

# **Elite Cup Competition 29**

**May to 12 August 2018**

## **Rules and Regulation**

- For some classes, there are requirements and details given in the class description of the Syllabus. Such information is also an integral part of the Rules and Regulations which embers contestants must also take note of and observe.
- It is the responsibility of members / contestants to ensure that information given on the entry forms is valid, complete and meet the requirements of respective classes. The Committee disclaims responsibility for checking the details given on the entry forms. Submission of an entry implies consent from the members / contestants to abide by these Rules and Regulations and will strictly observe the Rules and Regulations. Under no circumstances will refund of the entry fees be made.
- If contestants are found to have violated the Rules and Regulations, whether before, during or after the competition, the violation may result in:
  - (i) Disqualification – the contestants are not permitted to participate in the competitions;
  - or
  - (ii) the contestants may participate in the competitions and be given comments, but they will not be awarded any marks or certificates; or
  - (iii) the contestants may participate in the competitions but the marks will be affected.

### **1 GENERAL**

- 1.1 All competitions, unless otherwise stated, will be open to amateurs only. The term “amateur” shall mean one whose principal income is not derived from musical services. This condition does not apply to those bona fide students of music who teach for the purpose of applying the money so earned for furtherance of their musical education.
- 1.2 The Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason for so doing.
- 1.3 In case of financial hardship, limited financial support for entry fees is available by applying to the Executive Director.
- 1.4 It is the responsibility of the contestant or the contestant’s teacher / parent to ensure that the contestant has entered the correct class.
- 1.5 Contestants must list out their repertoire(s) in the Application form. Any repertoire selection listed as TBA (To Be Announced) or the equivalent will be rejected.
- 1.6 No competitor may enter the same class more than once during the current festival
- 1.7 Competitors may not play the same piece of music in two different classes.
- 1.8 In all classes, once a composition has been used, it may not be used by the same contestant for a period of two consecutive years if that contestant placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or

3<sup>rd</sup> place.

## **2 ENROLLMENT**

### **2.1 Application Form**

2.1.1 Contestants can fill in the online “ECC GENERAL Application form” (Hereinafter referred to as “Application form”) or download the “ECC GENERAL Application form”. The application forms must be printed out with a full coverage of details on white blank letter sized (8.5 inches x 11 inches) paper. The ECC Organizing Committee (Hereinafter referred to as The Committee) reserves the right to reject any application forms which are not in the officially approved format.

2.1.2 ERHU, GUZHENG, and PIANO contestants must also fill in a separate online form for their specific instruments. These forms are available online only.

2.1.3 One Application form may be used for different entries.

2.1.4 Contestants’ names on the application forms should be identical to that of their passports or ID cards for all entries.

2.2 Substitution or swapping of contestants and change of names or class numbers will not be permitted after the submission of application forms.

2.3 Contestants entering more than one class may bear a risk of time clash. This may result in their own decision whether to attend the competition(s) or not.

2.4 Contestants should enter classes according to the requirements stipulated in the current Syllabus. E.g. the entry requirements, level of attainment, age, education level, grade, gender, competition requirements, class requirements, etc. Contestants who fail to do so will be disqualified.

2.5 In all classes where an age requirement is stipulated, the governing date shall be 31 July 2016. Examples:

Aged 7 or under	Born on or after 30 July 2009
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2.6 The Committee reserves the right to allocate any competitions to be held in any venues.

2.7 Entry Form Submission Period

2.7.1 Entries submitted in person will be accepted from 1 June, 2016 to 17:00 on 30 June, 2016

2.7.2 Entries sent by post must reach the Committee no later than 28 June, 2016 as postmarked

2.7.3 Under no circumstances will late entries be accepted.

2.7.4 Depending on the entries, contestants may be required to submit other information / documents. Please refer to the specific rules and regulations for the different entries.

### **2.8 Entry Fees**

2.8.1 Please refer to the current Syllabus for the entry fee of each entries

2.8.2 No fees will be refunded, regardless of any reason (such as violation of Rules and Regulations, not being able to obtain the music scores required or not being able to attend competitions due to sickness, personal reasons, school events, etc.)

## **2.9 Entry Form Submission**

2.9.1 The Committee reserves the right to reject entries without required supporting documents.

### 2.9.2 Online

2.9.2.1 Contestants must fill in the application form according to the instructions listed on the website

### 2.9.3 In Person

2.9.3.1 Contestants must bring to the Committee:

2.9.3.1.1 The completely filled in Application form

2.9.3.1.2 Cash or ONE cheque in the amount of the sum of the entry fees

## 2.10 Entry Forms Receipt

2.10.1 After submitting the online application, contestants will receive an email confirmation.

2.10.2 Applicants who submit their forms in person will receive a receipt issued by the Committee.

## 2.11 Competition Notifications

2.11.1 Contestants should check the ECC website regularly for any updates. The Committee will not notify contestants individually.

# **3 REGULATIONS**

## 3.1 General Rules

3.1.1 The Committee reserves the right to make any amendments to the Syllabus Amendments, if any, will be posted on the ECC website. The most updated version posted on the ECC website overrides the previous ones.

3.1.2 The Committee reserves the right to allocate a competition in any session on any date and at any venue within the Festival period. Usually there will be three sessions, i.e. morning, afternoon and evening sessions, set for each day. Each session will normally last for three to four hours.

3.1.3 Depending on the number of entries in each class and the length of time required for the piece, the Committee will allocate contestants of the same class into a number of groups. Each group is independent of the others and so are the adjudication and results.

3.1.4 The Committee reserves the right to make changes, modifications and cancellations of any arrangements for the Festival as it may deem necessary or expedient.

If a request for change is to be made, please refer to Appendix 3 for the items that may be allowed to be altered, the application dates and procedure, the fees, and the required documents. The altered items will be updated to the online Festival Timetable – Revised Version.

Please refer to the Important Dates to be noted in Appendix 2 or the ECC website for the release dates of the above documents / timetables.

3.1.5 The Committee will decide on the full schedule of all competitions. The order of contestants' performance and groupings for each competition will be assigned at random. Contestants who fail to perform according to the published order will be considered performing "not in assigned order". They

will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded to them.

- 3.1.6 Contestants should report to the Festival assistants at the reporting time specified on the Competition Notification. Once the competition starts, the adjudicator / Festival assistants have the right to refuse anyone (including contestants) from entering the venue. As a result, a contestant may miss important announcements or his / her assigned order.
- 3.1.7 No alternative arrangement (such as re-scheduling of competitions, re-allocating contestants to other groups, etc.) will be made for competitions which the Committee has to cancel or for contestants who do not attend as scheduled, whatever the reason.
- 3.1.8 Contestants must bring with them the required valid documents to report to the Festival assistants. Contestants failing to present such documents to the Festival assistants before they perform will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded to them. The required documents are as followed:
  - 3.1.8.1 The Competition Notification
  - 3.1.8.2 Student ID card / Governmental ID card / Driver's License / Passport, all of which must be original and bear a recent photo.
- 3.1.9 When the Festival assistant calls upon a contestant to perform, he / she will read out the contestant's assigned order as well as the contestant's name, both in Mandarin for Chinese instrumental music classes, Chinese vocal classes, while both in English for the rest of the classes.
- 3.1.10 The adjudicator(s) may stop a contestant who is not well prepared / does not perform up to the required standard and contestants' marks will be affected.
- 3.1.11 When the length of performance is adequate to form a judgment, adjudicator(s) may cut short the pieces.
- 3.1.12 Before the announcement of results, no one (including contestants, teachers and parents) is permitted to approach the adjudicators. Anyone who violates this rule may be asked to leave the venue. If the person is a contestant, he / she will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded to him / her. When enquiries are to be made, the Festival assistants should be the persons to be approached.
- 3.1.13 No amplification devices, electronic musical instruments, synthesizers or audio-visual equipment are allowed. Contestants who violate this rule will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded to them.
- 3.1.14 Any form of prompting, such as cueing and conducting, is not allowed for all classes, otherwise contestants' marks will be affected.
- 3.1.15 Other than piano classes, contestants must bring along their own musical instruments for the competitions. Please see Appendix 4 for all equipment/instruments provided by the Competition.
- 3.1.16 Pedal extensions are allowed in any piano class. The Committee will not

provide the pedal extension.

3.1.17 All instrumental classes should adopt A = 440.

3.1.18 Neat, tidy and appropriate attire is required during competitions.

### 3.2 Number of Entries

3.2.1 Contestants are allowed to only enter once in the same class

3.2.2 Contestants are allowed to enter multiple entries

3.2.3 Piano, Erhu, and Guzheng classes are categorized by grade or age group, while other groups are categorized by age groups only.

3.2.4 Piano, Erhu, and Guzheng Classes by grade: Contestants are only allowed to enter grade(s) equivalent to the examination level they obtained or above.

3.2.5 Vocality: Contestants are allowed to sing in any language. If the song is not in either English or Chinese, contestants are required to provide a translation of the lyrics in English or Chinese with the application form.

### 3.3 Competition Materials

The rules regarding the competition materials and the consequence of violation of the rules are as follows:

Rule	Consequence
(i) It is the responsibility of the contestants and accompanists to ensure that the music scores used for competitions are original music scores	Will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.
(ii) Contestants may use downloadable electronic music scores. However, they must print the music scores out for use at the competition and bring along the payment record to prove that the music scores are authorized printouts.	Will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.
(iii) Contestants must perform according to the competition requirements given in the Syllabus	Marks will be affected
(iv) Contestants must perform according to the set piece/ Own Choice piece submitted	Will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.
(v) Contestants must perform from memory if it is a competition requirement of the class	Will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.
(vi) Contestants must perform the whole piece in its entirety according to the Competition Requirement	Will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.

If the music is out of print, a written permission from the publisher must be obtained to copy music that is out of print or difficult to acquire.

### 3.4 Own Choice Pieces

3.4.1 Contestants are required to submit the names(s) of the pieces with the application form.

3.4.2 All photocopies submitted will be destroyed after the Festival. Contestants should take the initiative to claim the original music scores back from the Festival assistant after the competition. The Committee will be held responsible for the loss of unclaimed music scores.

The rules regarding the Own Choice pieces and the consequence of violation of the rules are as follows:

Rule	Consequence
(i) Before the contestants perform, contestants have to submit the original music score of their Own Choice pieces to the Festival assistant	Will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.
(ii) If there are omissions or other arrangements, contestants should also submit a photocopy of the score with the changes clearly marked	Marks will be affected
(iii) If contestants / teachers have made any musical alterations to a piece, they must either submit an authorization letter from the composer / publisher to the Festival assistant before they perform for record or a letter from the contestant proving that the composer / publisher cannot be reached for copyright clearance. Contestants must also present the original music score of the piece.	Will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.
(iv) Contestants using an unpublished piece must submit an authorization letter by the composer / arranger to the Festival assistant before they perform for record	Will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.
(v) Contestants must perform the whole piece in its entirety according to the Competition Requirement	Will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.
(vi) It is the responsibility of the	Will only be given comments.

contestants to ensure that they do not repeat their Own Choice piece of one class in another class.	Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.
(vii) Own Choice pieces selected should fulfill the Competition Requirement of respective class	Will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded.
(viii) Contestants should perform according to the specific time limit	Marks will be affected and adjudicators reserve the right to stop performances

### **3.5 Rules for Different Classes**

#### **3.5.1 Vocal Solo**

All contestants must perform from memory and find their own piano accompanists. The singers may not self-accompany their own performance. Male singers may not enter Soprano or Alto classes. Contestants who violate this rule will be disqualified.

#### **3.5.2 Instrumental Solo Classes**

All contestants of the instrumental solo classes must perform from memory. Contestants who violate this rule will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded to them.

#### **3.5.3 Chinese Instrumental Classes**

Solo class contestants must perform without accompaniment during first round competition. Piano accompanist may be used for Final competition.

#### **3.5.4 Piano**

3.5.4.1.1 In all Instrumental Concert Groups, the competitor must play two selections (unless otherwise stated) of the originally chosen grade level, but the third selection may be of one grade higher, if desired.

3.5.4.1.2 Repertoire played in the concert group may not be played in any other class.

3.5.4.1.3 Concertos are to be played only in Concerto Classes in each entry.

### **3.6 Finals**

3.6.1 Finalists will receive an “Invitation to the Final” at the end of the preliminary round. Finalists have to reply to the Committee as to whether they will attend the Final or not.

3.6.2 At the finals, the contestants will receive no mark sheets. The Committee reserves the right not to award part or all of the prizes / scholarships of the finals if finalists cannot perform up to a sufficiently high standard at the finals concerned.

### **3.7 Rules at Competition Venues**

#### **3.7.1 Admission**

3.7.1.1 Contestants should arrive at the competition venue to report to the

Festival assistants at the Reporting Time specified on the Competition Notifications.

- 3.7.1.2 Contestants may be accompanied by maximum of one adult (either a teacher or a parent).
- 3.7.1.3 Seating priority will always be given to contestants of that competition. When there are no sufficient seats at a particular competition venue, teachers or parents accompanying the contestants may not be admitted.
- 3.7.1.4 Contestants and their accompanying teachers or parents are only allowed during the assigned time slot. They must leave at the end of their time slot.
- 3.7.1.5 Non-contestants under the age of six will not be admitted to any competition venues.
- 3.7.1.6 In accordance with the limitations / requirements of the venue or request of adjudicators, the Festival assistants are authorized to take charge of the seating and admission arrangements in the competition venues.
- 3.7.2 Practice is strictly prohibited at the competition venues and the surrounding areas.
- 3.7.3 Rearrangement of any setup and facilities is prohibited.
- 3.7.4 Unless otherwise specified, no equipment, props, backdrops or extra supply of electricity will be provided. Please refer to Appendix 7 for facilities available for use in specific venues.
- 3.7.5 Anyone including contestants who causes undue disturbance in competition venues may be asked to leave the venue. If the person is a contestant, he / she will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificate will be awarded to him / her.
- 3.7.6 The use of communication or electronic devices is prohibited (except electronic tuners) at the competition venue. Photo-taking and audio or video recording of any part of a competition (including the time for verbal comments from adjudicators and the announcement of results) are also prohibited. Anyone who violates this rule may be asked to leave the venue. If the person is a contestant, he / she will only be given comments. Neither marks nor certificates will be awarded to him / her. Contestants / accompanists may not use any communication or electronic devices during performing / accompanying. In case of violation, the contestants will only be given comments. Neither mark nor certificates will be awarded to them.
- 3.7.7 It is the responsibility of individual attendees to take care of their personal belongings. The Committee will not be held responsible for any loss.
- 3.7.8 The Committee does not offer parking spaces at any venues.

### **3.8 Gala Concert**

- 3.8.1 Winners of all classes will receive an “Invitation to the Gala Concert” at the end of the preliminary round. Certificates will be awarded on stage during the Gala concert. Winners have to reply to the Committee as to whether they will attend the Gala Concert or not on 29 July, 2016, otherwise it is assumed that



the winners will attend the Gala Concert.

- 3.8.2 Prize-winners who are recommended by adjudicators may be invited to perform at the Gala concert. Without a substantive reason, prize-winners who fail to comply will result in having their awards being withheld / asked to be returned and no certificates being issues. The Committee has the right to set the programmes of the Gala Concert. The Rules and Regulations of the Elite Cup Competition should also apply to the Gala Concert.

#### **4 JUDGING CRITERIA**

Adjudication will be based on the overall performance of the contestants, including:

- Technique
- Interpretation
- Musicality
- Artistic Appeal

#### **5 AWARDS and MARKS**

5.1 Contestants will receive mark sheets at the end of the competition in which they have performed. Contestants will bear the risk of losing the mark sheets if they fail to collect them on the spot. Otherwise, members should bring their ID card to the Committee to collect the mark sheets from 1<sup>st</sup> August onwards. Contestants are required to phone the Committee before coming to pick up their mark sheets. All unclaimed mark sheets will be destroyed before the commencement of the next Music Festival.

5.2 Placing will be awarded to the winners of each competition. However, in the cases when the best performance in the group is not up to the standard to obtain 80 marks, no placing, trophy or prize will be awarded.

5.3 A pennant will be presented to the first-place winner of each class / group at the end of the competition.

5.4 Apart from Chinese instrumental classes, the certificates are in English.

Certificates of three levels will be awarded to contestants for their achievement:

Certificates	Marks or Grade obtained
Honours	90 or above or A
Merit	80 – 89 or B
Proficiency	75 – 79 or C

5.5 All certificates will be awarded during the Gala concert. If winners do not attend the Gala Concert, they may collect their certificates after August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 until October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Prior booking has to be made by phone. Late collection after the aforesaid period or request for re-issuance of certificates, if accepted, will be subject to a handling fee.

5.6 Other trophies / awards / prizes should be collected within the specified period stated in the Prize Collection Notification. Late collection, if accepted, will be subject to a handling fee.

5.7 If a trophy / award / prize is damages or last after collection, no replacement can be made.

#### **6 OTHER ISSUES**

6.1 The decision of the ECC Committee on all matters arising from the administrative

issues and competitions, including interpretation of the Rules and Regulations, shall be final.

- 6.2 All matter not dealt with in these rules shall be referred to the Committee through the Chairman and the decision of the Committee shall be final.
- 6.3 **Complaints and Suggestions**  
Complaints must be made in writing and submitted to the Complaint Handling Committee of the ECC Committee by the contestant(s) and reach the Committee no later than 15 August, 2016. The contestants will be notified of the result in writing on or before 31 August, 2016. For details of the complaint handling procedures, please visit the ECC website.  
The submission must
- (a) Bear the signature of the contestant;
  - (b) Include the address of the contestant
  - (c) Include the Full Name of the contestant and the entries he / she entered
- 6.4 Anyone suffering from epidemic must not attend any Festival competitions or activities.
- 6.5 Any available recording or video demonstrations do not represent the judging criteria of the Music Festival. Contestants should follow the scores and Competition Requirements stated when entering competition.