

5th Asia Pacific Harmonica Festival 2004 in Hong Kong

Regulations of Competition

Date: 4 to 8 August 2004

Venue: Hong Kong Cultural Centre

Deadline of application: 31 May 2004 (according to postal timestamp of application form)

Categories

Name of Category	Section	Category Number	Section	Category Number
Chromatic Harmonica Solo	Open	1	Junior	1j
Tremolo Harmonica Solo	Open	2	Junior	2j
10-hole Diatonic Harmonica Solo	Open	3		
Harmonica Duo	Open	4	Junior	4j
Harmonica Trio	Open	5	Junior	5j
Harmonica Ensemble (4-8 persons)	Open	6	Junior	6j
Harmonica Orchestra (9 or more persons)	Open	7	Junior	7j
Harmonica in Collaboration with Other Instruments (3-8 persons)	Open	8		
Senior		9		
International		10		

Eligibility

- Other than competitors in Category 10, all competitors must ordinarily reside in or be a citizen in Asia Pacific (conductor and accompanist are not considered as competitor). Within Category 10, there must be at least one competitor not satisfying the aforesaid criteria.
- Competitors entering the junior sections must be born on or after 9 August 1988. Competitors entering Category 9 must be born on or before 8 August 1944. There is no age limit in open sections and Category 10.
- One competitor can enter more than one category, but may not appear in more than one entry in a single category.
- One competitor may not enter both open and junior sections of the same category.
- The organizer reserves the right of final decision on all qualifications for entering any category / section of competitions.

Restrictions on musical instruments and equipments

Category		Points to note
1 & 1j	Chromatic Harmonica Solo	One accompanist not playing harmonica is allowed. Competitor may also supply CD or MD as accompaniment. The organizer will provide piano. All other musical instruments for accompaniment must be provided by the competitor. If needed (please state in the Application Form), the organizer may provide accompanist at a cost. Detailed terms and conditions of hire are determined through individual negotiation.
2 & 2j	Tremolo Harmonica Solo	
3	10-hole Diatonic Harmonica Solo	
4 & 4j	Harmonica Duo	Must be consisted of 2 persons playing chromatic, tremolo or 10-hole diatonic harmonicas.
5 & 5j	Harmonica Trio	Must be consisted of 1 person playing chromatic, tremolo or 10-hole diatonic harmonicas, 1 bass harmonica player and 1 chord harmonica player.
6 & 6j	Harmonica Ensemble (4-8 persons)	No conductor is allowed. Musical instruments other than harmonica are not allowed.
7 & 7j	Harmonica Orchestra (9 or more persons)	Conductor is allowed, but is not counted towards the number of competing persons. Musical instruments other than harmonica are allowed, but must not exceed one-third of the number of competing persons.
8	Harmonica in Collaboration with Other Instruments (3-8 persons)	No conductor is allowed. There must be at least one harmonica player, but the number of harmonica players must not exceed one-half of the number of competing persons. A harmonica player is defined as a person who has played harmonica in the competition. Harmonica must be an essential part of the music.
9	Senior	Conductor is allowed. There is no limit on the number of competing persons.
10	International	Musical instruments other than harmonica are allowed, but must not exceed one-half of the number of competing persons.

- Amplification will be provided by the organizer. Two microphones will be provided in solo and duo categories, three for trio category. In other categories, up to 8 microphones will be provided, subject to the condition of the venue.
- Competitor may use own standalone amplification system. No technical support will be provided by the organizer.
- For Categories 7, 7j, 8, 9, 10, the organizer will provide a piano, while other musical instruments may be provided at a cost. Please state the specific requirements in the Application Form. Detailed terms and conditions of hire are determined through individual negotiation.
- The organizer will provide adequate music stands and chairs in accordance with the number of competing persons. However, up to a limit of 30 music stands is provided for Categories 7, 7j, 9 & 10.
- The organizer reserves the right of final decision on the restrictions on musical instruments and equipment.

Scheme of competition

- If the number of entries exceeds 25, a preliminary round shall be conducted. However, this is not applicable to Categories 7, 7j, 8, 9 & 10.
- Subject to a satisfactory standard accepted by the judge panel, the top 15 ranked entries from the preliminary round shall enter the final round.
- Competitor shall choose the music to compete. The playing time must be within 8 minutes.
- There shall also be a test piece for open sections of chromatic harmonica solo and tremolo harmonica solo categories. The test pieces for

unaccompanied harmonica solo are composed by Clarence MAK and HUI Cheung-wai respectively. Test pieces would be mailed to competitors after the closing of applications.

5. The test piece as well as a selected section of the own-choice piece, limited to 2 minutes, are to be played during the preliminary round. If there is no preliminary round, the test piece and the complete own-choice piece are to be played together in the final round.
6. For all other preliminary rounds, the time limit of playing is 3 minutes. Competitors are required to select extracts of the own-choice piece to play.
7. The organizer may shorten the above-mentioned time limits in light of the number of entries.
8. All competitors must stop playing when the time limit is exceeded, otherwise they may be disqualified by the judge panel.
9. To facilitate the judging task, competitors may submit 5 sets of music to the judge panel before competing. All music are returned after the competitions. All competitors shall be responsible for the copyright issue of their music.

Standard of judging

1. The judging criteria and their weighting are as follows:

Musicianship	40%
Technique	40%
Difficulty	10%
Stage manner	10%
2. All competitions are judged by no less than 5 judges.
3. The method of calculating the score of an entry from the individual scores given by the judges is as follows:
 - a. The range of the score given by each judge shall be standardized:
 - i. Select the highest and lowest score of each judge.
 - ii. The median of the highest scores of the judges is the high end of the standardized range.
 - iii. The median of the lowest scores of the judges is the low end of the standardized range.
 - b. The score of an entry is the average of the scores given by the judges after standardizing the range, with the highest and lowest removed.

Example:

	Judge					Score after standardizing the range					Final score
	Judge1	Judge2	Judge3	Judge4	Judge5	Judge1	Judge2	Judge3	Judge4	Judge5	
Entry 1	100	10	90	30	70	*(90)	*(50)	90	56.7	90	78.9
Entry 2	80	70	80	80	60	70	80	70	*(90)	*(70)	73.3
Entry 3	60	90	70	20	50	*(50)	*(90)	50	50	50	50
Highest score	100	90	90	80	70	Median	90				
Lowest score	60	10	70	20	50	Median	50				

4. The score of the open sections of chromatic harmonica solo and tremolo harmonica solo categories are calculated as follows:
 - Preliminary round: test piece 70% and own-choice piece 30%
 - Final round: own-choice piece 70% and test piece 30% (where there is a preliminary round, score of test piece therein)

Cash prizes and certificates

1. Other than Categories 9 & 10, subject to the approval of the judge panel, the top three ranked competition entries are awarded First, Second and Third. For Categories 9 & 10, the judge panel may award one Jury Award each as a recognition.
2. The following cash prizes are set forth for the First, Second & Third prize winners (in Hong Kong Dollars):

Category	1	1j	2	2j	3	4	4j	5	5j	6	6j	7	7j	8
First	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$1,200	\$4,000	\$1,600	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Second	\$1,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$600	\$2,000	\$800	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
Third	\$500	\$250	\$500	\$250	\$500	\$750	\$300	\$1,000	\$400	\$1,250	\$500	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$1,250

3. According to the score attained, the following certificates would be awarded:
 - 90 or above : Certificate of Excellence
 - 80 or above but below 90 : Certificate of Honour
 - 70 or above but below 80 : Certificate of Merit
4. Name to appear on certificates: for solo categories, name provided in the personal particulars section of application form; for group categories, name of group provided in the competition section of application form.

Others

1. Change of particulars (including music) must be notified to the organizer in writing or by e-mail before 15 June 2004. There will be a handling charge of HK\$100 per change.
2. Competitor withdrawing from the competition is not entitled to a refund of the competition entry fee.
3. The order of competitors shall be determined by drawing lots after 15 June 2004. The results will be notified to individual competitors afterwards.
4. Competitors must collect the festival pass at the festival registration counter and send representative to report at the venue 45 minutes before the competition starts.
5. Competitors shall follow the order. Failing to show up to compete will result in disqualification, unless prior permission is obtained from the organizer.
6. Practice in the venue is strictly forbidden during competition. Practice outside the venue is allowed on condition that the competitors and judges are undisturbed.
7. Practice rooms will be available to competitors for booking. The details will be announced in due course.
8. Objections must be raised by the competitor in writing within one hour of the announcement of results and may only be related to a breach of regulations.
9. All unforeseen matters will be handled at the discretion of the organizer.
10. For the latest updates and enquiries on the competition, please refer to the website of the organizer <http://www.hkharmonica.org/aphf2004>.
11. Where there is any discrepancy between the English and Chinese versions of the Regulations of Competition, the English version shall prevail.