



# *Ontario Chapter*

**General Meeting:** November 18, 2017, York University

## **MINUTES**

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome, Opening Remarks: Dr. Shannon Coates, President
3. Approval of the Minutes: submitted by Bethany Horst, approved Linda Condry and 2nd, Jen Carter

### **In Attendance:**

Shannon Coates	Michelyn Wright	Natalie Spurrell
Bethany Horst	Yvonne Zhang	Elizabeth Lepock
Amanda Brunk	Alison Moodie	Jen Carter
Linda Condry	Natasha Campbell	Marnie Kersten
Melissa Bencic	Mark Daboll	Jennifer Higgin
Michelyn Wright	Jason White	Judith Lebane-Kane
Catherine Robbin		

- 1) Discussion of 2-day structure and changes: to be further visited in May
- 2) Changes: cash prizes, OA fees, software, rules, registration
- 3) Considering sending ideas to membership before May meeting
- 4) Handbook edits
- 5) Filming and photographing of student participants
- 6) Fee adjustment? 30/class? Different fee for different classes?
- 7) Pianist fees
- 8) \*\*Will bring changes proposed for Showcase to the membership after speaking with Allen

Adjournment: Linda Condry

## Questions for Membership:

- Posting full schedule or posting start and end times to classes
- Registration fee - adjustment to \$30?
- Paying Big Nats
- OA fee? Appropriate? - Sending payment if absent
- Handbook: song starts? time limits? Memorization?
- repertoire changes
- props and costumes
- Ads
- Communicate with pianists/lounge/coats
- No November meeting/Options for Social Event

## CASH AWARDS

- signage - divide into 5-8 / 9-12 / university & adult
- three people manning the table (pres, treas, sec?)

## MUSIC THEATRE CONCERT

- casual atmosphere appreciated but sight lines not awesome / also, acoustics under par - likely not an issue at WLU?
- MOST PROMISING - all announced at end
- blank ballots for Most Promising - can be done in advance and put into folders

## CONCERT TIMING (CLASSICAL, esp)

- time limit on pieces "selections must be less than 4 minutes"
- blank ballots for Most Promising - can be done in advance and put into folders

## HANDBOOK EDITS - Beth to look at

- songs must be memorized
- final song must be started in order to qualify
- one repertoire change permitted - announced in the room?
- classical classes - singers must sing at least one song in another language - possibly add that contrasting pieces is expected?

## ADJUDICATORS' VS PIANISTS' LOUNGE

- pianists may not take advantage of adjudicators' lounge - send notice in advance - pianists there as contracted, paid employees of singers vs NATS teachers who have paid dues and are volunteering
- find a room for pianists to use, but no food/drinks provided

## FOOD / CATERING

- need to balance off-campus vs on-campus services
- WLU will likely be easier re catering
- coffee / breakfast in morning + lunch

## SATURDAY EVENING

- casual / pub - not formal - no meeting
- drop in - members pay their own way - any time after 7PM

## MEETING

- hold members' meeting with adjudicator meeting in the am?
- OR members' meeting at 9:30, with adjudicators' meeting at 10:00?
- check the by-laws to be sure, but don't actually need a meeting because AGM is in May
- most likely option: pared-down report / update at adjudicators' meetings

## COMMENT SHEETS STREAMLINE

- possibly organize alpha by last name - could be organized in tabulation room for greater ease when going out to table?
- last name could be highlighted in tabulation room for even greater ease?

## NEW SECRETARY

- runner / help in tabulation room
- Beth to give a list of VS day-of duties for new secretary

## OA PAYMENT / REGISTRATION FEE CHANGES / SCHOLARSHIP CHANGES

- should we consider higher fees for upper classes / differentiated fees - dependent on whether the software can do it - Beth to check with Brad re whether this is possible
- [FYI - Software does not accommodate more than 1 fee, but, Brad believes he could customize for us]
- if can't change fees, all classes should have same scholarship amount

## OA PAYMENTS for NO-SHOW

- OA - NATS hands off (ie we tell them to get paid in advance) OR we collect the fees via Paypal in advance for them and then pay them on day-of
- collecting fees in advance means more work for VS Coordinator & Treasurer - consider charging higher fee for OAs and NATS collecting \$5 of that fee?

## ENTIRE SCHEDULE AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE TO STUDENTS & TEACHERS

- could be posted in advance on the website - perhaps there's a way the software can do it?
- only do this if there is an easy way to do it - Beth to check with Brad whether or not there's an easy way to do this through the software
- if not, will send a note to parents & teachers explaining that class times are posted on the doors in the morning and that they are encouraged to come early if they would like to see others in the class

## INFORMATION TO ADD TO PARENTS & TEACHERS

- encourage students, parents, etc. to listen to others in their classes (enter and exit during applause)

## PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

- permitting subtle videoing of own child
- no flash photography
- update handbook & post signage to this effect

#### ADS

- only doing pamphlets going forward IF there is a dedicated person to handle it
- possibly put up ads on each classroom door

#### VENDORS

- perhaps vendors will pay for a booth / universities should give a donation?
- to be revisited with new VP PROJECTS (Melissa Bencic? Shannon to approach her)

#### REPLACEMENT ADJUDICATORS

- send someone who is "NATS-worthy" / knows the rep - affects quality of adjudications received by singers
- add this to the info letter that goes out in advance

USA:

FEES:

SOFTWARE:

GRADES: