

NDSHAA Official Music Adjudication Form: Vocal Ensemble

(Developed by ND Choral Directors Association 7-1-08)

Time: _____ Event: _____

Rating: Check one only _____

____ Star = Superior performance

____ Adjudicator's signature

____ I = Excellent performance

____ II = Good performance

____ III = Fair performance Star recipients are eligible for participation in the State Music Festival

School: _____

Composition Title: _____

Circle descriptions that apply. Use the lines below each category for further explanation as necessary. Not all categories need be addressed.

Selection Quality	High quality literature, selection matches ensemble's vocal quality and ability	Quality literature, selection mostly matches ensemble's vocal quality and ability	Selection either above or below ensemble's vocal ability	Inappropriate selection
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Breath Management and body alignment	Air column is consistently managed well, body properly aligned for all singers	Proper technique used most of the time by most members	Proper technique occasionally displayed by some members	Development of breath management and posture needs to be addressed.
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Tone quality/resonance and focus	Clear, consistent, resonant tone used by most members of ensemble	Tone is clear throughout the majority of the range and on most vowels for most ensemble members	Focus is inconsistent, but clarity is developing in some members of the ensemble	Ensemble members need to work toward a clear, free tone
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Intonation and pitch accuracy	Consistently accurate intonation and pitch	Minor inaccuracies, pitch adjustments quickly made	Inaccuracies occur, pitches and/or intonation inconsistent	Incorrect pitches. Intonation issues need to be addressed.
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Rhythmic accuracy	Displays consistent rhythmic accuracy and vitality	Minor rhythmic inaccuracies	Accuracy inconsistent, affecting quality of performance	Inaccurate rhythms need to be addressed
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Dynamics and phrasing	Use of dynamics and energy display consistent forward motion throughout phrases	Displays developing use of dynamics and energy in phrasing	Insufficient dynamic contrast and/or inappropriate phrasing displayed	Little demonstration of phrasing and/or dynamics displayed.
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Diction/ Articulation	Clear enunciation of text in all voice parts	Minor discrepancies occur	Discrepancies are notable or text is unclear in parts	Inappropriate enunciation or articulation
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Stylistic accuracy (tempo, rubato, performance practice, musical articulation)	Ensemble demonstrates an understanding of the style, era and/or specific composer	Ensemble demonstrates a developing understanding of appropriate style.	Ensemble demonstrates inconsistent accuracy of style	Performance is lacking stylistic accuracy
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Expression	Ensemble demonstrates eloquent emotional expression of text, message accurately conveyed to audience	Ensemble demonstrates a general understanding of the text and emotional content of message	Inconsistent expression of text and content by ensemble as a whole	Development of expressive techniques need to be addressed
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Musicality	Demonstrates consistent musicianship and ensemble technique, outstanding etiquette and presentation	Demonstrates developing musicianship and ensemble skills	Some display of musicianship, Inconsistent ensemble communication	Understanding of musicianship in an ensemble performing medium needs to be developed, proper etiquette is lacking.
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Blend and balance	Demonstrates consistent sense of balance, voices well matched in quality and weight	Demonstrates developing sense of balance, minor area of inequality occur	Voices are somewhat unbalanced, blend needs attention	Voices are unsatisfactorily matched in blend and/or balance
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Further Comments: _____
