

### QUARTET OBSERVATIONS

#### JUDGING CRITERIA

##### UNIT SOUND (0-70 points)

##### VOCAL SKILLS

Posture

Breathing

Phonation

Resonation

Articulation

Great work has been done in all of these areas!

##### ACCURACY

Notes

Intervals - Inconsistent support is causing tuning problems

Tuning/Intonation strive for instant chord accuracy for lock + ring.

Synchronization

##### BARBERSHOP BLEND

Tone Production

Vowel Production

BARBERSHOP BALANCE - Problems occur in extreme high and low vocal ranges.

Focus On these areas.  
ARTISTIC SOUND (0-30 points)

Energized Vocal line - inconsistent at times

Tone Flow

Dynamic Flexibility overall more energized softs are needed.

Vocal Style

all groups need to focus on strong + consistent breath support

for a better overall unit sound.

#### PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1

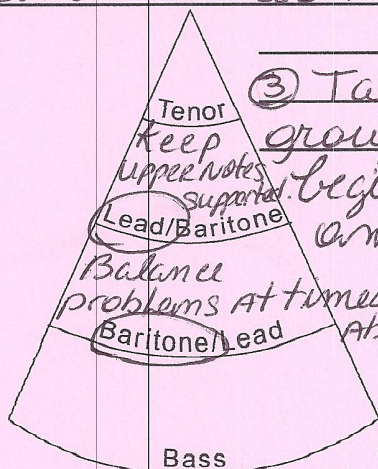
SONG #2

What a great quartet contest! Region 16 has done some fine work in all vocal skill areas. Keep up the good work!

1) Continue to work for consistent breath support and vocal energy. Many phrase endings are abrupt and lack support and lift.

2) Balance suffers at extreme vocal ranges and dynamic levels. The higher notes, especially, became unsupported and thin at times. Keep all registers open and free.

3) Taking a strong pitch can help all groups to establish the tonal center and begin with a confident and unified intro.



Thank you for AN outstanding contest!

Judge

Sheri Strawther

It was a pleasure to judge in Region 16. ☺

##### SCORING LEVELS (for one song)

94 - 100	A+
86 - 93	A
80 - 85	A-
74 - 79	B+
66 - 73	B
60 - 65	B-
54 - 59	C+
46 - 53	C
40 - 45	C-
34 - 39	D+
26 - 33	D
20 - 25	D-
0 - 19	F

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

score song 1

score song 2

BONUS POINTS

TOTAL SCORE

Judge

June Berg

Region #

16

MUSIC

### QUARTET OBSERVATIONS

### JUDGING CRITERIA

#### SONG & ARRANGEMENT (0-30 points)

Merit as Barbershop Material

Form/Melody/Lyrics

Arrangement

Harmonization

Voicing

*all arrangements meet the criteria for this category.*

*more expertise here.*

#### PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)

Vocal Skills

Harmony Accuracy

Barbershop Style

Tempo

Rhythm

Musical Unity

Phrasing

Dynamics

Musical Energy

Musical Artistry

*Inconsistently high level.*

*not apparent yet.*

### PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1

SONG #2

*Vocal skills still need to be a goal for the quartets in this region. Many times the 70% of this category could not be achieved at a high level because the voices could not maintain precise rhythm, chord energy and forward motion. Pacing of ad lib style phrase flow and expansion of exciting dynamic levels will only be apparent when the breath management is sufficient to support these areas at a high level. As the vocal abilities improve, the chord alignment and accuracy issues*

score song 1

score song 2

BONUS POINTS

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TOTAL SCORE

#### SCORING LEVELS (for one song)

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#### SUITABILITY TO PERFORMER

Song 1

Song 2

*will frequently disappear.*

*choices were too difficult to maintain the 70% of the category.*

Judge

June Berg

Judge

*Joan Levitin*

Region #

*16*

EXPRESSION

### QUARTET OBSERVATIONS

### JUDGING CRITERIA

(0-100 points)

#### TECHNICAL ELEMENTS

Vocal Skills *Almost all needed work in this area*  
 Synchronization/Unity *Most needed help here*  
 Word Delivery *Maintain tall, resonant open vowels*  
 Vowels *fairly good*  
 Diphthongs *often over-stressed*  
 Consonants *all were very clear*  
 Enunciation *all below B+*  
 Musicality *need to polish this area*

#### ARTISTIC INTERPRETIVE PLAN

Lyric Flow *I had trouble singing smoothly*  
 Phrasing *Many phrase plans sedentary or segmented*  
 Forward Motion *problems below B+ level*  
 Embellishments *5 quartets needed to strengthen both*  
 Dynamics *half (8 contestants) had tempo inflections*  
 Tempo/Rhythmic Elements *half and below could not sustain energy*  
 Inflection *3 exhibit*  
 Energy *B levels handled this well*  
 Finesse and Artistry *3 exhibit*  
 Characterization *B levels handled this well*  
 Emotional Communication *B+*

### PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1

SONG #2

*What a friendly + well-led region! fifteen quartets had the following scoring levels:*

<i>1 high B+</i>	<i>3 B</i>
<i>2 mid B+</i>	<i>2 B-</i>
<i>1 low B+</i>	<i>5 C+</i>
	<i>2 C</i>
	<i>1 C-</i>

*Inner phrase synch problems were major area of concern in most contestants as was breath management, rhythmic breathing, matched resonance smooth lyrical flow, forward motion, vocal stamina and singing with finesse at all dynamic levels. Maintaining consistency with ease in many contestants was an ongoing problem. Mastering the basics of technical components would allow lower scoring contestants to raise their levels in unification and added vocal freedom.*

score song 1

score song 2

BONUS POINTS

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TOTAL SCORE

Judge

*Joan Levitin*

Judge

Peggy Grant

Region #

16

SHOWMANSHIP

### QUARTET OBSERVATIONS

### JUDGING CRITERIA

#### PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)

COMMUNICATION OF THE VISUAL AND MUSICAL PRODUCT

- Vocal Skills
- Energy
- Poise and Command
- Entrance/break/exit
- Characterization
- Physical Expression
- Choreography
- Unity
- Audience Rapport
- Pitch pipe technique
- Posture

#### PREPARATION (0-30 points)

VISUAL PLAN

- Entrance/break/exit
- Costume
- Makeup/Grooming
- Choreography
- Creativity

### PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1

SONG #2

Thanks for the opportunity to judge again in your wonderful region! It was a good quartet contest - some wonderful achievements and room to grow.

- 1) Costuming overall was very good -
- 2) Make-up/Grooming. Many performers needed more intensity in eye make-up, especially in eyebrows since they are used so much to define our facial expressions, they need to be seen.
- 3) I can tell that many of your groups are attempting to create characterization to help them unify the visual performance. It's time to explore a broader range of emotions to present to keep faces animated and in storytelling mode from start to finish in their songs.

score song 1

score song 2

BONUS POINTS

#### SCORING LEVELS (for one song)

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TOTAL SCORE

- #1      #2      #3      #4
- 4) Think about physical expression as being the body punctuation for the message rather than a description of the phrasing plan -

Judge

Peggy Grant