

**Art. 1 - PRESENTATION**

The Montreux Choral Festival (after named MCF) gathers choral groups for a high-level competition on the Swiss Riviera. It consists of an international competition, open to all worldwide Choirs including Switzerland. A national competition, reserved for Swiss Choirs, is also organised for Choirs not wishing to participate in the international competition.

The present Regulation concerns the international competition only. Another specific Regulation for the national competition specifies the conditions of this other competition.

Conditions of participation:

The international competition is open to all **non-professional Choirs**.

**Art. 2 - CATEGORIES**

The Choirs should be composed of at least twelve chorus-singers.

The MCF distinguishes 4 categories in which Choirs may join:

- |                         | <u>Required ages*</u>  |
|-------------------------|--|
| • Children Choirs :     | mixed or girls or boys, minimum 6 yrs /<br>Maximum 20 years and an average<br>age for the Choir not exceeding 16 yrs |
| • Mixed youth Choirs :  | minimum 16 yrs /<br>maximum 27 yrs   |
| • Equal voices Choirs : | minimum 16 yrs   |
| • Mixed Choirs :        | minimum 16 yrs   |

\* All the age limits apply validity at the time of the competition.

A Choir can join several categories, as far as its various formations are clearly different and meet the above criteria.

The MCF reserves itself the possibility of organizing a competition with a category of Choirs which is not mentioned above.

### **Art. 3 - PROGRAM**

Except for a compulsory work, the choice of works is free.

The competition consists of two parts:

1. Compulsory program a Capella:

- The granted time must be between the minimum of 17 minutes and not exceed maximum 20 minutes (including the breaks between works)
- It has to include:
  - 1) the compulsory work
  - 2) A work of the Renaissance (free choice)
  - 3) A contemporary work (from 1950 - free choice)

2. Free style program:

- The granted time must be between the minimum of 13 minutes and not exceed maximum 15 minutes (including the breaks between works)
- A work can be accompanied by one or several instruments (piano available on stage)

It is not authorized to present two times a work in both programs.

### **Art. 4 - JURY**

The Jury consists of three personalities recognized in the musical environment. They come from different countries. One of the members must be Swiss and French speaking.

The main criteria on which the Jury bases its judgment are the following ones (not exhaustive list):

- The technical execution: intonation, dynamics, rhythm, diction and conduct technics.
- The artistic execution: interpretation of the text, respect of the style, the tone of the Choir, Choir's presentation and aura

The notes awarded by the Jury are not communicated to the Choirs. The judgment of the Jury is definitive and is not subject to appeal. The Jury reserves the right to not attribute a prize.

**Art. 5 - PRIZE OF THE JURY**

Every Choir is judged by a Jury and by the public.

The Jury can attribute the following prizes:

1) Grand Prix of the City of Montreux (CHF 5'000.-)

During the Prize-Giving Ceremony, the Jury indicates the best Choirs of every category which will participate in the competition for Grand Prix of the City of Montreux. During the Closing Concert, the selected Choirs will interpret one or several works, coming from their compulsory and/or free style programs, or from their repertoire, which allow the Jury to decide between them.

2) Three prizes for every category:

1<sup>st</sup> prize (CHF 2'000.-)

2<sup>nd</sup> prize (CHF 1'000.-)

3<sup>rd</sup> prize (CHF 500.-)

If two Choirs are equally placed in one of these prizes category, the prize is split between the prize-winners.

The prizes can be attributed regardless of the number of Choirs by category.

3) The special prizes:

- Prize for the Best Swiss Choir (CHF 2'000.-)
- Prize for a Newly Created Work (CHF 1'000.-), attributed to the best work created during the MCF. It will be shared between the composer (CHF 500.-) and the Choir interpreting this work (CHF 500.-).  
The work will be sung during the compulsory program or the free style program.

**Art. 6 - PRIZE OF THE PUBLIC**

The public votes on bulletins distributed at the entrance of the concert halls which will have to be handed back to a bailiff immediately after the execution. Notes attributed by the public allow to award a unique prize for the international competition (CHF 2'000.-). These notes are not communicated to the Choirs.

**Art. 7 - CONCERTS OFF AND EVENTS**

During the Festival and on Saturday, the MCF organizes public concerts and choral events outside the competition, in Montreux and the neighbouring region. Choirs participating in the international and national competition, or other invited choral groups, are obliged to take part in these events.

The Choirs which participate to these events will not receive any financial compensation from the MCF. Where necessary, the Choirs may benefit of all or part of a collection organised by the MCF during the events.

**Art. 8 - RECORDINGS AND RIGHTS OF USE**

The MCF reserves the right to record and to film all or part of the music performances executed during the competitions, as well as during the concerts OFF and the events. The use and the distribution by the MCF of these audio and video recordings, in Switzerland and abroad, including on electronic media, are made without preliminary information or compensation to the concerned Choirs.

**Art. 9 - FEES - PARTICIPATION OF THE MONTREUX CHORAL FESTIVAL**

**The MCF participates to the expenses of stay of every Choir which takes part in the international competition, at the level of CHF 120.- per chorister participating effectively to the competitions, + one choir Director, + one accompanying person.**

The number of choristers announced on the registration form must be as close as possible to the effective number of choristers participating to the competitions. In case of changes from the registration time and the effective participation to the Festival, the secretariat of the MCF must be notified immediately.

All the expenses caused by the participation to the competitions and concerts, the meals, the accommodation as well as the travels are at the expense of the Choirs.

The MCF purposes accommodation lists in Montreux and the neighbouring region with negotiated prizes especially for the Choirs of the Festival.

**Art. 10 - REGISTRATION**

The registration of the Choirs is made with a registration form which it is sent to the invited Choirs. This registration form is also available on the web site [www.choralfestival.ch](http://www.choralfestival.ch).

Deadline of registration

The form duly filled must be sent, by postal mail or email, at the latest by December 15<sup>th</sup> of the year preceding the concerned Festival.

Contents of the form

Besides the detailed information concerning the Choir and its direction, the form has to mention in a complete way the program (compulsory / free style), in French or in English. Also, the duration of every work should be mentioned clearly. Possible changes of program (order of works, deletions, additions etc.) are accepted until February 15<sup>th</sup> preceding the Festival.

Registration fees and other required documents

The registration form must be accompanied with the following documents:

- A non-refundable registration fee of CHF 200.- (Swiss francs) to be paid to the MCF  
(IBAN: CH27 0024 9249 7931 3801 M, BIC : UBSWCHZH80A).

- 2 photos of the Choir in digital format (JPG or PNG), large-dimension and high-quality (300 dpi), intended for the press
- 4 original and readable copies of the partitions of every work registered in the compulsory program and in the free style program, for the Jury and the MCF Artistic Director
- On a CD or electronic audio files of recent recordings of the Choir

### **Art. 11 - ADMISSION**

For the admission to the Festival are considered the elements of the registration form (references of the Choirs and directors, additional documents, etc.) as well as a date of reception of the registration.

The MCF will announce to every registered Choir the acceptance or not of his registration, if possible on December 30<sup>th</sup> of the year which precedes the Festival. The MCF does not have to justify his decision.

### **Art. 12 - ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS**

Choirs admitted to the international competition will have to respect the conditions of the organization:

- Arrive at the latest the day of the opening of the Festival, in time to receive the necessary detailed information on its schedule
- Participate to the various competitions they have registered for, in venues and times which are imposed on them
- Participate in the Prize-Giving Ceremony and in the Closing Concert, wearing their theatrical costume. Where necessary, they will have to be able to interpret works from their competition programs or their repertoire
- Participate in the concerts OFF and events
- Participate in the animations of after concerts, during the competition and after the Closing Concert, on the basis of a preliminary voluntary registration.

### **Art. 13 - LEGAL ASPECT**

The French version of the present regulation is valid in case of dispute.

The present Regulation is subject to the Swiss law. In case of dispute concerning the application of the present Regulation, the parties take up attributive residence of for and of jurisdiction in the Clerk's Office of the Civil Court of the District of the East Vaudois in Vevey.