17th Henryk Wieniawski International Violin Competition

# RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE JURY

**Article 1**

These Rules and Regulations of the Jury (hereinafter: the "Rules and Regulations") set out the rules governing the work of the Jury of the 17th Henryk Wieniawski International Violin Competition (hereinafter: the "Competition"), organised by Henryk Wieniawski Musical Society and held in Poznań from 8 to 25 October 2026.

**Article 2**

The task of the Jury is to assess the performing artistry, including the technical and interpretative skills, of the violinists admitted to the Competition, and to award prizes in accordance with the provisions of the Rules and Regulations of the 17th Henryk Wieniawski International Violin Competition and these Rules and Regulations of the Jury.

**Article 3**

The members of the Jury, including the Chair of the Jury, are appointed by the Henryk Wieniawski Musical Society in Poznań.

**Article 4**

1. The Chair represents the Jury and presides over its proceedings.
2. The Jury has no authority to modify the structure of the prizes, to change the programme or the schedule of the auditions, or to take any other decisions of an organisational or administrative nature.

**Article 5**

1. Subject to Article 8(1), Jurors are obliged to hear and assess all participants in the Competition at all of its stages and to attend all meetings of the Jury.
2. The Director of the Competition may dismiss a member of the Jury in the event of a breach of these Rules and Regulations or of the Rules and Regulations of the Competition, in particular in the event of unjustified absence during the auditions or meetings of the Jury, or of a breach of the provisions of Article 8(1) or Article 16(3).
3. In exceptional cases, the Director of the Competition may consent to a Juror's absence or excuse such absence.

**Article 6**

1. Meetings of the Jury are held according to the following schedule:
    a. before the start of the Stage 1 auditions (first meeting);
    b. immediately after the last session of the Stage 1 auditions;
    c. immediately after the last session of the Stage 2 auditions;
    d. immediately after the last session of the Stage 3 auditions;
    e. immediately after the last session of the Stage 4 auditions;
    f. immediately after the conclusion of the Final auditions (final meeting).
2. Additional meetings of the Jury may be convened by the Chair of the Jury or by the Director of the Competition.
3. The deliberations of the Jury are confidential and minutes are taken of them.
4. Meetings of the Jury may be attended by the Director of the Competition or persons designated by her, as well as by the Secretary of the Jury.

**Article 7**

1. The Secretary of the Jury, a member of staff of the Competition Office delegated by the Director of the Competition, is responsible for coordinating the organisational and technical aspects of the Jury's proceedings.
2. The Secretary of the Jury is responsible in particular for the proper conduct of the procedures relating to the assessment of participants, including the preparation of score sheets for the Jurors, the performance of calculations after each stage, the preparation of summaries and materials necessary for the Jury to take the decisions provided for in the Rules and Regulations of the Competition, and the taking of minutes of the meetings of the Jury.

**Article 8**

1. At no stage of the Competition shall a member of the Jury take part in the assessment of a participant in respect of whom any of the following circumstances applies:
    a. the participant is a student of the Juror concerned (at a school or university, or privately);
    b. the participant was a student of the Juror for a period longer than 12 months, excluding masterclasses;
    c. the participant is related to, or has a close personal relationship with, the Juror concerned.
2. At the first meeting of the Jury, each Juror shall submit a written declaration identifying the participants in the Competition in respect of whom the circumstances referred to in Section 1 apply, and shall hand it to the Director of the Competition or a person authorised by her. The information contained in the declaration shall form an annex to the summary of scores made public after the conclusion of the Competition.
3. In case of doubt as to whether the circumstances referred to in Section 1 apply, a Juror shall report the matter to the Director of the Competition or a person authorised by her during the first meeting of the Jury. The matter shall be decided by the Director of the Competition, whose decision is final.
4. During the audition of a participant in respect of whom the circumstances referred to in Section 1 apply, the Juror concerned shall not assess the performance.

**Article 9**

1. At each stage of the Competition, Jurors award each participant's performance a score on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest), using whole numbers only.
2. A Juror's score relates solely to the current performance and should not depend on the assessment of the participant's playing at earlier stages of the Competition.
3. No later than at the first meeting of the Jury, the Chair of the Jury shall present additional guidance on the use of the scoring scale referred to in Section 1.

**Article 10**

1. After each stage, the arithmetic mean of the scores is calculated for each participant to two decimal places by adding up the points awarded by the Jurors and dividing the result by the number of Jurors assessing.
2. In order to reduce the effect of extreme scores that differ significantly from those of the other Jurors, the correction mechanism described in Section 3 is applied.
3. If, once the arithmetic mean referred to in Section 1 has been calculated, a Juror's score differs from that mean by more than 2 points, the score shall be lowered or raised to the nearest threshold value, i.e. the mean referred to in Section 1 minus or plus 2.

**Article 11**

1. Jurors shall hand their completed and signed score sheets to the Secretary of the Jury after the conclusion of the auditions of the stage concerned.
2. Between the sessions of a given stage, score sheets are deposited in the safe of the Competition Office and may not be taken by Jurors outside the audition venue.
3. Any alterations made by a Juror on the score sheet must be signed by that Juror. No alterations may be made once the sheet has been handed to the Secretary of the Jury.

**Article 12**

1. A participant's result at a given stage is the participant's average score calculated in accordance with the rules set out in Article 10.
2. The Jury admits 24 participants to Stage 2 on the basis of a ranking of the results obtained in Stage 1 (maximum 10 points).
3. The Jury admits 12 participants to Stage 3 on the basis of a ranking compiled by adding to the Stage 1 result the Stage 2 result multiplied by 1.5 (maximum 25 points).
4. The Jury admits 6 participants to Stage 4 on the basis of a ranking compiled by adding to the Stage 1 result the Stage 2 result multiplied by 1.5 and the Stage 3 result multiplied by 2 (maximum 45 points).
5. The Jury admits 3 participants to the Final on the basis of a ranking compiled by adding to the Stage 1 result the Stage 2 result multiplied by 1.5, the Stage 3 result multiplied by 2 and the Stage 4 result multiplied by 2.5 (maximum 70 points).
6. The final result is determined on the basis of a ranking compiled by adding to the Stage 1 result the Stage 2 result multiplied by 1.5, the Stage 3 result multiplied by 2, the Stage 4 result multiplied by 2.5 and the Final result multiplied by 3 (maximum 100 points).
7. If, in the rankings referred to in Section 3–5, more than one participant has obtained the same number of points for the last qualifying place, the participant who obtained the better result in the most recently completed stage shall be admitted to the next stage.

**Article 13**

1. The ranking list referred to in Article 12(6) is compiled showing the names of the finalists.
2. The Jury may change the order of the finalists in the final ranking:
    a. such that the place of any participant changes by no more than one position relative to the original ranking list – by a two-thirds majority and with the consent of the Director of the Competition;
    b. such that the place of any participant changes by two positions relative to the original ranking list – by a three-quarters majority and with the consent of the Director of the Competition.

**Article 14**

1. The ranking lists referred to in Article 12(2-5) do not contain the names of participants or any other information enabling them to be identified.

2. At the request of the Jury, the Director of the Competition may decide to reveal the names of participants ranked in the borderline zone of the ranking list, i.e. after Stage 1 – in places 21 to 27; after Stage 2 – in places 10 to 14; after Stage 3 – in places 5 to 7; after Stage 4 – in places 3 and 4. The Jury may decide to change the order of places within the borderline zone; Article 13(2) applies accordingly.
3. The lists of participants admitted to subsequent stages of the Competition are announced, both to the public and to the Jurors, in alphabetical order without any information on the scores obtained.
4. The list of participants admitted to subsequent stages and the final result of the Competition are announced by the Director of the Competition or a person delegated by her.

**Article 15**

1. The Jury awards the prizes provided for in the Rules and Regulations of the Competition to participants in the order resulting from the ranking list referred to in Article 12(6), subject to Article 13(2).
2. It is not permitted to withhold any of the prizes provided for in the Rules and Regulations of the Competition, nor to award joint prizes.
3. For the purpose of awarding special prizes, Jurors receive additional score sheets at the relevant stages of the Competition and carry out their assessment in accordance with a separate procedure depending on the criteria for awarding the prize set by its donor.

**Article 16**

1. All documents and information relating to the Jury's assessment of participants in the Competition are confidential until the results of the Competition have been announced and may not be disclosed to third parties. The duty of confidentiality applies to the Jurors, to all persons taking part in the deliberations of the Jury and to those assisting in its work. In particular, Jurors are obliged not to disclose their score sheets to third parties or to other Jurors.
2. After the conclusion of the Competition, the Jurors' score sheets and the summaries of scores from all stages shall be made public.
3. For the duration of the Competition, Jurors shall not publicly express their opinions on individual participants, their performances or the results of the stages, shall not disclose details of the Jury's proceedings, and shall refrain from statements that might influence the decisions of other members of the Jury. In particular, Jurors are prohibited from passing on information about the details of the Jury's proceedings to participants in the Competition.

**Article 17**

1. The Jury takes decisions by open vote by a simple majority, unless the Rules and Regulations of the Competition or these Rules and Regulations provide otherwise. In the event of a tie, the Chair has the casting vote.
2. The decisions of the Jury are final and not subject to appeal.

**Article 18**

No changes may be made to these Rules and Regulations after the Competition auditions have begun.