

# How can I ensure Adjudicated Events are positive experiences for my students?

1. Read and follow the rules.
2. Be sure students are thoroughly prepared.
3. Emphasize the learning taking place in preparation, not the final rating.
4. Consider Festival Participation for initial experiences.

## Secrets to Solo & Ensemble Success

1. Preparation—be sure the student knows their scales, have their text memorized, etc.
2. Prepare the student as to what to expect from the process when they go into the room. Have them sit through a few other performances earlier in the day so they know what to expect.
3. Record a rehearsal, critique the tape with the student/ensemble.
4. Make sure a teacher is in the room during a performance.
5. Read sheet with student/ensemble and discuss.
6. Make sure students, directors, parents, accompanists, and everyone involved is aware of all rules and regulations.

## Secrets to Large Group Success

1. Be sure to have complete instrumentation or vocal parts. If need to rewrite parts for missing instruments for other instruments, consult a mentor in your area.
2. Regularly record rehearsals, review with students.
3. Bring in someone to critique before the event.
4. Play tape(s) for students after the event.

## Secrets to Large Group Sight-Reading

1. Make sight-reading a daily or weekly classroom experience from the beginning of the school year.
2. Practice the exact sight-reading procedure several times before the event.
3. Interact with the ensemble while they are reading the selection.
4. Impulse of will: show the ensemble confidence from the podium.
5. Have the students make eye contact with the adjudicator while he/she is addressing the ensemble.
6. Remember, the adjudicator is judging the entire process, not just the reading of the selection!

## Sight-Reading Rules

1. The sight-reading room is closed. Only the director and ensemble are permitted in with the judge.
2. Only one director is permitted to direct.

## Instrumental Sight-Reading Procedure

1. Seat the group
2. Percussion section may set up. The percussion instrumentation needs will come with your information for the event and should also appear on the board in the SR room.
3. Pass out music. Students should NOT open folders or turn over. Do not begin.
4. Study Session 1 — three or four minutes depending on class will be given to the director and the group to review the piece. No interaction with the students.
5. Study Session 2 — three or four minutes depending on class will be given for the director to talk through the piece and give instructions.
6. Read the piece continuously. The director may call out rehearsal numbers or sing parts.
7. The adjudicator will give some brief statements, music will be collected the group dismissed.

## Vocal Sight-Reading Procedure

1. There should be one copy of music for every two students.
2. Study Session 1 — you will be given four minutes to study the score and instruct the group by tapping rhythms, chanting, talking about any aspect of the music. Director and students may not produce music tonally.
3. Maintain high ethical standards.
4. Student make-up of the group should be identical to the forces which performed on stage.