RULES FOR REGIONAL-LEVEL COMPETITIONS

1. Appointing the 2021 Competition Coordinator.
The Regional Competition Coordinator may run the competition his/herself or appoint a member of the region in consultation with the Regional Councillor.

2. When and where to hold the Regional Competition
Regional Competitions will be held between Saturday, May 8 and Sunday, May 16, 2021. Earlier competition dates will be offered by HQ if the last chapter competition in the region is earlier than April 17.
   a. The competition coordinator will be supplied with competitors’ audio submissions as soon as they are available. The submissions for the Regional Competitions are due 6 days before the competition date.
   b. The audio submissions for each competitor should be made available to the judges in advance of the competition date, giving them sufficient time to listen to and score each submission. The file names of the recordings should NOT contain the name or any other identifying feature of the competitor.
   c. The competition coordinator should set up a time on the competition date for the judges to meet (via video or teleconference), confer and select the winner.
   d. Regional Competitions cannot be combined.

4. Appointing judges
   a. Three judges will be appointed, in consultation with the Regional Councillor, no later than one week after all chapter competitions have been completed. If any of these parties has a student who is a competitor, he or she cannot be a judge. These judges should be highly knowledgeable with regard to organ literature and performance practice.
   b. Neither the Regional Councillor, nor the Regional Competition Coordinator, may serve as a judge in his or her own Region.
   c. Neither judges nor Coordinators of Chapter Competitions may serve as judges of a Regional Competition in the same Region.
   d. No past or present teacher of a competitor, or any other teacher associated with a school attended by a competitor, may serve as a judge of that competitor. It is therefore imperative that no judges be appointed until the competitors, their teachers, and their schools are known.
   e. The names of the judges will not be made public until the conclusion of the competition

7. Competition performance
   a. Each competitor will re-submit their chapter competition performance (three repertoire and one hymn) to be judged as part of the regional competition. The performance time of this submission should not exceed 40 minutes.
   b. Each competitor will perform and record a freely chosen additional work and a new hymn selected from the list provided. The total time of the additional work and the hymn must not exceed 13 minutes.
c. The competitor will introduce the hymn as though leading a large, enthusiastic congregation in the singing of all stanzas. At least the first stanza of the hymn must be played from the version downloaded from AGOhq.org. Published, improvised, or transposed arrangements may be used for the introduction and any subsequent stanza, if desired.

d. Judging will be based on the combination of the 4 repertoire pieces and the two hymns submitted via two audio recordings.

8. Judging of the competition is blind.
The judges should not be aware of whose submission they are judging.

9. Single competitor
In the event there is only one competitor, the competitor must still perform for the judges. The judges will determine if a prize is to be awarded.

11. Responsibilities of the Convention Competition Coordinator
   a. Inform the judges of the works (including editions of Bach works) and hymns to be performed.
   b. Remind judges to provide signed, written comments to competitors concerning their performances. Verbal discussion with the competitors following the competition is encouraged.
   c. Provide judges with the official form to score and rate competitors (downloadable from Agohq.org).
   d. Remind judges that they have the right to withhold any or all prizes. In the event of a tie for first place, places will be determined by the sum of the scores on the 100-point scale. If this still results in a tie, the judges will determine the first- and second-place winners by consensus.

12. Regional winners
   a. Each Region will award a $1,000 cash prize to the first-place winner and a $500 cash prize to the second-place winner of the Regional Competition. These awards are made possible by a generous grant from Michael Quimby, President, Quimby Pipe Organs Inc.
   b. The first-place winner will be invited to record a 6-8 minute video recital to be featured during the 2021 OrganFest. The competitor will be reimbursed up to $500 by OrganFest for the cost of videography, on production of receipts.
   c. The winner of each Regional Competition will be invited to perform at the 2022 National Convention in Seattle. In the event the first-place winner cannot perform, the second-place winner will be invited to play.
   d. Winners will be featured in THE AMERICAN ORGANIST

13. Regional financial responsibilities
Each judge shall receive a $100 honorarium if there are one or two competitors, plus $25 for each additional competitor over two.
14. Reporting results
Upon conclusion of the Regional Competition, the Competition Coordinator will provide the names of first- and second-place winners to Headquarters, immediately upon completion of the competition.