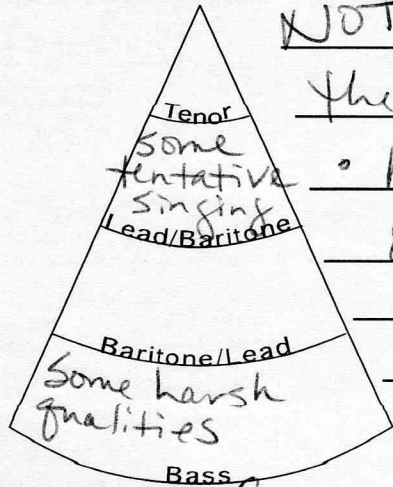
Wow, there's lots of good stuff happening here!

A few thoughts —

- Many smaller Choruses not starting with confidence, or swing best full sound for the end. There were a couple where it wasn't always clear what the melody was. We want to hear all your voice, all the time!
- A couple of music choices that were absolutely

NOT suited to either the skill level or the voices.

• Many fearless singers onstage today — yay!



Judge B Smith

CHORUS OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA

SONG & ARRANGEMENT (0-30 points)

Merit as Barbershop Material yes
 Form/Melody/Lyrics good songs
 Arrangement good choices
 Harmonization
 Voicing

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)

Vocal Skills both high & low
 Harmony Accuracy an issue for many
 Barbershop Style understood by all
 Tempo
 Rhythm
 Musical Unity often a
 Phrasing synchroization
 Dynamics use greater variety
 Musical Energy
 Musical Artistry

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Overall the musical choices were good - almost all chose music that was suitable to their vocal skill level. Great!
All chose real barbershop contest vehicles -
Starting with a solid secure tonal center could result in clearer accuracy and higher scores
Lower scoring choruses need to make sure that every singer can sing all of the right notes before performing the songs
mid scoring choruses need to develop more breath management techniques to control excess "break" breaths which is causing synchroization issues
of course obvious advice is for chorus members to carefully watch their Directors to create greater togetherness and better harmony
It was my pleasure to hear your music and to briefly be a ^{accuracy} part of the history of Region #6. Thanks!

SUITABILITY TO PERFORMER

Song 1

Song 2

Judge [Signature]

CHORUS OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA

(0-100 points)

TECHNICAL ELEMENTS

- Vocal Skills
- Synchronization/Unity
- Word Delivery
 - Vowels
 - Diphthongs
 - Consonants
 - Enunciation
- Musicality

Such an enjoyable contest to attend and judge! Keep working to improve all aspects of your performances. There is so much potential!

ARTISTIC INTERPRETIVE PLAN

- Lyric Flow
- Phrasing
- Forward Motion
- Embellishments
- Dynamics
- Tempo/Rhythmic Elements
- Inflection
- Energy
- Finesse and Artistry
- Characterization
- Emotional Communication

Breathing with purpose is something that only the highest levels achieve, but all could benefit from an understanding of this technique!

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Many of your region's choruses could benefit from the expertise of your highest level groups. Many groups need extra work on vocal skills and the basic technical elements of the Expression Category. Even with the large range of levels represented here today, every group should be proud of the fact that the attempts at artistry at every level was commendable and rewarded! Once all of the artistic elements can be tied to the story to enhance the emotional communication of every song, all performers will become more successful! Dynamics are a great start. Choose dynamics based on the story and how to tell a more compelling narrative, rather than just deciding to be loud here and soft there for no apparent reason. Also, creating a more conversational phrasing plan is a must. Start with these two areas and then add others one by one to move everyone to a higher level.

Judge Annette Wallace

CHORUS OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)
COMMUNICATION OF THE VISUAL AND MUSICAL PRODUCT

- Vocal Skills
- Energy
- Poise and Command
- Entrance/break/exit
- Characterization
- Physical Expression
- Choreography
- Unity
- Audience Rapport
- Pitch pipe technique
- Posture

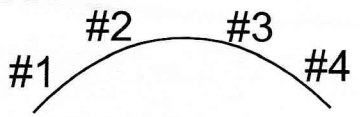
PREPARATION (0-30 points)
VISUAL PLAN

- Entrance/break/exit: *Many appropriate ^{costuming choices} that worked for stage!*
- Costume
- Makeup/Grooming: *Many did not have vibrant lip color, + some faded + unmatched.*
- Choreography
- Creativity: *This is a tool to assist in unit, as well ensuring the work in facial expressions is visible! Lights are bright.*

Attention to alignment is warranted for many.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- So many engaging performances and clear that efforts being made for individual "sell" and engagement. Clarifying details re: characterization needed by a number of ensembles for greater unit presentation.
- Choreography plans are mostly appropriate and creative! Personality of choruses are shining through.
- Good work in the area of vocal skills is evident in the higher scoring groups. Well done! Continue to focus efforts here for the lower scoring ensembles.
- Freer natural physicality to be encouraged and explored in many levels, to have maximum impact and enhance the music.
- Directors ⇒ Strong leadership evident in Region 6!



Judge