

Rules and Regulations

Judging Criteria

Participants are judged in accordance with the following five (5) criteria only:- **(total points out of 100)**

1. Correct memorisation **(50 points)**
2. Correct Tajweed & pronunciation of letters **(30 points)**
3. Voice (beauty and consistency in the vocal delivery) **(10 points)**
4. Waqf (pausing/restarting recitation at appropriate places) **(5 points)**
5. Eloquence & delivery **(5 points)**

IMPORTANT:

Voice (good or bad) is NOT the main consideration. A melodious voice is a gift from Allah and we feel it is unfair to judge a contestant on this. Rather a correct and fluent (number 3 above) recitation is used as a criterion.

Scoring

1. The same score card will be used for each contestant. The judge will sign after the contestant completes the recitation.
2. Selection of verses for the contestant must be fair. Coordinators will prepare the questions PRIOR to the competition. Judges are NOT allowed to select the questions.
3. Questions will be based on the internal consultation and review by the appointed advisors
4. The questioner will only recite five (5) words of the question and NOT the entire verse
5. The questions must NOT be to 'trick' the contestant. Fairness in questions for all students is essential.
6. Questions will not begin with a frequently repeated verse.
7. **Correct memorization:-**
 - a. In the event that the contestant falters, he is alerted with a tap on the mic / light or buzzer. The following scenarios must be considered:
 - i. Contestant corrects himself prior to been alerted to the error. **No marks are deducted.** If the contestant continues to err and correct himself, then points can be deducted for fluency.
 - ii. ½ point is deducted if the contestant corrects himself after **being alerted for the first time.**
 - iii. If the contestant does not manage to correct his recitation **after the 1st alert**, a 2nd alert is given. A further 1 point is deducted.

iv. Upon not been able to correct himself **after two (2) alerts** the contestant is corrected. Thus a further 1 point is deducted.

v. Correct Memorization comprises of the following:
adding a letter/ leaving out a letter to a word;
substituting letters (e.g. for ؤ or for } and
general memorization mistakes.

9. Each question is ¼ page for Category A (5 Juz) & Category B (15 Juz) and one page for Category C (30 Juz). **Participants must read the complete allocated section.**
10. A maximum of two questions will be asked for Category A and three questions for Categories B & C consecutively.
11. A **maximum of 3 mistakes** are allowed per question.
12. If a contestant makes a 4th mistake from any question, he/she will be asked to move on with the next question by the questioner respectively.
13. When a contestant successfully completes a question, a tick is placed in the box **(completed)**.
14. If a contestant fails to complete a question, a 'x' is placed in the column **(not memorized)**.
15. Contestants **are never told that they have been eliminated.** This is an internal process only known to the Adjudicators.
16. **Tajweed and pronunciation:**
 - a. Comprises of 30 points.
 - b. For each single tajweed mistake a ½ point is deducted.
 - c. Tajweed includes full mouth, empty mouth, leaving out a MADD muttasil or laazim, adding a madd at wrong places, rules of noon and meem saakin, letter raa, laam jalala and all sifat aridha.
 - d. **Tajweed mistakes are NOT corrected.** Only points subtracted. In general, ½ mark is deducted for every Tajweed error.
 - e. Points from all judges should be in the same vicinity of each other. The appointed auditor will verify all the points allocated by each adjudicator at the end of each category.
17. **Correct and fluent rendition:**
 - a. Comprises of 20 points in total.
 - b. A contestant is assessed on quality of presentation, confidence, fluency and reverence (khushoo). Voice is not considered.
 - c. Frequent errors that are self-corrected prior to been alerted to an error would also be deducted points in this category.
 - d. Originality in voice modulation will be favourably rewarded compared to imitating a famous reciter.
 - e. Incorrect waqf (stopping or pausing at places that alters the meaning) is also included in this category.
18. No contestant is allowed to have a mobile phone or any other electronic device on his body whilst being examined even if switched on.
19. It is vital that the Adjudicators must be completely impartial to prevent false testimony.