

RULES FOR THE JURY

Performances are open to the public and take place on an open stage without curtains. Talking in the hall during performances is not allowed. A performance shall not be terminated by the jury, unless the defined **overall playing time** is exceeded significantly.

Jury conferences take place in a dedicated room away from the performance hall. Jury conferences shall be restricted to the chairperson, members of the jury, and potentially also to members of the executive committee. In addition, representatives of the executive committee and the organisation committee of the competition may attend these performances but shall not be entitled to assign points or vote.

The **members of the jury** shall be committed to be present during all competition performances and to take part in all jury conferences, and to be available for feedback and coaching for the participants during the time of their presence in Graz as stipulated in their agreements. Members of the jury are not allowed to have any contact with participants while the latter are still in the competition. If participants bring forward any **requests or complaints** to a jury member, these matters shall be referred to the management of the competition or the chairperson of the jury.

Current students of jury members are **not allowed** to participate in the competition. If participants were students of jury members within a period of up to two years prior to the competition, or in any other potential case of partiality, the corresponding jury member shall not take part in the evaluation of the candidate in question. In such cases, the jury member is nevertheless requested to hand in a signed, but otherwise blank, evaluation form.

The participants shall be informed of the **results** at the end of the corresponding round. Only the chairperson of the jury is authorised to do this.

EVALUATION

Every round shall be judged individually. For the evaluation by ranking in the final the performance of the previous rounds shall be considered.

Evaluation shall be according to the following criteria:

Musical presentation

Technical skills

Artistic personality

Programme composition

1st round

The evaluation is based on a **points system** with a scale ranging from **0 to 25**. Only whole points can be awarded. The point score must be written on the evaluation form, along with a short written elaboration according to the evaluation criteria above.

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In order to progress from the first to the second round, participants must get an **average score** of at least 18 points. However, jury members should be aware that a maximum of 25 points can be awarded for exceptional performances. Giving a broad range of points beyond 20, facilitates decisions later on.

The number of participants entitled to progress from the first to second round shall be limited to a maximum of **8 cellists** (age group I) / **15 cellists** (age group II & III), i.e. if there are more than 8/15 cellists with a score exceeding 18 points after the second round, those 8/15 cellists with the highest scores shall progress. In the event of a tie for 8th/15th place, the jury shall reach a majority decision on which of the tied participants shall enter the second round. If it is not possible to decide by majority, the chairperson shall have the casting vote.

2nd round

Age group I: The evaluation follows the same rules as in the first round. The result of this evaluation is relevant for the awarding of the prizes. If participants reach equal points, the discussion of the jury is the decisive factor.

Age group II & III: The evaluation follows the same rules as in the first round. The number of participants, who will get from the second round to the finals, is limited to a **maximum of 6 cellists**, i.e. if there are more than 6 cellists who have gained more than 18 points after the second round, those 6 with the highest score will progress to the next round. In the event of a tie for 6th place, the jury shall reach a majority decision on who of the tied cellists shall enter the final. If it is not possible to decide by majority, the chairperson shall have the casting vote.

Final (relevant for age group II & III)

In the final round, evaluation follows the same rules as in the first and second round. The result of this evaluation is relevant for the awarding of the prizes. If participants reach equal points, the discussion of the jury is the decisive factor.

The **evaluation sheets** shall always be handed over to a representative of the competition office at the end of the day. Once the competition has been concluded, the Competition Office shall keep the evaluation forms under lock and key. They can only be made available to the responsible members of the organisation committee and the chairperson of the jury.

Awards

Prizes to be awarded by the jury: 1st prize, 2nd prize, 3rd prize and, independently from these prizes 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize for audience engagement. All prizes shall be given and no prizes are divisible.

Graz, November 2019

The Competition Management

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