

## ARTICLE XXX Musical Theatre

### Section 1. Entries.

Clause 1. Each school will be entitled to enter three Musical Theatre groups in the District Contest.

Clause 2. The cast of Musical Theatre will consist of between two and eight students.

### Section 2. Selections/Materials.

Clause 1. A member school will not use material in this area which is identical to that used in other large group events.

Clause 2. Each school will be responsible for securing performance rights.

(See Royalties, Page 13.)

**ROYALTIES.** It is the duty and responsibility of the director to secure appropriate production rights for all Musical Theatre selections presented in contest productions, and is required whether or not admission is assessed. Performance permission for productions (as in the case of a school musical) is not license for using copyrighted musical material in portions or totally in contest presentation.

**Section 3. Length.** The length of the performance will be limited to 10 minutes.

### Section 4. Preparation and Presentation.

Clause 1. The Musical Theatre performance will be given in a normal classroom. Nine uniform chairs and a table will be supplied. Contestants may use the table or a platform and nine uniform chairs provided or furnish their own.

Clause 2. Students must not costume. The students must wear shoes during the performance. They may, however, adjust normal wearing apparel to enhance characterization (i.e. straightening tie, pushing glasses down on nose). Students may not use wearing apparel as a property (i.e. removing it and placing it somewhere in the room). Properties (other than nine chairs and a table) will not be used.

Clause 3. The contestants will utilize the skills of acting and singing, and/or dancing. All lines/songs must be memorized.

Clause 4. The actor(s) may introduce the selection. This will be included as part of the performance time.

Clause 5. The actors must remain in the performance area at all times.

Clause 6. Prompting will constitute a Division IV rating.

Clause 7. The performers must accompany their performance with recorded music without words and back-up vocals. Sound effects in the accompaniment may be used if the sound is part of the original score. Technology to play music must be provided by the contestants. The machine may be operated by another student or coach, not part of the performance and not to be wearing identifiable school apparel. Students may sing short sections a cappella. Entire performance may be sung a cappella only if the original score was meant to be performed a cappella.

Clause 8. A brief sound check may be arranged with the door chair just prior to the performance.

**Section 5. Timing.** The Local Manager will appoint a timekeeper. No signal will be given until the expiration of 10 minutes at which time a whistle signal will be used to end performance. The contestant must stop immediately on penalty of disqualification. (Article III, Section 6, By-Laws.)

**Section 6. Judging.** Judging will be based on effective acting and singing, and/or dancing techniques and on the ability of the group to convey material written for or adapted for presentation as a musical or musical cutting.

### Section 7. Winners.

Clause 1. A group with a Division I rating may compete in the State Contest. The same Musical Theatre script must be used.

Clause 2. A school winning Division I rating in the State Contest the preceding year may not use the same cutting the next year.

**CASEBOOK Questions - Answers**

1. Q. May we bring our own chair or chairs?  
A. Yes, but they must be uniform.
2. Q. If normal wearing apparel suggests a character, could it invite disqualification?  
A. Yes.
3. Q. May students use any part of the performance room except the floor?  
A. Students should not use parts of the performance room that could be considered props, such as doors, desks, windows, walls, etc. Accidental touch does not mean **USED**.
4. Q. May a performance be done without musical accompaniment?  
A. No, you must have musical accompaniment without words, unless the original score was meant to be performed a Capella.
5. Q. May a performance have live musical accompaniment?  
A. No, all accompaniment must be recorded/taped. Accompaniment may be just one instrument or a whole orchestra. You must have accompaniment, this event cannot be done without accompaniment, unless the original score was meant to be performed a Capella.
6. Q. Must a cutting be from an established musical?  
A. No, it may be of an original nature.
7. Q. Must the recorded music begin with the performance?  
A. No, the music may start or stop at any time during the performance.
8. Q. Must you have dancing?  
A. No, dancing would only be necessary if the cutting would require dancing to be effective.
9. Q. Must a selection in Musical Theatre always include song and dialogue?  
A. No, a selection could be all singing or dancing. It may include dialogue. However, there must be some form of music performance in this area by the cast.
10. Q. May one student, using a script, perform in place of one ill, injured, or ineligible cast member with the understanding that the group's performance will receive "comments only" and no rating?  
A. Yes, if the coach obtains approval from the State Office prior to the performance.
11. Q. Does normal wearing apparel include shoes?  
A. Yes
12. Q. Is uniformity of attire permissible?  
A. **NO**. However, rehearsal black attire is allowed.
13. Q. May the selection be from a movie musical?  
A. Yes, as long as performance rights are secured.
14. Q. Must the introduction come first?  
A. No, the introduction can follow a preview/teaser.
15. Q. Is it okay to control or cue the music using a remote control?  
A. Yes.
16. Q. May students wear specialty shoes?  
A. Students may wear dance shoes for safety purposes. This does not include tap shoes.
17. Q. Is it acceptable to perform just one song?  
A. Yes and it should not invite a lower rating.
18. Q. Must students wear shoes during performance?  
A. Yes.

**ROYALTIES.** It is the duty and responsibility of the director to secure appropriate production rights for all dramas which are presented in contest production, and is required whether or not admission is assessed. The mere performance permission for a home high school production is not license for using copyrighted dramatic material either in portion or totally in a contest presentation.