

## **HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR SCORES IN THE SOUND CATEGORY**

- How good is your singing skill?
- How solid is your harmony accuracy?
- How well do you sing in the barbershop style?
- How consistently do you lock and ring chords?

### **BLEND**

- Similar tone production
- Similar vowel match

### **MUSCLE vs. FREE SOUND**

- Closed vs. open
- Tension vs. ease
- Lift vs. push
- Freedom vs. resistance

## MAINTAINING TONAL CENTER

- Tonal center often slips
- Sense of “do” needs to be primary
- Develop better section accuracy in relationship to key
- Chords often fall below singable range

## COMMON BALANCE PROBLEMS

- Tenor: often sings with a heavy quality/too much weight on the top of the chord
- Lead: often sings her part with equal weight and intensity. More depth on lows and lighter on highs
- Baritone: often sings with the most strength in the middle of range. Must adjust balance with each chord
- Bass: often sings with an inability to balance low tones properly/improper resonance on highs

## BARBERSHOP BALANCE AT ITS BEST

- Bass/lead match; baritone fill; tenor relation to lead
- Balance of vocal registers: using the natural cone of the human voice
- Matched resonating spaces and choices
- Cone of parts
- Cone of range
- Chord balance

Judge \_\_\_\_\_

# SOUND

Contestant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contestant # \_\_\_\_\_

Contest: Region # \_\_\_\_\_ Chorus Region # \_\_\_\_\_ Quartet Date \_\_\_\_\_

Int'l Quartet Semifinals  Int'l Chorus Semifinals  Int'l Quartet Finals  Int'l Chorus Finals  Harmony Classic

## JUDGING CRITERIA

### UNIT SOUND (0-70 points)

#### VOCAL SKILLS

Posture  
Breathing  
Phonation  
Resonation  
Articulation

#### ACCURACY

Notes  
Intervals  
Chords  
Tuning/Intonation  
Section/Part Accuracy  
Synchronization

#### BARBERSHOP BLEND

Tone Production  
Vowel Production

#### BARBERSHOP BALANCE

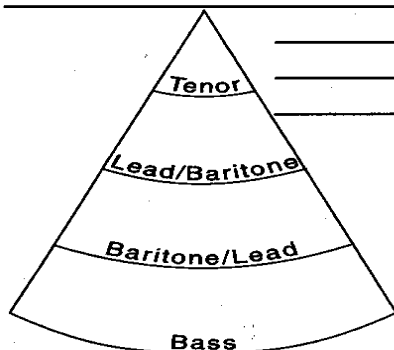
### ARTISTIC SOUND (0-30 points)

Energized Vocal line  
Tone Flow  
Dynamic Flexibility  
Vocal Style

## PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 \_\_\_\_\_ SONG #2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Judge \_\_\_\_\_

score  
song 1

\_\_\_\_\_

score  
song 2

\_\_\_\_\_

BONUS  
POINTS

\_\_\_\_\_

SCORING LEVELS (for one song)	
94 - 100	A+
88 - 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.

TOTAL  
SCORE

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