

IHSA Solo & Ensemble Contest

PREPARATION

Sheet Music:

Each soloist shall supply the judge with one **ORIGINAL** score of his/her selection, with the **measures numbered**. Failure to supply such a score will result in the contestant's rating being automatically lowered by one division. Photocopied music may be provided to judges only in an "emergency." "Emergency" shall be defined as cases in which:

- a. music is out of print with no new score available; and/or
- b. purchased music copies are backordered. Written evidence, in the form of a school purchase order and/or a written statement from the supplier, shall be required to document the "emergency." The penalty for violation shall be reduction of rating by one step.

Time & Length:

The playing or singing time for the prepared selection of a soloist shall not exceed six minutes (including time needed for on-stage tuning.) Time schedules will be set up at ten-minute intervals to allow for the performance of the required scales. Any event that runs longer than six minutes might be cut-short by the judge, depending on how close the room is running to the posted schedule. Solo/Ensemble events shall consist of a minimum of 64 published measures or a performance time of at least 90 seconds.

IHSA Required Scales (Winds & Stings) & Rudiments (Percussion):

Students will be asked to play scales and rudiments from memory, as detailed below. A complete list of scale and rudiment sheets for all instruments may be accessed on the following web page. The format of the scales, as they should be played for the judges, may be found at this link. Each instrumentalist should look at this link!
<http://ihsa.org/documents/mu/instrumental%20scales.pdf>

* You do not need to print the entire 61 page packet. Find your instrument, and print the range of pages that are for you! Remember, these sheets are to help you practice. Scales and rudiments must be performed by memory!

Instrumental Scales:

All wind and mallet instrument soloists will be required to play two of the following scales: Concert C, F, B Flat, E Flat, A Flat, D Flat and G Major, and a chromatic.

Scales for string instrument soloists will be chosen from Concert C, G, D, A, E and F, but no chromatic scale. All string soloists will play two scales, three octaves in range, except for String Bass, which will play two octaves.

The judge will select the scales to be played. The scales listed, including the chromatic scale, will be called for in concert pitch and will be played two octaves, both up and down. This means that each player who plays a transposing instrument will have to transpose the given scale. They should be played at a tempo of not less than quarter note = 120. All scales for wind instruments shall be played two octaves where applicable but one octave where range restricts. Scales and the chromatic will be played from memory. Note, however, that instrumental solos themselves need not be memorized.

In addition to a prepared solo, all percussion (non-mallet) soloists must play one rudiment from each group per the judges selection:

Roll Rudiments – Play one

- a. (4) Multiple bounce roll
- b. (6) Double stroke roll
- c. (7) Five stroke roll
- d. (10) Nine stroke roll

Diddle Rudiments – Play one

- e. (16) Single Paradiddle
- f. (19) Single Paradiddle – diddle or Flam Rudiment – Play one
- g. (20) Flam
- h. (23) Flamacue

Drag Rudiments – Play one

- i. (31) Drag
- j. (38) Single Ratamacue

Note: The numbers listed next to the rudiments have been taken from the Percussive Arts Society recognized 40 rudiments. All rudiments must be played at a speed not less than quarter note = 120. They shall be played crescendo and decrescendo and not open roll to closed roll. Each rudiment should be played in 15 seconds or less. The judge shall select the rudiments to be played by the contestant. All rolls should be played double stroke.

Sample Adjudication Forms:

We encourage all students to familiarize themselves with the adjudication forms. Previewing these in advance will help you understand what the judge will be listening for!

<http://ihsa.org/documents/mu/SE%20Adjudication%20Forms.pdf>

Official IHSA Music Contest Rules Book:

Length alert!! This is a *comprehensive* document that is not easy to read. However, any ‘rules’ question you may have about the event is answered in this document. **How many scales** will be called? What note do I start the **chromatic scale** on for my instrument? As a **percussionist**, what rudiments do I need to be prepared to play? Look through it!

[2016 IHSA Rule Book](#)

Accompaniment:

Soloists and ensembles must be accompanied if required by the score. If a performance is accompanied, accompaniment must be by piano, harp or any other instrument designated for accompaniment in the score. It may not be mechanically recorded.

It is appropriate/expected to pay your accompanist an honorarium for the time they will spend learning your piece, as well as rehearsing with you and performing with you on the day of the festival. Rates will vary from person to person; **ask in advance what is expected.**

Set up *at least* two rehearsals with your accompanist before your performance.

Where is the contest being held this year?

Hinsdale South High School
7401 Clarendon Hills Rd, Darien, Illinois 60561

What time should I arrive?

45 minutes before your scheduled performance time will give you an appropriate opportunity to prepare your instrument, meet your accompanist. You should be at your performance room 15-20 minutes before your scheduled time.

Where do I warm up?

Warm up rooms should be marked when you arrive at the school.

What do I do if my accompanist is late to my performance room?

Some accompanists perform for multiple musicians on this date. If a room gets behind, it can start to cause scheduling challenges. If you are called to play, and your accompanist is running late because they were either double-booked with another student, or one of their other rooms is running behind, simply tell the room monitor or the judge, and they will let the next person who is ready step ahead of you. You can then perform as soon as your accompanist arrives. You will not be penalized for this; don't let this unsettle you.

Performance Attire

Students should dress for success. It is appropriate and expected to wear dressy clothing for this event. Your attire makes a statement about the degree to which you consider the event to be important, and a professional appearance shows a level of respect to the composer of the music, as well as the adjudicator who will evaluate your performance. Gentlemen should wear a shirt and tie, and consider wearing a sport coat or suit. Ladies should wear nice dress pants and a dress shirt, or a skirt/dress.

Will Transportation Be Provided?

No. Since the school is so close this year, each student is responsible for their own transportation to and from the event.