

Rules of the Qualifying Committee

General Provisions

I

The Qualifying Committee comprises outstanding representatives of music culture.

The Competition Director appoints and dismisses members of the Qualifying Committee.

II

The Committee acts on the basis of the Competition Rules and the provisions of the present Rules of the Qualifying Committee.

III

The task of the Qualifying Committee is to assess the interpretative skills and hitherto achievements of the candidates for the Eighteenth International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition and to admit the best candidates to the Preliminary Round.

Members of the Committee will take into account the challenges which Fryderyk Chopin's music poses to pianists.

IV

The Competition Director appoints the Chairperson of the Qualifying Committee from their number.

The duties of the Chairperson include presiding over the Committee's work and representing the Committee.

During their first meeting members of the Committee will elect Vice-Chairperson from their number.

In case of the Chairperson's absence the Vice-Chairperson takes over his/her responsibilities.

V

The Qualifying Committee will make decisions by an absolute majority of votes in open voting unless the present Rules provide otherwise. Voting is valid if at least half the Committee members are present. In case of a split vote the Chairperson has the decisive voice.

VI

The Competition Director appoints the Trustee of the Qualifying Committee whose job is to co-ordinate the assessment proceedings organisationally and technically.

VII

While the Competition is in progress, the Qualifying Committee members are obliged to refrain from expressing their opinions in public about the candidates.

VIII

The deliberations of the Qualifying Committee are confidential and recorded. They are attended by the Trustee of the Committee and the Competition Director, and by the persons the Competition Director has authorised to attend.

The assessments of the candidates will be kept confidential until the conclusion of the Competition.

IX

The Committee members are obliged to listen to the submitted recordings, analyse the submitted documents and assess all eligible candidates and to take part in the Committee's meetings. In exceptional circumstances the Competition Director may sanction a Committee member's absence. In the case of a gross violation of these regulations, the Director of the Competition may dismiss the Committee member.

Assessment Method

X

Eligible candidates are those who will meet the formal requirements, specified in §§ II–IV of the Rules of the Eighteenth International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition.

Subject to the preliminary assessment will be the recordings submitted by the candidates, as required by § IV item 1 letter h) of the aforesaid Rules, played in the presence of the Qualifying Committee, and the documents included in the application for the Competition, especially documents showing the candidates' achievements, critical reviews and opinions.

The Qualifying Committee will have the right to interrupt the presentation of a recording, but only if a majority of its members present give their consent.

XI

During the Committee's meeting after the assessment of all recordings at the latest each member is obliged to make a statement whether among the candidates are pianists who meet the 'student' criteria specified in § XII of these Rules, and if so, give their names.

XII

The term 'student' is understood to mean a candidate who

- currently is a Committee member's student, or
- was a Committee member's regular student in a school or had regular private lessons with a Committee member for more than a year since the end of the 17th Competition, or
- had private lessons with a Committee member after 1 December 2018, or
- stays in close private relations with a Committee member.

The term 'student' does not apply in the case of sporadic contact between a participant and a Committee member during and in connection with master classes.

XIII

In principle, no more than 160 pianists will be admitted to the Preliminary Round of the Seventeenth International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition, including the pianists qualified by the Competition Director according to Competition Rules § III item 2.

XIV

After each day of listening to the candidates' recordings and studying their documents, the Committee members will hand over the completed assessment sheets to the Trustee of the Qualifying Committee. Their assessments should take into account both the features of a candidate's recorded performance and the information contained in the submitted documents. Next to each candidate's name the Committee members will write the number of awarded points, without decimals, on a scale of 1 to 25, with 1 being the lowest score and 25 the highest.

The Committee members cannot assess their 'students'. They will write the letter 'S' next to the name of their 'student'. In such case the average of the awarded points, described in §§ XV and XVI, will consequently reflect the smaller number of the assessing Committee members.

The Committee members have to sign their assessment sheets and to initial every correction they have made.

XV

If the number of points awarded by a Committee member differs from the arithmetic mean of the score gained by a pianist by more than 3 points, a second average of the pianist's score will be calculated. In this case the assessments differing from the first average by more than 3 points will be corrected to fall within the allowed range. (E.g. if the average of the awarded points is 14.35, the assessments higher than 17 points will be corrected to 17.35 and those lower than 12 points will be altered to 11.35. Assessments of 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 points will not be changed.) The second average obtained in this way will provide the basis for the assessment procedure described in the following paragraph.

XVI

During the meeting following the assessment of the submitted recordings the Trustee of the Qualifying Committee will present the joint results in the form of a list of the averages of the scores gained by all candidates, arranged from the highest to the lowest, accurate to the second decimal place, but without the candidates' names. Acting on this basis the Committee, after deliberations if needed, will make the decision, by an open vote, on accepting candidates to the Preliminary Round.

The names of successful candidates will be disclosed, both to the Committee members and to all interested parties, in alphabetical order only, without the average values.

Final Provisions

XVII

The Committee's decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

XVIII

All issues which cannot be solved on the basis of these Rules will be subject to discussion and open voting by members of the Committee. The solutions thus accepted will be subject to the Competition Director's approval.

XIX

The Rules of the Qualifying Committee have been written in Polish and English. It is agreed that the Polish language version constitutes the original text, which will be used in clarifying any possible doubts arising out of or in connection with these Rules.