

The Scottish Primary School Glee Challenge 2027

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please, read the rules and regulations carefully. All choir chaperones and members participating in The Glee Challenge must adhere to the specified rules and regulations without exception.

Please note that these rules supersede all previous rules.

REGISTRATION

- Registration will close at midnight **Friday 25th September** or earlier should the available slots in individual regions be filled.
- Registration forms received after midnight **Friday 25th September** will not be considered.
- Where an individual region has closed early, i.e., **before 25th September**, or is oversubscribed schools may be offered the opportunity to join a heat in a neighbouring region. e.g. North-East Fife – The Caird Hall, areas of West Lothian – The Alhambra Theatre.
- Alternatively, schools can go on a waiting list for their region, however there is no guarantee that a space will become available.
- Where, due to their geographic location or a clash with other school commitments, it may be easier for a choir to attend a heat in a neighbouring region, e.g. North-East Fife – The Caird Hall, etc. we will endeavour to accommodate this.
- Registration will only be complete when the entry fee of £50 (early bird) or £65 standard is received. Schools are allowed to enter more than one choir. The entry fee for an additional choir is £30. On receipt of payment for your choir(s) you will be notified and access to the member pages provided.
- **Entry fees will not be refunded unless there are insufficient entries for a Sectional to take place**
- When registering please provide an email address that will allow quick communication to the choir
- The Challenge is based on live events in all areas however, we recognise that there may be circumstances where this may not be possible, and we reserve the right to amend the Challenge if required. Full notification of any changes will be notified via our social media pages.
- Venue costs represent a significant financial commitment, and late cancellations may have a significant impact. As a result, we have had to introduce a late cancellation fee.
 - **Cancellation within 6 weeks of the event will incur a cancellation fee of £250**
 - **Cancellation within 4 weeks of the event will incur a cancellation fee of £400**

Where this applies school will be invoiced accordingly

COMMUNICATION

- All updates and further information will be available via our social media pages. Please make sure you keep checking
- Facebook is our primary vehicle and we would advise that a member of your team has access to a FB account
- Please use gleechallenge@frissonfoundation.org.uk for all communications otherwise your query may be missed.

SECTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The Choirs

- Each choir must not exceed 40 members.
- Schools may enter more than one choir. However, for fairness, the choirs should sing different second songs.
- You must advise your final choir numbers **no later than 6 weeks** beforehand to allow us to confirm the number of seats we need to reserve for the choirs
- We would like, if possible, for our choirs to give themselves a name rather than just the school's name. Here are some from last year *"Haysie Glee Squad"*, *"Musical Mile End"*, *"Birkie Glee Crew"*, *"Borrowfield Beats"* and *"Craigiebarns Connections"*
- Your Glee Ambassador (s) should step forward to a central microphone prior to the start of your second song to tell the adjudicators and the audience the name of your second song, why the choir they have chosen it and how it fits with this year's theme.
- Please note that chanting is discouraged as this may be perceived as aggressive and adjudicators have been advised that they may deduct points from scores for chanting.
- For safeguarding purposes if children from the choir are bringing phones, please ensure that these are turned off and kept in bags for the duration of their time in the theatre including during rehearsals and the show.

SONGS

All choirs will perform two songs; the set song (based on the backing track provided) and a song of their own choice. **Please also check the rules and regulations relating to song choices**

- For copyright reasons the set song may not be changed in any way.
- **Please note, your second song may not be a medley of songs. However, a mash up of two songs will be allowed.**
- The second song should reflect the chosen theme for this year's Challenge.
- The suitability of the chosen song will be taken into consideration, as part of the scoring criteria, by the judges. **Please check the lyrics and meaning ascribed to the song.**

- All choirs **must sign some** aspect of the set song. This can be a verse, chorus, or an individual signing at the side of the stage. We will provide signing instructions to assist.
- The combined length of the songs/performance time, including any spoken dialogue, must not exceed **NINE** minutes. Points may be deducted from performances that exceed the time limit.
- All choirs **must** use the backing track provided for the set song. Acapella for the set song is **not** allowed.
- For their second song, choirs are expected to sing along to a pre-recorded accompaniment or backing track. The track must not contain any vocals and must be wholly instrumental.
- Choirs may sing their second song Acapella, should they wish.
- As part of the performance children may use instruments e.g. percussion instruments. However, these should be occasional or incidental to the backing track and should not play a dominant role, the use of instruments will not be included in the judging criteria. No other accompaniment will be allowed.
- **The choir leader must not sing or perform with the choir.**

Visual Performance

- We do not encourage the use of props, however, if it is felt that they would enhance your choir's performance then they may be used but they must be kept to a minimum. We do not have appropriate storage space in many of our venues and props often end up blocking fire escape routes etc. Banners/placards often interfere with the drop mics on stage and as such can only be handheld i.e. not on an extended pole. Too many or overly large props may result in a deduction of points. **Props will not be scored by the adjudicators.**
- Following discussion with venues the use of travelling acrobatics within your performance is not permitted, Children may still use assisted lifts and other simple manoeuvres.
- Bare feet /socks are not permitted in any theatre.
- The use of glitter or glitter sprays are not permitted in any theatre.

REGIONAL FINALS

- Each regional final will consist of 6-9 choirs which will include individual Sectional winners and the top scoring choirs from across all Sectionals.
- There will be 7 regional finals. The venues have been chosen based on capacity, cost, and ability to host multiple choirs. Again, this may be subject to change.
- There will be a different set song for the Regional Finals. The rules outlined above regarding set song 1 will apply to set song 2.
- The winning choir from each Regional Final will go forward to the National Final along with the next highest achieving choirs from across all regions.

NATIONAL FINAL

- The National Final will be held in the **Usher Hall on 20th June 2027**
- Schools may sing either of the set songs for their set song performance.
- Logistics for the National Final will be announced nearer the time.

ADJUDICATION

- This is a show choir (Glee) Challenge and therefore performances will be assessed by our adjudicators with a focus on:
 - **Vocal** e.g. Intonation, tone quality, diction, ensemble, balance, blend, interpretation of music and text, dynamics, phrasing and communication
 - **Visual** e.g. choreography, precision/execution, authenticity, appearance, communication, use of stage, signing BSL, SSE or Makaton (set song only)
 - **Teamwork** e.g. energy, group dynamics, engagement of whole group
 - **Performance** e.g. fit with theme, overall impact/entertainment and originality and creativity
- A copy of the assessment frame will be available on the website (members zone)
- Penalties may be applied for the following:
 - Running over allocated time
 - Failure to sign within the first
 - Inappropriate chanting
 - Changes to the set songs
 - Inappropriate lyrics
 - Accompaniment of the choir leader
- A summary of the adjudicators assessments and comments will be provided to each school, as soon as possible after the event.
- The Frisson Foundation will appoint a panel of 3-5 adjudicators depending on event size and availability. Please note that all our adjudicators provide their experience and time voluntarily.
- All decisions **are final. No correspondence** will be entered into regarding the decisions or results.

GENERAL

- Please check the dates for performances in your Region. This is available on our website
- Should your choir need to attend on a specific date please advise us, by email, as early as possible and before the draw takes place.

- **Changes to the draw will not be possible after the draw has been announced.**
- **The child/adult ratio when attending any of the live performances is 1:10** other than where children may have additional support needs.
- Where there is a need for additional support, please advise us directly and no later than 6 weeks before your performance
- All additional adults outwith the ratio who are not supporting ASN pupils will have to pay full ticket price – we cannot guarantee that additional staff will be seated beside the choir
- Martyn's Law - All accompanying teachers/chaperones must wear the security bracelets provided and their names must be submitted to The Glee Challenge at least 2 weeks before the event.
- Schools are expected to take all appropriate steps regarding photographic permissions of all participating children. Please note choir photographs and video footage may be used as part of our marketing strategy.
- Where there are photography permission issues then the choir will not be videoed and therefore no video of the event will be available to the school.
- Schools are responsible for all photography permissions and safeguarding issues in respect of their choir. The Frisson Foundation does have a Safeguarding Policy in place for all events (see website)
- No photography/videography will be allowed at any of our live events other than that approved by the Frisson Foundation.
- Anyone taking photographs/videos during the performances will be asked to leave
- It is anticipated that the school will encourage families/friends of the choir to attend and buy tickets for the performances and we will, as far as we can, maintain our ticket prices as low as possible.
- Schools are encouraged to explore ways and where possible action routes to raise funds to help the school participate e.g. help with bus travel costs to the live events. We have created a fundraising pack to help.
- Details of the finals are to follow – all events will commence at 18. 15/30 pm except for the National Final which will be held on the afternoon of **20th June 2027**

Behaviour of Parents, Supporters and School Communities

The Frisson Foundation is committed to creating a positive, welcoming and safe environment for children, schools, staff, volunteers, adjudicators, venues and audiences and operates a **zero-tolerance policy towards abuse, intimidation, harassment, threatening or inappropriate behaviour.**

All parents, carers, supporters and members of a participating school community are expected to behave respectfully and appropriately, **both** at Glee Challenge events and online, **including social media, messaging platforms and online groups.**

The following behaviour will not be tolerated:

- Verbal or physical abuse, intimidation, threatening or aggressive behaviour towards Glee staff, volunteers, adjudicators, venue staff, children, teachers or other audience members.
- Offensive, discriminatory, abusive or defamatory comments made online, including on social media or in online groups, relating to the Glee Challenge, its staff, volunteers, adjudicators, schools or participants.
- Attempts to influence, intimidate or challenge adjudicators or event staff regarding performance results or decisions.
- Disruptive behaviour that affects the enjoyment, safety or wellbeing of other participants or audience members.
- Any behaviour which brings the Scottish Primary School Glee Challenge, participating school or its community into serious disrepute.

Responsibility of Participating Schools

The Frisson Foundation recognises that schools, parents, carers and supporters are all part of the wider Glee community. **Creating a safe, positive and respectful environment is therefore a shared responsibility.**

We will work constructively with participating schools to communicate these expectations clearly and, where concerns arise, seek to address issues together wherever possible.

Schools are asked to support the Glee Challenge by making parents, carers and supporters aware of these standards and by encouraging respectful behaviour both at events and online.

Resolving Issues

Our aim is always to resolve issues constructively; however, where behaviour is serious, repeated or compromises the safety, wellbeing or integrity of the Challenge, we reserve the right to take appropriate action.

This may include,

- removal of individuals from an event,
- restriction of attendance at future events,
- reporting serious incidents to appropriate authorities or other relevant authorities where necessary
- issuing a warning
- Suspending or withdrawing a school's participation from the Glee Challenge

Where behaviour is particularly serious — including abuse, threats, harassment, intimidation or behaviour that creates a safeguarding or safety concern — the Frisson Foundation reserves the right to take immediate action, without necessarily issuing a prior warning.

Where inappropriate behaviour is carried out by a parent, carer or supporter, the Frisson Foundation will consider the circumstances and seriousness of the incident when determining whether action against the associated school is appropriate.

Any decision to remove a school from the Glee Challenge will be made by the Frisson Foundation following consideration of the circumstances and will be communicated to the school.

In the event of a disagreement/dispute arising between schools, we would ask you to please resolve it professionally through your own internal channels.

Our priority is to ensure that the Glee Challenge remains a positive, supportive and enjoyable experience for every child, school and family involved.

Finally

By entering the Challenge, participating schools agree to be bound by the rules and regulations of the Challenge. Please sign and return the form below

The Frisson Foundation reserves the right to review and adjust these rules as required and will advise all participants appropriately should this be necessary.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM (*gleechallenge@frissonfoundation.org.uk*)

I confirm that I have read and agree to the Rules and Regulations for the 2027 Glee Challenge, including the default withdrawal fee policy.

Name

Signature Date:

on behalf of

..... Primary School