

## DRCJ FAQs – Competitor Entry in Barberscore

### A competitor tells me they can't even login to Barberscore – what is the issue?

Fortunately, this is now a rare occurrence. Today the most common problems are:

- They are not using the correct email address associated with their BHS Member Center record.
- They have not read the *Login Instructions* tutorial PDF, and/or they haven't watched the additional short videos explaining how to troubleshoot login issues.

If you can't help them, please ask them to gain assistance from:  
customerservice@barbershop.org.

### A competitor tells me they don't see their group in Barberscore – what is the issue?

**For Choruses:** *(Please see the next FAQ below)*

**For Quartets:** There are two common issues. (1) They must be the designated contact person for the quartet (as indicated in the Member Center) which puts them in the "Quartet Admin" role. (2) If their quartet was just recently registered in the Member Center, please be aware that newly registered quartets are not "completed" (fully registered) in the Member Center until BHS headquarters has: approved the quartet name; processed the subscription fee; and finished the final validation by updating their MC record. ***This process can take up to 5 business days.***

### They are not able to edit or enter their chorus in contest – what is the issue?

Only the following Chorus Leader roles (as identified in the Member Center) have edit access for their chorus in Barberscore:

- Chorus Director
- Chorus Associate or Assistant Director
- Chorus Manager

If they can't edit their group, most likely they have not yet been identified as one of those Chorus Leaders in the BHS Member Center. If needed – please communicate

with their Chapter President, Secretary, or Treasurer – as only those 3 roles have the permissions to change or add Chorus Leaders in the BHS Member Center. *[Note: If necessary, we recommend utilizing the Chorus Manager role, since more than one member can be added to that role.]*

If they have been added to Member Center (and they're still not able to edit) – submit an inquiry to report the situation to [customerservice@barbershop.org](mailto:customerservice@barbershop.org).

### **How long does it take changes made in the Member Center to get reflected in Barberscore?**

We run a background every night. Therefore, any new data (or changed data) in the Member Center should be reflected in Barberscore no later than the next day.

**However, there is an exception.** Please be aware that brand-new quartets are not “completed” in the Member Center until BHS headquarters has: approved their quartet name; processed their subscription fee; and finished the final validation. ***This process can take up to 5 business days.***

Please be aware that data is not refreshed in the browser window automatically in Barberscore. To ensure you're viewing the most recent data, perform an explicit “reload” or “refresh” of the web page. If you suspect that a data sync issue has occurred involving member or group info, please submit the query to: [customerservice@barbershop.org](mailto:customerservice@barbershop.org).

### **What happens when a Barberscore question or request is submitted to customerservice@barbershop.org?**

There is a team of 5 people at BHS headquarters, tasked to respond within 24 hours. Depending on the question/request, they either handle the issue directly or they “assign” it to the Barberscore admin team (currently Chris Buechler and David Mills). If we can't resolve the issue, we escalate it to Dave Binetti. In all cases, the individual submitting the request will be updated as to the status/resolution via email.

### **How does a newly-formed quartet (registered after my contest session was opened) enter the contest?**

While they won't receive an automated email encouraging them to enter the contest (as all previously registered quartets received when you opened the contest session in Barberscore) – they will still follow the exact same process. BHS has several links

scattered around their website that steer quartets wishing to enter a contest to this page: <http://help.barbershop.org/article/21-quartet-register-contest>.

This page in turn directs them to the Barberscore tutorials page: <https://www.barberscore.com/tutorials>.

There they will find the instructions for entering a contest. Alternatively, you as the DRCJ could add them directly to your contest on their behalf by going to the Entries tab for that contest session, click the green **Create New Entry** button, find the group, then click the blue **Save** button. From there, they can further edit their entry info.

### **Should I be concerned about new quartets that are formed right before my contest entry deadline?**

YES, (this is a critical issue)! You need to be prepared to mitigate this common problem. Since new quartet registrations can take up to 5 business days to be completed in Member Center (and thus “visible” in Barberscore), it is important that DRCJs communicate their contest entry deadlines very explicitly to district members that may be considering the formation of a new quartet. It is highly recommended that you communicate an earlier deadline (for submitting new quartet registrations in Member Center) of at least 1 week prior to your contest entry deadline. Any new quartet failing to comply might still be allowed to compete, but would perhaps not be part of your official “draw” for singing order appearance and might have to sing first (or last). All of that would be your call.

### **How does a new quartet become identified with a division?**

For those 6 districts that have divisions (EVG, FWD, LOL, MAD, NED, SWD) – once they have identified their chosen district, they will then choose a division. If a quartet has identified the wrong division, you must contact the Member Center to have them switched to the proper division. This should be accomplished prior to the quartet admin attempting to enter a contest session. It is up to you to delete their entry or change their contest award selections if necessary.

### **How do we add/enter non-BHS groups into a contest session?**

Groups other than a chorus that represents a BHS chapter or an officially registered BHS quartet will not be able to enter any contest until they have been added manually via the backend API by a Barberscore Admin. “Non-BHS groups” include the

following: VLQs and Youth quartets & choruses. (We also support MBHA quartets and choruses for "score only" entries). If one of these groups wish to enter a contest session, simply gather the following information about the group:

- Their "official" group name (however, it does not have to be unique or "registered" anywhere)
- Location (City, State/Province) of the group
- Contact person (that will serve as the group admin for contest entry) full name & email. If they are a BHS member, provide their BHS ID number.
- Director name (for choruses). If they are a BHS member, provide their BHS ID number.
- For quartets – the name of each singer and their voice part. If they are a BHS member, provide their BHS ID number – if not, provide their email address.

...then email your request to have the group added by a Barberscore admin (Chris Buechler and David Mills). Once we have added the information into Barberscore, their group contact person should be directed by you to "enter" the contest session in Barberscore just the same as any other competitor. Of course, they should select only the applicable awards (if any) for their group, otherwise it would be for score/eval only.

### **Does the mic-tester quartet need to "enter" the contest session via Barberscore?**

No. However, if any performing quartet or chorus serving as a mic-tester or mic-cooler desires scores from the judging panel (and/or evaluations) – then they need to "enter" your contest session via Group Manager in Barberscore just as any other competitor for score/eval only. Also, please indicate as such in the notes/comments box.

### **How does a quartet or chorus enter the contest for score/eval only?**

All competitors will enter the contest session in Barberscore in the same manner. For those groups that are not eligible for any of the available awards/contests – (or perhaps they are, but they simply prefer to NOT officially compete) – they simply don't select any award/contest prior to submitting their entry. In addition, they must select the *Scores/Eval Only* button. Be aware that their scores will not appear on the Official Scoring Summary (OSS) that is distributed to the public, instead, their group will only receive a Contest Scoring Analysis (CSA) sheet.

Please note: For any group that is actually competing for one or more awards, selecting the *Score/Eval Only* button will not be allowed.

### **What is the process for handling OOD (out-of-district) quartets?**

Since these OOD quartets won't receive an automated email encouraging them to enter your contest session (as all "in-district" quartet admins receive when you open the contest session in Barberscore) – they will need to be handled a bit differently. Of course (per C&J rules) they must still obtain the appropriate permissions in advance to compete in your district. Then (after you open your contest session), you will need to communicate to them that the contest is "available" for them to enter.

There are two ways to achieve this. Normally, you just send them an email, and then the group admin should login to Barberscore, and select the contest they wish to enter (they will see a drop-down list of ALL contest sessions that are open for competitor entry). Alternatively, you as the DRCJ could add them to your contest session on their behalf by going to the **Entries** tab for that contest session, click the green **Create New Entry** button, find the group, then click the blue **Save** button. From there, they can further edit their entry info.

Of course the only contest (award) they should have selected will be qualifying for the International-level prelim contest. They should be excluded from any other district awards. It is your responsibility to ensure their contest entry only includes the appropriate award. If they score a 76+, they will be listed along with all of the other quartets in your district that qualified for International.

### **How do we handle OODiv (out-of-division) contest entries?**

While these OODiv groups may not necessarily receive an automated email encouraging them to enter that particular contest session (as all "in-division" quartet or chorus admins receive when you open the contest session in Barberscore) – they will still follow a similar process. The main difference will be the need for you to notify any interested groups that the contest is "available" for them to enter.

There are two ways to achieve this. Normally, the group admin (once aware) should login to Barberscore, and simply select the contest they wish to enter (they will see a drop-down list of ALL contest sessions that are open for submitting competitor entries – even those that are in other districts). Alternatively, you as the DRCJ could add them to your contest on their behalf by going to the **Entries** tab for that contest session, click the green **Create New Entry** button, find the group, then click the blue **Save** button. From there, they can further edit their entry info.

To be clear, most districts allow for quartets or choruses to enter and compete in a different division contest, however, some require approval in advance, some do not. Either way, the only contests (awards) they should select will be those that involve qualifying for some future District-level contest or award. They should be excluded from any “division-level” awards. It is your responsibility to ensure their contest entry only includes the appropriate awards (if any).

**Can we allow for someone else (such as a district Event Manager or a DRCJ “assistant”) to see the contest entry information in Barberscore prior to “verifying” the session?**

Yes. The process will be for you to identify in advance to the Barberscore admins (Chris Buechler and David Mills), additional folks that you want to have that access. They will be assigned as a "DRCJ Observer" to your contests sessions – and receive all the email notifications you do. However, they will also have edit access to Barberscore, so it is important for you to ensure that they "look, but don't touch" when they are logged into Barberscore to see the contest session entries.

**When should I click the Open Session button?**

Ideally, on the date you indicated to SCJC that you planned to open the contest session for competitor entry. Reminder – (prior to opening the session) you should have verified all information on the Convention tab for that session. Most importantly, are the dates and available awards correct? If not, you must send an email to the Barberscore admins (Chris Buechler and David Mills) with the information that needs to be edited.

REMINDER: If the contest session is “non-invitational” (meaning that it is open to all eligible competitors) – every quartet member in your district will receive an email announcing the opening of the quartet session and encouraging them to enter. Likewise, every designated Chapter Leader for every chorus will receive an email announcing the opening of the chorus session.

**When should I click the Close Session button?**

Ideally, on the date that you indicated that you wanted to set as a deadline for competitor entry (the close date). It is up to you if you wish to do it later – however, if you wish to close BEFORE the close date, you will get an error – so please contact Chris Buechler or David Mills to request that your close date be changed to support that. **REMINDER:** The following is true after you close the session:

- The initial draw is generated for you (now visible in the **Draw** tab).
- New competitors are no longer able to enter the contest by themselves.
- However, you can still add a new entry on a group's behalf.
- You can scratch any entry (or edit information if needed) at any time.
- All competitors can continue to add charts to their repertory at any time.
- You can keep the random draw as-is, or you can re-sort it as many times as you see fit.

### **When should I click the Verify Session button?**

Generally around the same time as your convention program is ready to be created and printed. However, since the CAs will need some time to prepare and setup their contest scoring, it is required that you initially verify the session **no later than 5 days prior to the contest**. REMINDER: The following is true after you verify the session:

- Three reports are automatically generated and available on the Details tab:
  - BBScores Excel Report (lists all songs currently in competitor's repertory)
  - DRCJ Excel Report (provides competitor and contest info)
  - Admin Emails Report (lists all competitors and their group admin email addresses)
- You can still add a new entry to the contest on a group's behalf.
- You can scratch any entry (or edit information if needed) at any time.
- All competitors can continue to add charts to their repertory.
- You can still re-sort the draw.

Any changes that are made after a contest session has been verified may be followed by clicking the **Re-Verify Session** button if you wish to generate a new email to be sent to you, the CAs, and your DRCJ assistants.

### **When should I click the Re-Verify Session button?**

Please review the previous FAQ regarding the Verify Session button. Generally speaking, any time a change is made to the session, you DO NOT need to click the Re-Verify Session button in order to regenerate those 3 Excel reports, since they are updated automatically. However, if you wish to generate a new email to be sent to you, the CA's, and your DRCJ assistants (to let them know that there are changes), clicking the Re-Verify button is recommended.

### **When should I click the Package Session button?**

You **MUST** package the session as soon as you're ready to hand the contest over to the Contest Administrator. **Each DRCJ MUST do the following actions** the day before the contest (but certainly no later than a few hours prior):

- Click the Package Session button
- Notify the CAs that the contest session belongs to them

### **What if I need to make a change after the contest session has been “packaged” for the CA’s?**

Easy. Simply tell the CA the change you wish to make. They can make any edits as you require.

### **Can I customize the emails that are automatically sent by Barberscore to my competitors?**

Currently, no. We will be prioritizing this feature request (along with others) for possible implementation in the future. Meanwhile, we expect that all DRCJs will continue to communicate any additional specific information to your district membership and competitors as you have in the past – (via your district website, emails, phone calls, etc.). Fortunately, since you already receive a Cc of every email sent to your group admins from Barberscore, you can leverage those emails to send any additional emails as you see fit.

### **How do I add/edit a judge or candidate judge for my convention?**

You can't do this directly because all information on the Convention tab is static. In order to make any additions/deletions/changes, it must be done via the Barberscore backend API. Please send an email to the Barberscore admins (Chris Buechler and David Mills) with the information that needs to be edited. This is especially important as you become aware of any candidate judges that need to be added or removed, because your CAs use this information to setup their scoring sessions.

### **What does Approve Entry really mean when I click that button – (what am I approving)?**

At the very least, you are essentially verifying (and thus “approving”) the competitor's entry if the following is true:



- Is this group allowed to be in your contest session?
- Are they eligible for all of the awards they have included? Did they include all the ones they should have?
- For Choruses: Did they provide the Director(s) name in the text box? Did they indicate their projected number of participants on stage?
- For Quartets: If there are more than 4 members, have they indicated just the 4 members to be competing?

### **Am I responsible for “fixing” a competitor’s contest entry submission prior to clicking the Approve Entry button?**

In short, YES! It is your responsibility to do a “sanity check” before you approve it. For example:

- Are they eligible (to the best of your knowledge) for the awards they have selected? If not, exclude those awards. If you’re unsure, follow-up with them directly.
- Did they neglect to enter a contest (award) for which they are eligible? If so, double-check with them and perhaps include those awards.
- For quartets, (if they have more than 4 members) have they indicated which members will not be competing? If not, find out and fix it for them. If you can’t, you will need to direct them to the Member Center to properly update their quartet membership information.
- For choruses, have they typed in the name of their Director in that text box? If not, find out and add the name. Also, have they provided an estimate of participants? If not, find out and update that for them.

The good news is – even if you miss something, you can still “fix” an entry involving any competitor even after you approve their entry. Obviously it is important that all information is correct prior to clicking the “Verify Session” button, because that is when the first report is generated for you and the CAs.

### **When should I approve a competitor's entry?**

Ideally, you should be approving contest entries just as soon as possible after the competitor has submitted it – (you’ll be receiving a Cc of their automated “you have submitted” email). You should NOT wait until after they have added all of their songs to their repertory. When you approve their entry, they will receive another email right away with their contest entry approval confirmation, along with a list of the charts that are currently in their repertory – (as well as a reminder to get songs added to their repertory before the contest if they’re not already there).

Please note: For quartets, it is entirely possible that one or more members may be identified as having expiring memberships by the date of the contest. While this should not keep you from approving their entry, you should be looking at their membership status as you get closer to the contest date.

For choruses, we have eliminated the need for the chorus admin to identify which chapter member will be appearing on stage. Instead, the list of members is simply provided as a helpful resource to those chapter secretaries to see at a glance the status of all their members. They are still responsible for verifying the eligibility of all their performers on stage (chapter membership, current dues, convention registrations, etc.). Instead, we have created a Participants-On-Stage box for them to provide an estimate to you of the number of men they expect to have at the contest.

### **Should I remind an entrant they do not have sufficient songs in their repertory?**

Yes, at least a week prior to contest, any entrant without at least two songs (or 4 for quartet prelims) in their repertory should be asked to update their repertory. There is no sense in having “songs sung but not submitted” be a normal event.

### **Why can't I just add a song title to a group's Chart Repertory for them?**

There is a reason why you can't just “add” a song to a competitor's repertory... they must “vouch” for the chart as having been “legally” obtained. To be clear – just because a chart title is in our Barberscore database, or just because a chart has a BHS catalog number (from the Harmony Marketplace) does not mean the chart is legal **for that group.**

Example #1: a legal BHS catalog arrangement must still be purchased by that group (or have been gifted to them by some other purchaser) for that competitor to be able to “claim” it as a legal chart to be sung by them in contest. By adding that chart to their repertory, they are attesting to the fact that they own legal copies of the arrangement – (and not just obtained by them via a copy machine from someone else).

Example #2: a custom arrangement that was granted copyright clearance for another group (via its arranger) and was added to that group's repertory to sing in a previous contest. While that chart may be listed as a title in our database - it may not be legal to be used by another group unless they have purchased it and have been granted clearance as well.

Example #3: a chart that was legal many years ago may not be today. Again, it might be in our database (because it was sung legally in a previous contest) – but perhaps the copyright clearance permissions have now expired.

Ultimately it is the responsibility of the group to select charts to be added to their repertory that they feel meet the basic criteria for being “legal” for them to perform. While there are some rare exceptions, in general:

- If they have purchased copies of a chart for every member of their group via the Harmony Marketplace, they are all set. Another case may be older legally purchased copies that have since been gifted to another group.
- If they are performing a song that is in the public domain, they are all set. (The exception would be if someone created a custom arrangement and the group has not purchased or sought permission from the arranger to perform that chart).
- If they are performing any other custom arrangement (not obtained via the Harmony Marketplace), normally the arranger has already secured copyright permissions. It is the group’s responsibility however to verify that the chart is legal (from the copyright holder’s perspective) – and of course they should have obtained copies of the arrangement legally as well.

Finally – “we” (BHS, C&J, or the Barberscore contest entry system) do not require any proof (in advance) that any chart sung in a BHS contest is “legal” for that group. To be clear, every performer is responsible for performing legally obtained music whether it is on a public show, a private performance, or a BHS contest. The only time the BHS Contest & Judging system will become involved in seeking validation for the legality of a chart would be if a complaint was registered by the copyright owner, or an arranger, or some other valid stakeholder – alleging that a chart performed in a contest was illegally obtained.