

Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers (Inc)
(trading as Barbershop Harmony Australia)

ABN 54 083 784 810

ARBN 083 784 810

Standing Order No 5
REGULATIONS FOR QUARTETS

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 A Barbershop Harmony Australia (BHA) registered male quartet is defined as any quartet which:
- (a) maintains registration with BHA; **and**
 - (b) is composed wholly of male financial members (Full or Youth) of BHA; **and**
 - (c) is not a professional quartet within BHA' definition; **and**
 - (d) is not under suspension of its BHA standing.
- 1.2 A Barbershop Harmony Australia (BHA) registered mixed quartet is defined as any quartet which:
- (a) maintains registration with BHA; **and**
 - (b) is composed of two male financial (Full or Youth) and two Associate members of BHA; **and**
 - (c) is not a professional quartet within BHA' definition; **and**
 - (d) is not under suspension of its BHA standing.
- 1.3 A BHA National quartet competition is an event carried out under the auspices of BHA, judged by persons appointed to that task by BHA, and open to all registered male and mixed quartets other than as may be prescribed for defined competition groups of national scope.
- 1.4 A BHA National Medallist quartet is any quartet that has won a medal at an AAMBS or BHA National Quartet competition. This rank is attained the first time such a medal is won, and is retained in perpetuity.
- 1.5 A BHA National Champion quartet is a National Medallist quartet that has won a gold medal at an AAMBS National Quartet or BHA National Quartet competition. This rank is attained the first time such a medal is won, and is retained in perpetuity.

Note: *By Regulation 1.3, all Regulations relating to Open National competitions apply also to age-dependent or mixed competitions. In such cases, the medallists will be differentiated from their Open competition counterparts by a suitable preceding qualifier to their rank e.g. 'Senior Gold Medallist', 'Youth Gold Medallist', or 'Mixed Gold Medallist'.*

2. REGISTRATION

- 2.1 Registration of a quartet is required to be renewed with BHA on an annual basis. An annual quartet registration fee may be charged. Initiation of the registration process is the responsibility of the quartet. Registration and any required fees for renewal are due and payable on the first day of the BHA financial year, each year.
- 2.2 Registration will be effected by BHA upon receipt of an acceptable application together with any applicable fees, and shall remain in force until:
- (a) confirmed advice is received of the disbanding of the quartet; **or**
 - (b) any of the quartet's members cease to be financial members of BHA; **or**
 - (c) BHA determines that such registration shall be suspended or revoked; **or**
 - (d) an application and payment for renewal of registration has not been received within a period of grace to be determined by BHA.
- 2.3 For a quartet to be registered, or to maintain registration, it must **always** have four (4) financial members listed. Failure to do so will result in the immediate de-registration of the quartet (after a 14 day period of grace to advise the replacement of a member).

Note: *Quartet registration forms may be obtained from the BHA website, www.barbershop.org.au.*

3. QUARTET NAMES

- 3.1 Approval of quartet names is the responsibility of BHA. Names are approved under the following guidelines:
- (a) A name which is a currently registered Club, chorus or quartet name cannot be used.

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- (b) A name must be in good taste, containing no offensive innuendoes.
 - (c) A name cannot be registered which is phonetically similar to one that is already registered as a Club, chorus or quartet name or is otherwise so similar as to be confusing or misleading.
 - (d) Adding to, subtracting from or changing other than the “essence” of a name does not constitute a new name. For example, if The Cheesemakers was a registered name, another quartet could not be registered as The Dapto Cheesemakers. The Four Cheese Makers would similarly be an unacceptable new name.
- 3.2 The approval given by BHA, through the registration, is for the use of the name. A quartet name may not be registered for the sole purpose of reserving a particular name.
- 3.3 Acceptance of money or any other consideration for the release of a name is not acceptable.

4. PRIVILEGES

- 4.1 A BHA quartet may:
- (a) use of the BHA name, initials or emblem or, with the approval of the BHA Council, of the registered logo;
 - (b) engage in BHA competitions;
 - (c) claim BHA’ protection of its name;
 - (d) be party to the Association Public Liability Insurance and Accident Insurance cover;
 - (e) be party to the Association Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA) licence, and
 - (f) be party to any other insurance, performance or copyright protection that the Association or BHA may effect from time to time.

5. PROFESSIONAL QUARTET

- 5.1 A quartet shall be considered to be professional when the filling of quartet engagements becomes the principal vocation of any of the quartet’s singers.
- 5.2 While BHA membership is open to professional and amateur musicians alike a professional quartet cannot be registered as a BHA quartet.
- 5.3 The amateur/professional status of a quartet shall be determined solely by the BHA Council.

6. NAME RETENTION

- 6.1 Once registered, a quartet name can never be registered by another quartet unless:-
- (a) the members of a registered quartet formally advise BHA that they wish to relinquish the name, or
 - (b) the members of a registered quartet fail to reregister the name.
- provided that:-**
- (c) The quartet name of a National Medallist quartet is protected in perpetuity.
 - (d) The name of a National Medallist quartet may be used only so long as it contains at least three of the members of the quartet of that name that first became an AAMBS or BHA National Medallist.
 - (e) The name of a quartet other than a National Medallist quartet may remain registered only so long as it contains at least two of the members of the quartet of that name.

Note: Changing singing parts within a quartet does not constitute a change of members of that quartet.

7. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE

- 7.1 In order to be eligible to compete in any BHA competition, a quartet:-
- (a) must be registered with BHA, or be formally invited by BHA to join the competition; and
 - (b) must be duly qualified under the contest rules
 - (c) must not contain more than one member of another quartet competing in the same competition, and
 - (d) must not contain any singer who is not a financial member (Full, Youth or Associate) of BHA or a Life member of AAMBS Inc. except where invited under Clause 7.1(a).

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Note: Only males can be Full or Youth financial members of BHA or Life members of AAMBS Inc., and females can only be Associate members of BHA.

- 7.2 A National Champion Open quartet may not compete in a BHA National competition during the calendar year following the calendar year in which the rank of National Champion was last achieved (i.e. a one year stand-down applies).
- 7.3 A National Champion Open quartet may apply to perform and be judged to attain a score at the BHA National competition during its stand down year for the purpose of qualifying for the following year's International Quartet Contest. The terms of International qualification are contained within the BHS Contest Rules.
- 7.4 No quartet competing in a BHA National competition may contain more than two members of a National Champion quartet that is barred from that competition under Rule 7.2.

NOTE:

***The BHA Council has the right to amend any Standing Order if emerging circumstances dictate.
In this event Club Secretaries and all registered Quartets will be immediately notified of any such variation.***