

Bow Valley Music Festival

Rules and Regulations

The Bow Valley Music Festival (BVMF) operates under the Rules established by the Alberta Music Festival Association

It is the responsibility of all competitors, parents, teachers and participants to familiarize themselves with the rules, regulations, and requirements for the Rules Governing the Provincial Music Festival and the Rules Governing the Local Festivals. SEE BELOW

The BVMF have established the following additional and modifications rules (Local Addendum)) that also apply only to the BVMF festival.

1. "Competitors" The wording for Rule #114 may be used in entirety for our local festival.
2. Our Amendment to Rule #115 will state that our festival is open to only permanent residents of Lake Louise, Banff, Canmore, Exshaw, Lac des Arc, Deadman's Flats, Kananaskis, Morley, Ghost Lake and Cochrane, or to students studying with a teacher who resides permanently in one of these communities.
3. Our Amendment to Rule #116 to state participants age as given, but including Adults of any age entering our adult classes.

RULES GOVERNING LOCAL FESTIVALS

General

1. It is the responsibility of the competitor to be familiar with the *Rules Governing Local Festivals*, the Local Festival Addendum (if any), as well as the definitions of relevant terms found in the *Glossary of Terms* (found on page 73).
2. A Local Festival may establish additional classes and/or rules (as published in the Local Addendum for such festival) that apply only to that festival. Please check your Local Addendum (if any) for changes or modifications to classes, rules, or regulations.
3. Certain Local Addendum classes may be used to satisfy eligibility for the Provincial Festival provided such class have been approved in advance by the Provincial Administrator of AMFA (this to be done by the Local Festival).
4. The festival movement is generally for acoustic performances (no electronic amplification), unless indicated in the score (i.e. singing with a recording of whale song, electric string quartet, etc.). Other exceptions may include Contemporary Vocal classes or certain Family and Community classes. It shall be the responsibility of the competitor to supply all required amplification equipment not provided by the Local Festival (please confirm with the Local Festival on what, if any, amplification equipment shall be provided).
5. Local Festival/s reserve the right to refuse any entry.

Local Festival Management

6. Each Local Festival is managed by a Committee. Questions concerning a Local Festival should be directed to the Local Festival contact person. Decisions of the Local Festival Committee regarding the Local Festival are final.
7. A protest may only be considered if it is made in accordance with the regulations established by the Local Festival.
8. Each Local Festival reserves the right to add classes or delete classes upon request.
9. Adjudicator decisions regarding performances, marks, placings, scholarships, and Provincial Festival recommendations are final. No Local Festival, or Committee thereof, can change either the mark/s given to a competitor by the adjudicator nor can they change any adjudicator's recommended entrants to the Provincial Festival. If such an activity is discovered, the competitor (the one that was named instead of the adjudicator recommended competitor) shall be disqualified and a \$500 fine will be levied upon the offending Local Festival, per offense.
10. At no time may a teacher, parent, or competitor engage the adjudicator in conversation prior to or during any performance for that adjudicator. Such contact may result in the competitor's disqualification.
11. The Local Festival may use the following grading system or any other grading system of their choosing.

90% and Over	Superior
85%-89%	Distinction
80%-84%	Honours
79% and Below	Merit

Competitors

12. The age of a competitor is established as of December 31 preceding the Local Festival.
13. The Festival movement is intended for "amateurs." Please refer to the *Glossary of Terms* (found on page 73) for a definition.
14. A competitor may enter only once in a single class or *Group of Classes*. A Group of Classes is determined by a single heading in each discipline. For example, in Piano, "PIANO SOLO – OWN CHOICE" and "PIANO SOLO – BAROQUE" are two separate groups/headings.
15. A member of a Duet or larger ensemble may enter more than once in a class provided that they perform a different part, play a different instrument, or is the conductor.

16. A solo competitor taking private music lessons may not enter School classes.

Selections and Performance

17. A **Selection** is a stand-alone piece of music. For a full definition, please refer to the *Glossary of Terms* (found on page 73).
18. In classes using grades/levels, the syllabus from either the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) OR Conservatory Canada (CC) must be used. If an older version of either syllabus is used, the publication date of the syllabus must be included with the entry. If a chosen selection is not listed in either the RCM or CC syllabus, proof of classification must be submitted with the entry. Competitors may contact either CC or RCM and ask for a specific piece to be classified.
19. A solo or group competitor may not perform the same **selection** in the same Festival in the following two (2) festival years. **Exception:** In Concerto or Sonata classes, the first movement may be repeated in a future year provided it is augmented by additional movements in the future year.
20. A solo or group competitor may only perform a specific **selection** once using the same instrument in a single festival year.
21. In classes with “own choice” selections, the total performance must not exceed 20 minutes unless otherwise stated. **Exception:** *Alberta Excellence Classes*, and *Complete Concerto* or *Complete Sonata* Classes.
22. Accompaniments must be played as written. **Exception:** *Contemporary Vocal*, *Musical Theatre*, and all other *Pop* classes (in any discipline).
23. Each Local Festival reserves the right to disqualify a competitor who is not ready to perform when called.
24. Each Local Festival sets its own regulations regarding memorization.
25. No person – on or off stage – may augment or coach a performance.
26. Transpositions are permitted but any transposed selection must be marked with the key in which it will be performed. **Exception:** The following classes do not allow transpositions: *Classical Vocal Solo – Bach Aria*, *Classical Vocal Solo – Opera*, and *Classical Vocal Solo – Oratorio*.
27. A competitor’s performance may be recorded by their parent/guardian but recordings of any and all adjudications and/or another competitor’s performance/s is strongly discouraged. Please refrain from using any flash or lighted photography of any type.

Copyright

28. One (1) complete **licensed** score/edition, including solo and accompaniment music and speech materials, must be onsite in the performance space (with the exception of Music Composition). Works classified as Public Domain by the Copyright Act are acceptable as photocopies. Additionally, if the Copyright holder has provided written approval, a copy of such work may be accepted. It is the competitor’s responsibility to ensure and provide proof of their claim as to a selection’s valid use (such as a receipt for works purchased online). The Local Festival may disqualify any entry that does not adequately prove valid use of copyrighted material.
29. Date ranges for specific periods (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, etc.) listed in the syllabus are for purposes of AMFA only. For AMFA festivals, repertoire should be entered into the appropriate class as per the date ranges as presented in the AMFA syllabus.

Group Classes (Band, Orchestra, Chorus, etc.)

30. When a school entry contains combined grades, the grade or grade range having the largest number of students determines the class to be entered.
31. Every Community Chorus member must be an official (bona fide) member. Ten percent (10%) of the choir membership may exceed a specified age limit by no more than two years.
32. Every choir must consist of at least thirteen (13) members. Choirs with fewer members should enter ensemble classes (or should consult with the Local Festival contact person prior to entry).
33. A School Chorus, School Band or School Orchestra entry with members from two or more schools, and trained as a single unit, may compete as a school entry ONLY if the members have not been selected on the basis of

performing ability. Otherwise, such auditioned school ensembles that are made up from singers/players of more than one school must compete as a Community group.

RULES GOVERNING THE PROVINCIAL FESTIVAL

General

- 101. Rules:** It is the responsibility of the competitor to be familiar with the Rules Governing the Provincial Music Festival as well as the definitions of relevant terms found in the Glossary of Terms.
- 102. Administration:** The Provincial Music Festival is governed by the Alberta Music Festival Association Executive (elected from representatives of Local Music Festivals), and is under the working management of the Provincial Administrator.
- 103. Protests:** Any protest, accompanied by a \$50 fee, must be brought immediately to the Provincial Administrator.
- 104. Acceptance of Entries:** AMFA reserves the right to refuse any entry.
- 105. Class Cancellation:** The AMFA Executive reserves the right to cancel any class if deemed necessary.
- 106. Class Dividing:** The AMFA Executive reserves the right to divide any classes as deemed necessary.
- 107. Order of Competitor Performances:** The order of performance is determined by the AMFA Executive and only the Executive may alter this order once confirmed.
- 108. Disqualification – Use of Venue:** The AMFA Executive reserves the right to disqualify any competitor who uses, or whose accompanist uses, a venue/performance hall for warm-up, rehearsal, or any other reason for accessing prior to their competition time.
- 109. Disqualification – Competitor Not Ready:** The AMFA Executive reserves the right to disqualify a competitor who is not ready to perform when called.
- 110. Recording Competitions or Adjudications:** A competitor's performance may be recorded by their parent/guardian but recordings of any and all adjudications and/or another competitor's performance/s is strongly discouraged. Please refrain from using any flash or lighted photography of any type.
- 111. Talking to an Adjudicator:** At no time may a teacher, parent, or competitor engage the adjudicator in conversation prior to or during any performance for that adjudicator. Such contact may result in the competitor's disqualification. Conversations after a session or class must be confined to social comments, and not any aspect of a performance.
- 112. Adjudicator's Decisions Are Final:** Adjudicator decisions regarding performances, marks, placings, and scholarships are final. Adjudicators reserve the right to not award a scholarship in any class.
- 113. Entering Alberta Excellence Classes AND Other Classes:** A Solo/group competitor may wish to qualify for BOTH Provincial Music Festival Classes AND Alberta Excellence Classes. Competitors must ensure they enter the appropriate classes and perform the required repertoire selections at their Local Community Festival to be eligible for Provincial recommendation.

Competitors

- 114. Who May Enter:** The Festival movement is intended for "amateurs." Please refer to the Glossary of Terms for a definition (found on page 73).
- 115. Residency:** The residence or domicile (family home) of a competitor must be within the Province of Alberta or

the Northwest Territories, unless the competitor has studied in their discipline with a teacher who resides in Alberta or the Northwest Territories for a minimum of six months during the previous year. This covers lessons via Skype and/or other electronic means.

- 116. Age of Competitor and Age Limit:** The age of a competitor is established as of December 31 preceding the Festival. The age limit for any solo competitor is 28 years.

Provincial Recommendation

- 117. Adjudicator Signature Form:** All Provincial recommendations must be accompanied by a form signed by the adjudicator making the recommendation (as provided by the Provincial Administrator). At no time is this form to be given to the competitor, parent, conductor, or teacher.
- 118. Provincial Entry Due Date:** All Provincial recommendations (with accompanying adjudicator signature forms) must be sent to the Provincial Administrator within 10 days after the end of the Local Festival, or by the due date set by the Provincial Administrator – whichever is earlier. If Provincial entries are not received by AMFA on or before the deadline set by the Provincial Administrator, a Late Fee of \$20 per late entry will be levied against the Local Festival. Extenuating circumstances will be considered.
- 119. Number of Selections to Receive a Provincial Recommendation:** A solo/group competitor must have performed and received an adjudication for a certain number of selections in eligible classes at the Local Festival to receive a Provincial Recommendation. For most classes, this is two (2) selections, but some classes only require one (1) selection and the Alberta Excellence Classes typically require more than two (2) selections. For detailed information each Provincial class and its minimum Local requirements for a Provincial recommendation, please refer to Provincial Festival Syllabus (found later in this document).
- 120. Class Recommendation:** A competitor must be recommended to the Provincial Festival class corresponding to the age, grade, or level in which they participated at the Local Festival. Additionally, competitors in Piano Plan I or II at the Local Festival must be entered in the same Piano Plan at the Provincial Festival.
- 121. Single Competitor in Multiple Age Categories:** A competitor may be nominated to only one (1) age category within a specific discipline. For example, the same competitor may not enter Piano Plan I Age 12 and Under as well as Piano Plan I age 16 and Under.
- 122. Recommendation from More than One (1) Local Festival:** A competitor who has been recommended from one Local Festival must so advise any other Local Festival entered, and must accept only the FIRST nomination and perform associated repertoire.
- 123. Number of Competitors Recommended from Each Local Festival:** Each Local Festival is allowed to enter one
- (1) Competitor in each class, and each competitor must have been recommended by an adjudicator. If a competitor is unable to perform, a designated alternate, recommended by the adjudicator, will be allowed to perform.
- Exceptions:
- a. Piano Plan I: Local Festivals having over 2,000 entries may recommend two (2) competitors in Piano Plan I classes 701, 702, and 703.
 - b. Piano Concerto: Local Festivals having over 2,000 entries may recommend two (2) competitors in Piano Concerto classes 781, and 782.
 - c. Brass: All Local Festivals may recommend two (2) competitors in Brass classes 502 and 503.
 - d. Woodwinds: All Local Festivals may recommend two (2) competitors in Woodwind classes 402 and 403.
 - e. Percussion: All Local Festivals may recommend two (2) competitors in Percussion classes 602 and 603.

- f. Strings: All Local Festivals may recommend BOTH a Cello competitor AND a Double Bass competitor to classes 311, 312, and 313.
- g. String and Keyboard Sonata: All Local Festivals may recommend BOTH an Upper Strings (Violin or Viola) competitor AND a Lower Strings (Cello or Double Bass) competitor to Class 320.

124. Entering Alberta Excellence Classes AND Other Classes: A Solo/group competitor may wish to qualify for BOTH Provincial Music Festival Classes AND Alberta Excellence Classes. Competitors must ensure they enter the appropriate classes and perform the required repertoire selections at their Local Community Festival to be eligible for Provincial recommendation.

125. Restrictions on Single Competitor within a Single Discipline:

- a. Piano: For the purposes of the Provincial Festival syllabus, Piano Plan I and Piano Plan II are considered the same discipline and a single competitor may not compete in both Piano Plans I and II at the Provincial Festival. However, a Piano Plan I or II competitor may also compete in the Piano Concerto class.
- b. Vocal: For the purposes of the Provincial Festival syllabus, Speech, Classical Vocal, Contemporary Vocal, and Musical Theatre are all considered different disciplines. Additionally, a Musical Theatre competitor may be recommended to both Ballad and Up-Tempo Musical Theatre classes.
- c. Strings: A Strings competitor may enter both a solo string class and the String and Keyboard Sonata class. A solo strings competitor may also enter Chamber playing the same instrument.
- d. Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion: Competitors may receive a nomination on two different instruments within the discipline (i.e.: flute and piccolo, alto saxophone and tenor saxophone, trumpet and piccolo trumpet, trumpet and French horn, timpani and a mallet instrument, etc).

Selections and Performance

- 101.** Selections: A selection is a stand-alone piece of music. For a full definition, please refer to the Glossary of Terms (found on page 73).
- 102.** Music Grades: In classes using music grades, the syllabus from either the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) OR Conservatory Canada (CC) must be used. If an older version of either syllabus is used, the publication date of the syllabus must be included with the entry. If a chosen selection is not listed in either the RCM or CC syllabus, proof of classification must be submitted with the entry. Competitors may contact either CC or RCM and ask for a specific piece to be classified.
- 103.** Number of Selections to Perform at the Provincial Festival: A solo/group competitor must perform a certain number of selections in a single class at the Provincial Festival. For most classes, this is two (2) selections, but some classes only require one (1) selection and the Alberta Excellence Classes typically require more than two (2) selections. For detailed information each Provincial class and its Provincial Festival performance requirements, please refer to Provincial Festival Syllabus (found later in this document).
- 104.** Memorization: At the Provincial Festival, all selections must be performed from memory. Exceptions: Music Composition, Creative Story Telling (in Speech), String and Keyboard Sonata, Chamber, and sung Choral.
- 105.** Maximum Performance Times: All performance times listed are firm. A competitor that exceeds the listed time may be disqualified.
- 106.** Numbering Measures and Marking Selections: The first bar of each line in music scores MUST be numbered. Each selection must be clearly marked with the class and competitor name.
- 107.** Coaching: No person, on or off stage, may augment or coach a performance.

Accompaniment

- 108.** Accompaniment – Solo Classes: Accompaniment is limited to one (1) non-electronic instrument in solo classes unless specified differently in the score (may be electronic in Contemporary Vocal). Competitors must provide all required materials if not using piano.
- 109.** Accompaniment – Choral Classes: Accompaniment is limited to three (3) instruments, which may or may not include a piano. Notes: A collection of non-pitched percussion instruments (i.e. ratchet, claves, rain stick, ocean drum, etc.) as specified in the score is considered one (1) instrument, and are allowed in addition to the three (3) accompanying instruments. A set of water glasses is also considered one (1) accompanying instrument.
- 110.** Played as Written: Accompaniments must be played as written. Exceptions: Folk Song, Musical Theatre, and Contemporary Vocal classes.
- 111.** Recorded Accompaniment: Recorded audio accompaniments are not allowed. Exceptions: Music Composition and Percussion.

Copyright

- 112.** Copyright: One (1) complete licensed score/edition, including solo and accompaniment music and speech materials, must be onsite in the performance space (with the exception of Music Composition). Works classified as Public Domain by the Copyright Act are acceptable as photocopies. Additionally, if the Copyright holder has provided written approval, a copy of such work may be accepted. It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure and provide proof of their claim as to a selection's valid use (such as a receipt for works purchased online). The Local Festival may disqualify any entry that does not adequately prove valid use of copyrighted material.

Choral and Choral Speech Groups

- 113. Community Chorus Member Ages:** Every Community Chorus member must be an official (bona fide) member. Ten percent (10%) of the choir membership may exceed a specified age limit by no more than two years. Note: Professional vocalists and teachers of singing may sing in a choir of which they are official members.
- 114. School Choral and Choral Speech Grade Ranges:** When a School Choral or Choral Speech competitor contains a grade range that falls into two Provincial classes, the class entered is based on the grade of the majority number of students.
- 115. School Choral Group with Members from More than One School:** A school choir with members from more than one school may compete as a school choir only if members have not been selected on the basis of performing ability. Otherwise, it must compete as a general (community) choir.
- 116. Solo Passages and Choreography:** In Choral classes, brief solo passages are allowed only in one of the selections and those passages must not exceed ten percent (10%) of the length of the selections. There is to be no movement around the stage, but gestures and simple in-place movements may be us