

**RALLY BOARD MINUTES
ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA
JUNE 30, 2018**

BOARD MEMBERS: Tamah Goad, Kathy Norris, Teresa Thomason, Robin Yee, Raymond (Kit Loong) Yee, Hannah Mayo , Carla Breaux, Jeanne Patterson, La Wanda Blakeney

LMTA OFFICERS: Pam Pike, President, LMTA and Rebecca Bellelo, Vice President, Rallies

Tamah Goad, State Rally Chair, called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and thanked Teresa for hosting the meeting. She also congratulated Pam on being named editor of *Clavier*. Kudos, Pam!

Raymond presented the Treasurer's report, which lists our District Rally profit as \$1,908.72 and T/S profit as \$1,132.38.

OLD BUSINESS

Tamah had prepared individual packets, which included the number of participants for each district, a Judge's Ranking form, and a Torgrimson/Swanzy State Competition entry form. She urged all district representatives to be sure to send Rally results within a week after Rally. If there are enough students to justify a second section, the database selects students automatically, and chairs MUST follow that order. Tamah also stressed that Performance students MUST play in order. This makes the job easier for the District Chair, but more importantly, it prevents any sense of impropriety or partiality.

Regarding judges' fees, the Board unanimously agreed to keep \$400 for T/S judges. This is a FLAT FEE and does NOT include mileage or other expenses. Board members also agreed to leave \$150 for a full day of judging (6 hours) for District judges. Out-of-town District judges are expected to carpool, with the driver(s) receiving the same amount for mileage as before. (See syllabus, p. 37 for additional details.)

Members agreed that face-to-face meetings are more effective than Skype.

Rebecca agreed to investigate a string rally in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

Pam announced that LMTA is working on a curriculum that includes improvisation, jazz, reading lead sheets, and hymns, and members expressed the hopes that this would attract students who might not compete in Rally.

Members agreed that using music that has been downloaded for competitions is acceptable, if the teacher has paid for the download or has a copy of the receipt.

Members discussed various issues about the T/S Competition and unanimously agreed on the following:

1. T/S Certificates will continue to be printed commercially, with names and levels filled in by the Piano Rally Chair. The certificates, along with adjudication forms, **MUST** go to the teacher, **NOT** the parent or student. A teacher who is not at T/S should make arrangements for another teacher to pick up the papers, since they will not be mailed.
LMTA will no longer pay to have the District Certificates printed. However, teachers will be able to print their certificates, which will be available at the website or from a link sent to teachers by e-mail. Laura Pray and Tamah are working on this.
2. Performance monitors should tell each student that he/she can warm up on the piano but should **NOT** start until the judge is through writing and has indicated to the student that it's time to begin.
3. The warm-up schedule should not change. The warm-up monitor should not allow any student to enter the room before that student's designated time, even if the previous student is absent.
4. Teachers should follow the syllabus exactly re: composers' names. It's just easier that way!
5. Baton Rouge District is allowed to hold Rally performances that are open to the public.
6. Tamah showed members a notebook of sight reading examples that she purchased. The Board discussed using these examples, which are free to be copied by Tamah. if the owner grants permission, Tamah may donate the notebook to LMTA.
7. If a student has signed up for T/S but is unable to play, please let Tamah know as soon as possible, preferably **BEFORE** the day of the Competition. If a teacher doesn't know until the day of the Competition, please text Tamah at 337-540-1105.
8. There will be no changes right now in the non-competitive students' requirements or awards.
9. Beginning in spring 2019, Level I keyboard skill requirements will include one-octave scales and arpeggios HT as an option.
10. Any downloaded music used for District Rally or T/S must include a cover page showing proof of purchase or a receipt of purchase.
11. Re: Keyboard Consideration #1: Prep A and Prep B will remain the same. Students in Levels I-IV will choose one new key and then draw from two containers, one with new keys and one with review keys.
12. The Board discussed using more than one trophy business but decided that it's best to stay with one company, since they have the LMTA logo (which we paid for) and can maintain uniformity among all trophies.
13. Hannah made a motion to eliminate sight reading for Prep A, but the Board decided against that.
14. Robin requested that Prep A students be permitted to enter T/S, but the Board decided that such an addition of students would be more expensive and that, perhaps, younger children are not yet ready for the stress of state competition.

15. The Board decided that the syllabus, theory tests, and sight reading materials need to be completely revised. A committee—Teresa as Chair, Robin, and Hannah—will work on this and prepare suggestions for the next meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

La Wanda Blakeney