



ODACS RULES ELEMENTARY, LEVEL I, GRADES 4-6

AREA TWO: MUSIC

GENERAL RULES

1. Vocal and instrumental selections will be from the following types of music: sacred, spirituals, patriotic, folk, semi-classical, or classical.
 - a. The term “classical” will not be limited to denote music from that period of history, but will apply to selections of a classical nature as opposed to those of popular music.
 - b. Piano and organ selections must be sacred or classical according to the rules of the category.
 - c. Folk music is the body of literature that identifies with a culture or a country in the form of ballads, religious songs, work songs, cowboy songs, patriotic and political songs, and love songs. Many such folk songs have been taught by one generation to another generation and may not bear any composer identification. However, no protest songs, songs of any subversive cultural movement, or modern pop-related folk songs of any type are permissible.
 - d. Semi-classical music is that which is like classical music in form, style, and quality, but is generally less complex in nature and has a more immediate appeal. For the purposes of ODACS competition, it shall be limited to music written and/or composed before 1970. Discretion should be used in selecting semi-classical music for competition. It must meet high standards of quality in both words and music.
2. Medleys will be acceptable.
3. No gospel rock, gospel country, jazz, or music in like vein will be permitted. A “night club” sound, crooning, or “contemporary” sound is not acceptable. Participants are to avoid contemporary movie themes, though the music itself may be acceptable, and are not to use songs produced and/or popularized by current pop or rock stars even though the song itself may be acceptable.
4. The Competition Director, with counsel from the music panels, will have the authority to penalize or disqualify any student or group on the basis of performance or selection.
5. No student or group will perform the same selection in two consecutive years. In addition, the same selection is not to be used by multiple groups from the same school in the same year.
6. Refer to specific rules for each category for questions about entrants’ qualifications.
7. No choreography, planned or unnecessary bodily movement (including hand clapping, foot stomping, deaf signing, finger snapping, etc.) may be used even if scored by the composer or arranger.
8. *Memorization* is required of piano solos, vocal solos, and vocal groups. *Memorization* is not required of instrumental solos or instrumental groups. Failure to memorize when required will result in disqualification.
9. *When memorization is not required, accompanists or competitors may use a few photocopied pages along with the original score only to facilitate page turning. The original published score must also be present on the music stand and/or music rack so judges can easily see that there is a purchased original.*
10. *Digital Music:*
 - a. *Scores on digital devices are allowed as long as students and accompanists abide by all copyright laws and have proof of purchase or documented permission to use all music used by competitors during the competition. When a score on a digital device is used, a device to turn pages is also permitted so long as the device is operated by the competitor.*
 - b. *If the contestant is using digital sheet music or something similar printed from an online download, he/she will need to provide proof of purchase or a “permission to use” letter with the music. Permission from the publisher must be attached to each copy that is supplied to the judges.*
11. Only live piano accompaniment will be permitted for all music categories which need accompaniment.
12. Each student or group may provide an accompanist who will not be considered as part of the group in size or grade level requirements.
13. No competitors are permitted to use page turners. Accompanists may use a page turner. *When the accompanist uses a score on a digital device, a device to turn pages is also permitted.*
14. No electronically amplified musical instruments will be permissible.



15. All sound equipment will be provided and supervised by the host school and its designated aides.
16. Three evaluation copies of music must be submitted to the judges at the time of competition. An original copy must also be presented to the judges at the same time. Evaluation copies may be photocopied for all categories. Failure to have an original present will result in disqualification. Competitors will not be allowed to produce an original after their scheduled performance time. **(IMPORTANT:** See General Information page 6, Photocopied Music.) If the contestant(s) or accompanist will be using music for any performance, those performance copies must be legally obtained.
17. Failure to number all the measures on the judges' copies will result in a point deduction. See General Information page 8 for a list of penalties.
18. Personal arrangements and deviations from printed music should be clearly marked on the judges' copies. See General Information page 8 for penalty.
19. Warm-up rooms will be available throughout the day.
20. Instrumentalists may tune their instruments with the piano before performing.
21. Either the soloist, one member of a duet or small ensemble, or the director of a large ensemble, group, or choir shall announce the name of the participant/group, the school, the title, and composer/arranger of the selection. Timing will then begin. More than one person may be involved in the announcement.
22. The student or director will be responsible for securing furnished copies from the judges following the performance.
23. Each student or group will be prepared to perform ON CALL whether according to published schedule or not.
24. The guidelines used by the competition office in determining disqualifications and penalties for violations are in the General Information, page 8. There will be a point deduction for stopping and starting again.
25. *With the exception of the Hymn Playing category*, soloists or groups in all categories will perform one selection or medley within 5 minutes. (See General Information page 5 regarding penalties for time violations.)
26. Students will be penalized for going over time or under time in any category of competition where time limits are established. See General Information page 5, Time Limitation and Disqualification, for more information.
27. Recording is absolutely prohibited except for the recording of a single entry by representatives of the participant's school for personal use. The recording of all or portions of the performance of more than one entry in any event is prohibited. In any case, the head judge may prohibit recording. No recording made by anyone other than competition officials may be considered for adjudication purposes.

Category 5: String Solo

1. This category is for bowed instruments. The only non-bowed instrument allowed is a harp. (Guitars, banjos, and other strummed or plucked instruments are not allowed.)
2. *Memorization* is not required of instrumental solos (except Sacred Piano and Classical Piano).
3. Students will perform one selection or medley within 5 minutes.