

Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers (Inc)
STANDING ORDER No. 5
REGULATIONS for QUARTETS

NOTE: These Regulations take effect on 1st October 2001, and supercede any AAMBS quartet regulations in force at that time.

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1. An Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers Inc. (AAMBS) registered quartet is defined as any quartet which

- (a) maintains registration with AAMBS; **and**
- (b) is composed wholly of financial members of AAMBS; **and**
- (c) is not a professional quartet within AAMBS' definition; **and**
- (d) is not under suspension of its AAMBS standing.

1.2. An AAMBS National competition is an event carried out under the auspices of AAMBS Inc., judged by persons appointed to that task by AAMBS Inc., and open to all Full and Life members of AAMBS Inc. other than as may be prescribed for defined competition groups of national scope.

1.3. An AAMBS National Medallist quartet is any quartet that has won a medal at an AAMBS National Quartet competition. This rank is attained the first time such a medal is won, and is retained in perpetuity.

1.4. An AAMBS National Champion quartet is an AAMBS National Medallist quartet that has won a gold medal at an AAMBS National Quartet competition. This rank is attained the first time such a medal is won, and is retained in perpetuity.

Note: By Regulation 1.2, all Regulations relating to Open National competitions apply also to age-dependent 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'.

2. REGISTRATION

2.1. Registration of a quartet is required to be renewed with AAMBS 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 AAMBS financial year, each year.

2.2. Registration will be effected by AAMBS 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 AAMBS; **or**
- (c) AAMBS 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 AAMBS.

Note: . Quartet registration forms may be obtained from the Secretary, AAMBS Inc.

3. QUARTET NAMES

3.1. Approval of quartet names is the responsibility of AAMBS. Names are approved under the following guidelines:

- (a) A name which is a currently registered club, chorus or quartet name cannot be used.
- (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 AAMBS, through the registration, is for the use of the name. A quartet name may not be registered for the sole purpose of tying up a particular name.

3.3. Acceptance of money or any other consideration for the release of a name is not acceptable.

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4. PRIVILEGES

- 4.1. An AAMBS quartet may:
- (a) make use of the AAMBS name, initials or emblem;
 - (b) engage in AAMBS competitions;
 - (c) claim AAMBS' protection of its name;
 - (d) be party to AAMBS Public Liability Insurance cover;
 - (e) be party to the AAMBS Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA) licence, and
 - (f) be party to any other insurance, performance or copyright protection that AAMBS Inc 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 AAMBS membership is open to professional and amateur musicians alike a professional quartet cannot be registered as an AAMBS quartet.
- 5.3. The amateur/professional status of a quartet shall be determined solely by AAMBS Inc.

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 AAMBS 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 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 AAMBS competition, a quartet:-
- (a) must be registered with AAMBS, or be formally invited by AAMBS to join the competition; **and**
 - (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 Full member or Life member of AAMBS Inc. except where invited under Clause 7.1(a).
- (Note that only males may be Full or Life members of AAMBS Inc.)
- 7.2. A National Champion quartet may not compete in an AAMBS National competition during the calendar year following the calendar year in which the rank of National Champion was last achieved.
- 7.3. No quartet competing in an AAMBS National competition may contain more than two members of a National Champion quartet that is barred from that competition under Rule 7.2.