



QCMF Advisory Meeting
Friday 23rd February 2018 at 1.00pm

Planned Dates

- Invitation to participate – Emailed to school principals and music conductors – 12th March (Week 8 Term 1)
- Entries Open: QCMF Portal: Online registration active from 12th March
- Closing date for entries: 8th May (Week 4 Term 2)
- Mail out of Performance Schedules – 15th June (Week 9 Term 2)
- Invoices emailed – 15th June (Week 9 Term 2)

Minutes of Meeting

Present:

Jan Hewerdine, St Joseph's College: Matt Cocking, St Joseph's College: Brian L'Huillier, Iona College: Cathie Neil, All Hallows' School: Cathy Gleeson, St James Primary School: Raquel Bastos, Villanova College: Craig Kennedy, St Rita's College: Gordon Hughes, Villanova College: Iris Wessling, St Eugene College: Jonathan Bolt, Ambrose Treacy College: Emma Carey, Villanova College: Mary Hehir, All Saints Parish Primary School: Melissa Dineen, All Hallows' School: Kane McNally, St Patrick's College: Michael Jones, Villanova College: Josh McKeachie, Villanova College: Ross Capern, St Laurence's College: Simone Fry, St Eugene Catholic College: Celia Dodds, St Columba's School: Anne Darcy, Assisi Catholic College: Sandra Magnus, Villanova College: Alison Schrauf, Villanova College

Apologies:

Robyn Edgar, Shalom College: Ben Langford, Loreto College: Justine Silk, Villanova College: Samantha Sleep, Villanova College

Welcome:

Michael Jones welcomed and thanked those present for attending the meeting. He passed on Mark Stower's (Principal, Villanova College) apologies. Mark was unable to attend the meeting due to an AIC Strategic Planning Meeting. He sent his best wishes and thanked everyone for coming.

Report on QCMF 2017 – Michael Jones

Michael advised that the QCMF 2017 Annual Report is on the QCMF website. Those attending the meeting would have received a copy by email.

He noted that attendance was down last year, however this happens every second year. As a result, a significant increase in entries is expected in 2018. The number of students and

ensembles in each section will be managed as was done last year. Fewer entries at St James eased traffic congestion.

Report on QCMF 2017 – Gordon Hughes:

The festival's direct costs were approximately \$105,000 in 2017. Last year there was a small surplus, which goes toward this year's festival. The long-term plan is to move away from the reliance on sponsorship funding and ensure that the sponsors we do have increase the value of the festival experience for teachers. This year we have received additional sponsorship from Brisbane Catholic Education for which we are very grateful.

Portal Enhancements

The plan is to move away from using USB's for ensemble recordings this year due to the large failure rate last year. The portal has been upgraded to enable recordings to be uploaded onto the portal. Conductors will be able to access their recordings using their school's unique PURL. Recordings should be available by the conclusion of the festival.

Increase in Entry Fees

Entry fees are increasing by 10% this year to help cover increased costs. There has been no increase in fees for the last three years and the cost of entering the QCMF is far less than other festivals. A large ensemble will be \$110 and a small ensemble will be \$55.

2018 Section Changes

Jazz: Jazz Band 2 and Jazz Band 1C will combine to form JBC.

The section criteria for this section will be:

	Jazz Band C (Open to all year levels)
JBC	Own choice of contrasting repertoire. (The average level of repertoire performed is up to 1.5) May include vocalist/s. Performance time: Up to 8 minutes

Choral:

Following comments received from conductors it was felt that the wording of the choral section criteria should be revised so that there is a clearer understanding of each section. Some conductors entering choirs into the CH1C: CH2C: CH3B sections, (designed for more inexperienced choirs), are singing in two or three parts. This leads to some students having a less than positive experience. It was felt that the wording "songs must predominantly be in unison" may assist. A decision was made to leave CH1C as it is with the wording "**songs may be in unison or parts**".

ACTION: Suggested revised criteria will be emailed to participants for their feedback.

Performance time for Choir 3A will be reduced to 6 minutes.

QCMF Mass

Justine Silk sent her apologies. Justine asked Michael Jones to thank everyone for their input last year in the Mass. She said that we need clarity around participation and parts. We need to work out the music, send it out and have everyone participate. It would be good to see people other than musicians attending. Whilst many liked the idea of the Mass and thought it was a good way of bringing the Catholic school communities together, the time is not always practical for all schools to attend. It was noted that Father Peter Wieneke made everyone feel very welcome.

General Discussion

Michael introduced the new Villanova Music staff: Raquel Bastos, Head of Strings
Emma Carey, Head of Woodwind and Josh McKeachie, Head of Brass.

Scheduling: Sandra stated that she expected sections will be offered on the same days as last year with Vocal Ensemble 1A and 1B being offered on Thursday evening as well as Saturday and Sunday. She asked if there were any requests regarding the days sections are offered.

- A request was made that VE2 be scheduled in the Church rather than the Hall. Sandra responded stating that as these ensembles are traditionally smaller than the choirs there is often no room in the Church to put this section, however this request will be considered when the scheduling process is underway.
- It was requested that string groups not be in Goold Hall. Sandra responded that this also depends on the number of entries and available venue space but will be considered when the scheduling process is underway.
- It was noted that the keyboard in Goold Hall was not loud enough and this was a problem for the younger string orchestras. Sandra responded that should string orchestras be scheduled to perform in Goold Hall this year, the volume of the piano will be checked.
- Matt Cocking requested a reduction performance time for Drumline from 10 minutes to 8 minutes to bring this into line with traditional drumline performances. All were happy to agree.

Suggestions/Concerns from Conductors

- a. It was suggested that conductors reinforce to their students that the festival is not a competition.
- b. A comment was received from a conductor: **“Some sections are too small thus not allowing conductors to see other choirs.”** Michael responded: The number of ensembles that are scheduled in a section is governed by the size of the venue. St James Hall in particular has limited audience space; therefore, the length of the section is shorter than in the larger venues. This sometimes means schools are not able to see other schools in their section perform. If possible audio will be played

outside the hall so that schools who do not fit in the hall can hear the performances and watch through the windows.

- c. A conductor commented in a review that larger schools with experienced choirs should be encouraged to enrol in the appropriate sections. This will be discussed.

The Advisory Committees for 2018 are:

Choral:

Michael Jones: Villanova College
Cathie Neil: All Hallows School
Mary Hehir: All Saints Parish Primary School
Kate Albury: St Patrick's College, Shorncliff
Jason Goopy: Ambrose Treacy College
Madonna Forster: Iona College

Instrumental:

Michael Jones: Villanova College
Kane McNally: St Patrick's College, Shorncliff
Emma Carey: Villanova College
Matt Cocking: St Joseph's College, Spring Hill
Jonathon Bolt: Ambrose Treacy College
Craig Kennedy: St Ritas College
Melissa Dineen: All Hallows School
Cathy Gleeson: St James Catholic Primary School
Raquel Bastos: Villanova College

Meeting closed: 3.00 pm

AMENDMENT: After contacting the attendees of the meeting, a decision was made to amend the section criteria for Section Choir 1C to read as follows: **Songs must be in unison or two parts.**