

CONTESTS

The following procedures concerning International Quartet Contests (including Senior Quartet Contests and College Quartet Contests) and International Chorus Contests are established by the Society, and, pursuant to Society policy, must be followed by each District.

The following procedures concerning Pioneer District Quartet and Chorus Contests and quartet evaluation sessions are established by the Pioneer District Board of Directors.

1. **SPRING CONVENTION CONTESTS:** The International Preliminary Quartet Contest, the Pioneer District Chorus Contest, the Pioneer District College Quartet Contest and the Pioneer District Seniors Quartet Contest will take place at the Pioneer District Spring Convention on the fourth week-end in April of each year at a convention site within the territorial limits of the District.
2. **FALL CONVENTION CONTESTS:** The International Preliminary Chorus Contest, the Pioneer District Quartet Contest and the International Preliminary Senior Quartet Contest will take place at the Pioneer District Fall Convention on the third week-end in October of each year at a convention site within the territorial limits of the District.
3. The above provision results in the Pioneer District holding two chorus contests each year. The fall chorus contest is held in conjunction with the District Quartet Contest and is in the open class, open to all choruses eligible to compete for the International Chorus Championship, the winner thereof to be the Pioneer District's representative at the International Chorus Contest to be held the following year. A second chorus contest is held in conjunction with the International Preliminary Quartet Contest in the spring of each year, that contest being the District Chorus Contest open to all choruses eligible. All the present rules of eligibility shall remain in full force and effect. To be eligible for the District Chorus Championship, a chorus shall not have won the championship for two previous years.
4. Additional awards will be presented at the Spring District Chorus Contest to the highest scoring chorus in each of the plateaus which have been established by the Pioneer District for achievement purposes. The District Chorus Champion will be eligible for the plateau awards.
5. A chorus is placed in a plateau based on its previous score whether it was in the previous fall International Preliminary Chorus contest, in the previous year's District Chorus Championship contest, or in either contest from the past

three years. Average scores on multiple contests are not used. Any chorus that has not competed in more than three years automatically gets placed in plateau 4.

Plateau 4 - scores at 600 or less (or not competing for over three years)

Plateau 3 - scores at 601 - 700

Plateau 2 - scores at 701 - 800

Plateau 1 - scores at 801 and above.

6. An additional award shall be presented at the Fall International Preliminary Chorus Contest which will be known as the Most Improved Chorus Award. All choruses that competed in the prior year's fall chorus contest that compete in the current year's fall chorus contest shall be eligible to receive the award. The chorus increasing its score by the greatest number of points over its score in the prior year's fall contest shall be declared the winner. A tie score will be broken by the greatest increase in the singing score. If a tie still exists, the music category will be used to break the tie.
7. In the Pioneer District Quartet Contest, the eight highest scoring quartets chosen in the preliminaries on Friday evening will compete in the finals on Saturday evening. Awards will be presented to the three highest scoring finalist quartets and the highest scoring novice quartet. A novice quartet that places in the top three finalist quartets will not be eligible to win the Novice Quartet Championship. If no novice quartet is in the remaining finalist quartets, the highest scoring novice quartet from the Friday evening quartet preliminaries will be named the Novice Quartet Champion. A novice quartet will consist of no more than two members that have previously competed in a registered quartet.
7. **SENIORS QUARTET CONTEST:** The District will hold a Seniors Quartet Contest at each Spring Convention to be held in conjunction with the Friday evening International Preliminary Quartet Contest preliminary round. The Seniors Quartet competitors will be entered in the draw for singing position along with competitors in the International Preliminary Quartet Contest and will be scored by the Official Society Judging panel. The highest scoring Senior Quartet in this round will be crowned Pioneer District Seniors Quartet Champions.
8. **SENIORS INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY CONTEST:** The International Seniors Preliminary Quartet contest will be held in conjunction with the Friday evening District Quartet Contest preliminary round. The Seniors Quartet competitors will be entered in the draw for singing position along with competitors in the District Quartet Contest and will be scored by the

Official Society Judging panel. The highest scoring Seniors Quartet in this round will represent Pioneer District at the International Seniors Quartet Contest to be held during the next International Mid-Winter Convention.

9. **COLLEGE QUARTET CONTEST:** The College Quartet Contest will be held at the Spring Convention each year immediately preceding the International Quartet Preliminary Finals Contest on Saturday evening and will be scored by the Official Society Judging Panel. The highest scoring quartet will qualify to compete in the Society College Quartet Contest at the Society's next International Convention in July but will only receive the award money provided by MBNA.