

Malankara Syrian Orthodox Sunday school Association of North America



Regional Competition General Rules: 2011

AGE GROUPS:

The groups are divided strictly based on the age of students. There will no longer be classifications made on the basis of Sunday School class or Regular School.

K.G: Born on or after 01/01/2005 (going on 4, 5 & 6)

Primary: Born between 01/01/2003 and 12/31/2004 (going on 7 & 8)

Sub- Junior: Born between 01/01/2000 and 12/31/2002 (going on 9, 10 & 11)

Junior: Born between 01/01/1998 and 12/31/1999 (going on 12 & 13)

Intermediate: Born between 01/01/1996 and 12/31/1997 (going on 14 & 15)

Senior: Born between 01/01/1993 and 12/31/1995 (going on 16, 17 & 18)

A participant can participate only in his/her own age group including group items (except for Quiz). If any person is found otherwise, it will ground to the disqualification of that person from all individual and group items he/she participates.

K.G and Primary

- a) Aradhana Single
- b) Aradhana Group
- c) Devotional Single

Sub-Juniors

- a) Aradhana single
- b) Aradhana group,
- c) Devotional Single
- d) Instrumental single
- e) Elocution
- f) Bible Verse writing

Junior, Intermediate & Seniors

- a) Aradhana single
- b) Aradhana group
- c) Devotional Single
- d) Instrumental single
- e) Elocution
- f) Bible Verse writing
- g) Bible Test

Elocution Topics 2011: Please note that reading from a paper during the elocution competition will constitute disqualification of the participant. So, prepare well for the competition.

❖ **Sub Junior (age 9-11):**

Humility - (“Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time”. 1 Peter 5:6)

❖ **Junior (age 12-13):**

Why do we seek intercession with Saints? (“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective”.. St. James 5:16)

❖ **Intermediate (age 14-15):**

Sin and its consequences - (“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in [a] Christ Jesus our Lord”. Romans 6:23, or Genesis 3-3)

❖ **Senior (age 16-18):**

Your Role in the Society - (“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light”. 1 Peter 2:9 or Ephesians 4:16)

TIME LIMITS

All Music items (Individual, Instrumental, and Group): 3 minutes

Elocution: 5 minutes

OTHER INSTRUCTIONS:

1. All Participants should be Sunday school students. (Enrolling Head Master’s responsibility-Both the Vicar and the Headmaster should sign the document)
2. The headmaster must ascertain the Age and group assignment. Along with the age, date of birth of each participant in the format of mm/yyyy should be included.
3. Point assignment will be as follows – **3pts** for First, **2pts** for Second & **1pt** for Third.
4. Individual championships will be awarded to the student with maximum points in each group.
5. Only individual items will be counted for Individual championship.

6. The rating of performance will be a 1 - 10 scale by the panel of judges. The decisions of the judges are final and binding. There shouldn't be any complaints directed to any of the judges at any instance. Kindly refrain from interfering the scoring process or tabulation. All complaints shall be directed to the Regional Director.
7. Instead of disqualifying a contestant, negative points to the extent of ½ point per 30 seconds for exceeding time limit will be levied.
8. The songs can be in English, Malayalam or Syriac. For elocution, it shall be either in English or Malayalam.
9. All trophies and certificates for the winners are for them to keep. The Regional Ever Rolling trophy can be kept by the winning Sunday School for one year. The trophy becomes the property of that Sunday School after 3years of consecutive winning.

10. **Bible Verses:**

A) Only complete Verses including the name of the book, chapter and verse will be counted- No partial credits. Spelling errors may be considered. Abbreviations are allowed

B) Use only the selected golden verses given by the Sunday School Association.

11. **Group Songs:**

A) There shall be a minimum of 2 members and a max of 6 members in a team. All members of the group must be listed. No one can be in more than one group for the same item.

B) If there is any clarification needed in determining what songs can be used in Aradhana song competition, please confirm with your Parish Vicar or Regional Director.

12. If there are less than two churches for an item, there cannot be a competition on that item. No points for that item will be given to the parish or the person towards championship. But certificate will be issued. Head Masters will be informed in such a situation.
13. The Sunday school receives points from group as well as individual items. Individuals will not receive points from group items.
14. If time permits, Sunday schools may present an item for entertainment at the end of the competition for pure fun and show of talent. Please inform the H.M and the Regional Director about the event and the time required for it.

- 15. Single Items: Only 2 participants per church per item except for Bible Verse**
- 16. Group Songs: One group per church with a max number of 6 in a group.**
- 17. Bible Test:** There can be two participants from JUNIOR, INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR, GROUPS from each church on an individual basis.
- 18. Quiz Competition:** There can be only one team per church, a maximum of three students representing a Sunday School (members need not be from the same age group).
- 19.** Microphones are permitted. Unless there is an emergency no body other than the site coordinators and the contestants are allowed to use the microphone during the competitions.
- 20.** The decisions of the President and Director or Regional Director shall be final and binding in case of disputes or clarifications made on the general rules.
- 21.** Regional Director will inform Sunday Schools if there are any updates made in the General Rules. Please check our website www.malankara.com/sundayschool regularly for new information and news.
- 22.** The names of at least 3 judges and participants from each Sunday school should be sent to your Regional Director well in advance. He will verify and confirm the participant list with each Sunday school and will inform the host Sunday school.
- 23.** The Regional Director reserves the right to assign judges from the panel available.
- 24. The format and guidelines for the Quiz competition and Bible test is attached.**
- 25.** Format of the forms to send names, Scoring sheet for judges, grouping of students by item are attached. We are exploring the possibilities of automation in the tabulation & certificate writing.
- 26.** The President and Regional Director shall sign the Certificates.
- 27.** Each region shall make arrangements to collect participant and registration fees as applicable to meet expenses of the competition.

Instructions for Judges

There should be separate score sheets for each items in order to provide effective tabulation and reference. All judges should write their name and sign the score sheet.

Elocution: Deduct 1/2 point for every **30 seconds over 5 minutes** from total.

Subject matter relevance (4/10) Organized thoughts & ideas (2/10) Audibility & Voice modulation (2/10) Preparation & effort (1) Gestures and expressions (1) Total Deductions. Net Total

Instrumental Music: Deduct 1/2 point for every **30 sec over 3 minutes**

Chords/complexity (3/10) Correct notes (3/10) Rhythm (2/10) Preparation & effort (1) Style of Presentation (1) Total Deductions. Net Total

Single Songs: Deduct 1/2 point for every **30 sec over 3 minutes:** Pleasing sound quality (3/10) Ability to maintain pitch (3/10) Complexity (2/10) Preparation & effort (2) Total Deductions. Net Total

Group Songs: Deduct 1/2 point for every **30 sec over 3 minutes.** Pleasing sound quality (3/10) Ability to maintain pitch (3/10) Complexity (2/10) Preparation & effort (1) Style of Presentation (1) Total Deductions. Net Total

Sequence of Competition

Please note that this is only a suggestion, the actual sequence will depend on the number of participants and facilities available at the host church.

- 1) **Bible Verse Writing:** (15 minutes) Will begin immediately after Registration. Primary Group Competitions can begin parallel to this as they are not writing Bible Verse
- 2) **Aradhana Single** 3) **Aradhana Group** 4) **Devotional Single** 5) **Elocution** 6) **Bible Quiz**
- 7) **Instrumental Music Single** 8) **Bible Test**

Some general things to remember:

Please refrain from clapping after the performance of each participant. A general round of applause can be done after each item is over.

Designate one person for each session to assist the judges, by supplying them with participant lists, collecting the scoring sheets, and general facilitations.

A team of not less than 5-6 people to evaluate the bible verse

A dedicated team to compute the results (2-3) at a time is ideal.

A team for writing the certificates. Explore the possibility in automating Certificates.