LONDON CHORAL COMPETITION

14–17 JULY 2027
LONDON

LONDON CHORAL COMPETITION 2027 · SING FOR THE CROWN

Official Rules, *Terms & Conditions*

Updated 6 November 2026. These Rules govern every choir that applies to and takes part in the Competition. By submitting an application, the choir representative accepts them on behalf of the choir, its conductors, accompanists, singers and everyone travelling with the choir.

REPERTOIRE & SCORES	PAYMENT	GRAND PRIX	CATEGORIES
1 March 2027 · all choirs	Visa: 1 March 2027 Others: 1 April 2027	85 points to qualify	Up to two per choir

SECTION 01

Participation and *eligibility*

1.1 The Competition is open to choirs from every country. Each choir competes under its own name and is represented by one named contact person, who is responsible for communication with the organisers.

1.2 Where a category sets an age requirement, up to 25% of the singers on stage may fall outside that requirement. The organisers may ask for proof of age at any time.

1.3 A choir may enter up to two categories. Each category, including each Category C subcategory (Folk, Spiritual, Gospel), is a separate entry with its own registration fee. Singers and conductors may perform with more than one choir only where the category rules allow it.

1.4 Applications are reviewed by the Artistic Director, Prof. Andrea Angelini. Acceptance is at the organisers' discretion and becomes final only once the registration fee has been paid.

1.5 Places are limited to 40 choirs. Once this limit is reached, further choirs join a waiting list and are offered places in order if a place becomes available.

SECTION 02

Repertoire, scores and *copyright*

2.1 Choirs must submit their final registration details, full repertoire and the published scores of every piece through the registration page no later than 1 March 2027. This deadline applies to all choirs, including UK-based choirs. Any later change requires written approval from the organisers.

2.2 Choirs must respect the stated performance time limits and category requirements. Exceeding the time limit or departing from the approved programme may lead to a point deduction or, in serious cases, disqualification.

2.3 Choirs are solely responsible for complying with copyright law. Scores submitted to the jury must be original published editions or copies made with the publisher's permission. The Competition accepts no liability for any copyright infringement by a participating choir.

SECTION 03

Jury, results and the *Grand Prix*

3.1 Performances are assessed by an international jury appointed by the organisers. Each juror awards a mark; the highest and lowest marks are removed and the remaining marks form the final score on a 100-point scale.

3.2 **Grand Prix.** The highest-scoring choir in each category (A, B, C Folk, C Spiritual, C Gospel, D and E) qualifies for the Grand Prix if it achieves at least 85 points. If no choir in a category reaches 85 points, that category is not represented. Where the standard is exceptional, the jury may also invite the second-placed choir of a category to the Grand Prix, provided it has achieved at least 85 points.

3.3 The jury may decide not to award a prize or a diploma level if the standard is not reached.

3.4 Jury decisions are final and cannot be appealed. Contacting jurors about the assessment during the Competition is not permitted.

SECTION 04

Recording, broadcasting and image *rights*

4.1 The Competition and its partners may photograph, film, record, live-stream and broadcast all performances, rehearsals on stage, ceremonies and related events.

4.2 The choir grants the organisers the free, worldwide and unlimited right to use these recordings and images, in whole or in part, for promotion, archive, broadcast, social media and publications, without any fee to the choir or its members. The choir confirms it has obtained the consent of every member, including the consent of parents or guardians for singers under 18.

4.3 Choirs may make private recordings for their own non-commercial use. Any commercial use requires prior written consent from the organisers.

4.4 These rights are exercised in line with the Competition's Safeguarding Policy. Images of singers under 18 are published with the choir's name only. Singers without image consent are identified at registration and wear a coloured lanyard, and are left out of official photography. Any image will be removed from the Competition's channels within 48 hours of a request from a singer, parent or choir leader.

SECTION 05

Travel, visas and *insurance*

5.1 Choirs arrange and pay for their own travel, accommodation and meals in London. The Competition does not sell accommodation packages.

5.2 On request, the organisers issue an official visa invitation letter within 2–3 working days of receiving the complete passport roster and full payment of the registration fee and pass fees. The letter supports a visa application only: visas are issued solely by UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI), and neither approval nor processing time can be guaranteed.

5.3 Every member of the choir must hold adequate travel, health and liability insurance for the whole stay. The organisers are not liable for personal injury, illness, loss of or damage to property, except where required by law.

5.4 Choirs must follow the rules of every venue and the instructions of the organisers' staff. The choir is liable for any damage its members cause.

5.5 Choirs requiring visas must submit their complete passport roster and pay all fees in full no later than 1 March 2027, and before applying for their visas. They are responsible for applying within the application window permitted by UKVI. This is the Competition's administrative deadline, not a UKVI application deadline; an invitation letter does not replace a visa. Choirs whose members do not need a visa may still need an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) and must check current entry requirements on GOV.UK.

SECTION 06

Safeguarding, welfare and *access*

6.1 All choirs, conductors and accompanying adults must follow the Competition's Safeguarding Policy, published at londonchoralcompetition.co.uk/safeguarding. A summary for choir leaders is attached to these Rules.

6.2 Choirs with members under 18 must bring at least one responsible adult for every 10 singers under 18, and never fewer than two adults. Responsible adults supervise their own members at all times, including breaks, warm-ups and travel between venues.

6.3 At registration, choirs with members under 18 must confirm that parental or carer consent is held for each of them to take part, travel and be photographed (or not), and sign the safeguarding declaration.

6.4 Choirs sign in and out at each venue. Under-18s use only the changing and toilet areas set aside for them, supervised by their own responsible adults.

6.5 Choirs should tell the organisers about any access requirements of their members at registration, so that reasonable adjustments can be agreed with the venues.

SECTION 07

Fees, payment and *cancellation*

7.1 The registration fee is £250 for each category entry, including each separate Folk, Spiritual or Gospel entry. It must be paid within 7 calendar days of written approval by the Artistic Director to confirm the choir's place. The first 20 choirs to register can use code CROWN20 for £100 off their first registration fee. Only one discount can be applied per choir. Voucher codes apply only under their published conditions.

7.2 Pass fees are separate from registration fees. Every singer needs a **Singer Pass** and every other person travelling with the choir (accompanist, manager, family, supporters) needs an **Accompanying Person Pass;** the conductor attends free of charge. Both passes cost the same. The international price depends on how many choirs have registered: **£59 (Early Bird)** for choirs 1–15, **£75** for choirs 16–25 and **£99** for choirs 26–40. A choir's pass price is fixed when it submits its application, provided the registration fee is paid within 7 days of written approval, and will not increase afterwards. The UK price is £39 at every stage.

7.3 Pass fees are paid in two instalments: a **50% deposit** no later than **1 February 2027** and the **remaining 50%** no later than **1 March 2027** for choirs that need a UK visa (before applying for their visas) or **1 April 2027** for all other choirs, including UK-based choirs. Numbers of singers and accompanying persons may be changed by email until **1 February 2027**; on that date they are fixed with the deposit and pass fees cannot be reduced afterwards, though replacement participants remain possible. The 7-day registration payment deadline still applies.

7.4 Registration fees and pass fees are non-refundable if the choir withdraws or cannot travel, subject to clauses 7.5 and 7.6 and any rights that cannot lawfully be excluded. A visa invitation letter does not create a right to a cash refund.

7.5 If a choir cannot attend solely because of an official UK visa refusal, it must send the organisers the official UKVI refusal documentation and a written credit request within 14 days of the refusal, and no later than 30 June 2027. On receipt of qualifying documentation, 100% of its paid registration fees and pass fees will be transferred as participation credit toward London Choral Competition 2028, not refunded in cash. The credit applies to the amount actually paid after discounts; it does not include travel, accommodation, visa application or other third-party costs.

7.6 If individual singers or accompanying persons are refused a visa but the choir still attends, their passes may be transferred to replacement participants free of charge until 14 June 2027 (30 days before the Competition begins). Alternatively, with the official UKVI refusal documentation and a written request sent within 14 days of the refusal and no later than 30 June 2027, the amount paid for those passes may be transferred as participation credit toward London Choral Competition 2028. The same pass cannot be both substituted and credited.

7.7 If the Competition must be changed, moved or cancelled because of events outside the organisers' reasonable control (force majeure), the organisers may offer an alternative date or format. Liability is limited to the registration fees received, except where required by law.

7.8 The organisers may change the schedule, venues or session times where needed. Session schedules and venue allocation are announced after registration.

7.9 **Participation Access Fund.** UK youth and community choirs from outside London that face financial barriers may receive travel support from the Competition's Participation Access Fund. Choirs are nominated by the Association of British Choral Directors (ABCD) against published criteria, and travel is booked and paid by the organisers directly to providers.

SECTION 08

Data *protection*

8.1 Personal data supplied in the application is processed to run the Competition, in line with UK GDPR and the Competition's privacy policy published on the website.

SECTION 09

Final *provisions*

9.1 The organisers may exclude any choir that breaches these Rules or behaves in a way that harms the Competition, without refund.

9.2 Matters not covered by these Rules are decided by the organisers. The English version of these Rules prevails.

9.3 These Rules are governed by the laws of England and Wales, and the courts of England and Wales have exclusive jurisdiction.

Declaration. By ticking the agreement box on the application form, the choir representative confirms that they have read and understood these Rules, including the payment deadlines, safeguarding requirements, visa support and visa-refusal credit conditions, and accepts them on behalf of the choir and all its travelling members.

Contact: event@londonchoralcompetition.co.uk · londonchoralcompetition.co.uk

	NAME	ROLE	SIGNATURE	DATE
Issued by	Nika Grigolia	Festival Director; Director, London Choral Festival CIC	*N. Grigolia*	5 Nov 2026
Approved by	Sophio Lejava	Project Manager	*S. Lejava*	5 Nov 2026

APPENDIX

Safeguarding summary for *choir leaders*

This page summarises what choir leaders need to know. The full Safeguarding Policy is published at londonchoralcompetition.co.uk/safeguarding.

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD

Nika Grigolia

07350 175291

DEPUTY SAFEGUARDING LEAD

Sophio Lejava

07933 830941

IMMEDIATE DANGER

Call 999

then tell the DSL

Before you arrive

- Bring at least one responsible adult for every 10 singers under 18, and never fewer than two adults.
- Hold parental or carer consent for each under-18 to take part, travel and be photographed (or not).
- Tell us about access, medical and welfare needs, and sign the safeguarding declaration at registration.

During the Competition

- Sign your choir in and out at each venue; your responsible adults supervise your members at all times.
- Under-18s use only the changing and toilet areas set aside for them.
- Only the official photographer may photograph or film; singers without consent wear a coloured lanyard.
- Staff, jury and volunteers never contact under-18s directly; all contact goes through you.

If you are worried about someone

1. Listen calmly and do not promise to keep it secret.
2. Write down what was said, when and where.
3. Tell the DSL or Deputy straight away. If anyone is in immediate danger, call 999 first.

If a singer is missing, alert the registration desk and the DSL at once and stay with the rest of your group. If the singer is not found within 15 minutes, or sooner if they are under 18 or vulnerable, the DSL calls 999.