

The British Association of Barbershop Singers



QUARTET
COMPETITION

CONTEST BRIEFING DOCUMENT

National Quartet Contest
22nd and 24th May 2020

SING BARBERSHOP
2020
HARROGATE
The British Association of Barbershop Singers



Harrogate 22nd to 25th May 2020

www.sing2020.com



QUARTET COMPETITION

SING 2020

BABS 46th Annual Convention

Information in this document is intended to provide you with all the necessary information needed for you to plan your time for the quartet contest. There will be no contest briefing for the Semi-finals but there will be for the Finals at 10.00am on Sunday morning (location to be confirmed).

BRIEFING DOCUMENT CONTENTS

* Contest Information

Three pages covering everything from changing rooms to stage.

* Contest Awards & Bursaries

Details of the Quartet Awards and Bursaries.

* General Information

Other relevant information, stage lighting and outline timetable for the weekend.

* Sound & Vision Technical Information

An insight in how the technical aspects of this event are implemented.

* Convention Centre Plan

Floor plan of Harrogate Convention Centre.

* Submitting your Contest Declarations

Information on how to submit your contest declarations.

* Contest Recording & Social Media Policy

Details of who owns the copyright and what you can upload.

* Quartet Semi-Final Contest Schedule

Running order and contest timetable for the Quartet Semi-Finals on Friday 22nd May at 1.00pm.

* Quartet Final Contest Schedule

Timing schedule for the Quartet Final on Sunday 24th May at 4.00pm.

Contest Queries - If you have any questions relating to your contest performances please contact the BABS Quartet Contest Manager,
Email: quartetcontest@singbarbershop.com

Convention Queries - Any general convention queries should be referred to:
Laurie Whittle, the BABS Convention Manager.
Email: conventionmanager@singbarbershop.com

All quartet contestants must have registered for convention before the 31st March 2020. These can be bought online from the BABS Box Office at www.sing2020.com

The British Association of Barbershop Singers
A company limited by guarantee
registered in England and Wales
Registered Office: 29-30 Fitzroy Square,
Fitzrovia, London W1T 6LQ
Registered Company No: 3823721
Registered Charity Ref No: 1080930

SING BARBERSHOP
2020
HARROGATE
The British Association of Barbershop Singers



QUARTET COMPETITION

SING 2020

Contest Information

THE STAGE

There will be foldback speakers. There is no acoustic shell on stage and no stage Tabs/Curtains.

CONTEST RULES

Please note the rule which bans the use of confetti or explosions on stage and would be subject to disqualification. A full set of Contest Rules can be found in the Document Centre on the BABS Guild of Judges web site www.babsguildofjudges.com

STAGE FAMILIARISATION - SEMI-FINAL

You have the opportunity to have stage familiarisation time prior to the Quartet Semi-Final. This has been timetabled for Friday, to run from 10.00am to 11.40am in the order of the contest draw. Please note that each quartet is only allowed 5 minutes, so there will be no time to do a run through of songs or coaching on stage.

COURIERS

Please Report to the Couriers Desk (located outside Studio 1) at the time stated on the schedule (Column headed "Report Time"). A Courier will then take you to your allocated Changing Area at the time stated on your schedule. A contestant bag-drop facility will be available for storage of any stage uniforms. Do not leave any valuables in your dressing area and leave the dressing area in full stage attire. Please note that there will be no pre-performance photographs.

CONTEST CYCLE

From this point you are on a timed contest cycle. Please observe the timings for your quartet.

WARM-UP ROOMS

Your courier will collect you from the Changing Room at the time shown in the Column "Changing Room Out" and escort you to your allocated warm-up room (approx 20 minutes). Please note there will be NO water coolers in the warm-up rooms.

MEMBERS ON STAGE

All performers on stage must be a fully registered and a paid up member of BABS.

SING BARBERSHOP
2020
HARROGATE
The British Association of Barbershop Singers



QUARTET COMPETITION

SING 2020

Contest Information

CONTEST TIMING

Each contestant has been allocated a 10-minute cycle time to allow for entering the stage, performing their contest songs and exiting. If you feel that you need longer than the allocated 10 minutes, please indicate how much time you will need on the online form, so that the timing schedule can be amended accordingly.

ACCESSIBILITY

The convention centre is a fully accessible building. Please notify us in advance on your Contest Declaration Form of any accessibility needs. Also inform the Courier Team on your arrival of these needs, so they can allow extra time for those concerned to move through the contest cycle, as routes may vary from direct walking routes. If you need any equipment such as a wheelchair, please bring yours with you.

STAGE ACCESS

Entry to the stage area will be at the discretion of the Stage Manager. There are no Tabs/Curtains. You will enter Stage Left and Exit Stage Right. All contestant access and egress is from backstage and is via two short flights of stairs. Wheel chair access is via a lift to the backstage corridor, and then it is level all the way to the stage.

CONTESTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

As soon as the judges are ready, the MC will then commence your announcement something along the lines of:

Stewards please close the doors - Can we have the house lights down.
Contestant number... From... Quartet Name...

This is your cue to enter the stage from the holding position in the wings. There will be no further signal to start singing in either song, or to make your exit.

In the interests of the timetable, please keep acceptance of applause to a courteous minimum. If there is a false start to either song, stop and restart. Performance Judges will continue to judge but other Judging categories will restart their marking with your fresh start.

VERBAL COMMENT

Non-singing dialogue is generally not part of a contest performance. However, relevant brief comment with supporting visual communication is permitted, to help establish a mood and/or theme, before, in between and at the end of the performance package. If required please use the Lectern microphone positioned stage left.

Spoken words deemed to be excessive or detrimental to the performance shall be penalised by the Performance Judge(s) up to and including forfeiture.

SING BARBERSHOP
2020
HARROGATE
The British Association of Barbershop Singers



QUARTET
COMPETITION

SING 2020

Contest Information

JUDGES

Judges are not permitted to talk with competitors nor members of the audience during the contest and the award presentations. Please do not approach the Judges area for scoresheets these will be available from the BABS Reception Desk, and on the BABS App, after the contest.

CONTEST RECORDINGS

Individual quartet performances will be made available on line via a private link for post event viewing. No USB sticks will be issued. Full instructions on how to access video and audio files will be circulated to quartets separately to this document.

Please Note: There will be no separate audio recordings issued.

END OF QUARTET FINAL PRESENTATIONS

If you reach the final, after your contest performance you will enter the auditorium to be seated in the finalists reserved seating in preparation for the announcement of results.

RIGHT OF APPEAL

If you have cause for any complaint about the conditions whilst competing please advise your courier immediately you leave the stage. Any repeat performances will be at the discretion of the Chairman of Judges. Should an emergency situation arise which, in the opinion of the Chairman of Judges would adversely affect your performance or your safety, s/he may stop the contest.

PHOTOGRAPHS

There will be no pre-performance photographs before going to the warm up rooms. Only live action photographs will be taken during your contest performance. All photographs will be available to purchase from the official Convention photographer Event Photos. Their stand will be located on the ground floor in or near the main reception area.

NO OTHER PHOTOGRAPHY OR RECORDING OF ANY KIND/TYPE IS PERMITTED DURING THE COMPETITION

SING BARBERSHOP
2020
HARROGATE
The British Association of Barbershop Singers



QUARTET COMPETITION

SING 2020

Contest Awards

QUARTET TROPHIES AND AWARDS

The following trophies and awards will be presented at the end of the quartet contest.

First Placed Quartet - Tyneside Trophy

Second Placed Quartet - Michael Sides Rose Bowl

Third Placed Quartet - The Ian Stone Trophy

Novice Quartet Award - The Sheng Pitch Pipe

Most Improved Quartet - The BQC Trophy

AWARD WINNING BURSARIES FOR 2020

To encourage quartets to further develop their skills, bursaries will be given to the following award winners:

Gold Medal Quartet - £1,000

Seniors Quartet Winners - £500 (presented at Prelims)

Youth Quartet Winners - £500 (presented at Prelims)

QUARTET CHAMPIONS EXPECTATIONS

SHOW PERFORMANCE - SUNDAY

The 2020 Quartet Champions will be asked to perform a package of songs, lasting no more than 15 minutes (including dialogue), on the Sunday Evening Show.

In the event of the first placed quartet being unable to appear on this show, the second placed quartet will be asked to perform.

If you are aiming to achieve either of these positions, please complete the Show Package Declaration by clicking on this link:

<https://forms.gle/nM9CmYQNm2gN9t1XA>

Your form should be submitted by Midnight on 31st March 2020.

SING BARBERSHOP
2020
HARROGATE
The British Association of Barbershop Singers



QUARTET COMPETITION

SING 2020

General Information

CONTEST LOCATION

All contests will take place in the main auditorium.

ENTRY TO AUDITORIUM

Entrance to and from the Auditorium will only be permitted between performances. Whilst we have never banned children or set a minimum age, we would ask you to consider carefully if you wish your members to bring children under the age of 5 into the auditorium during your performance. A "Barbertots" live screen viewing area for children under 5 will be made available.

CONTEST SEATING

All contest seating is unallocated except for those people who bought an Early Bird Premium Package in Bournemouth for whom seats are reserved for both contest and shows. These are located in the centre section of the stalls. There is adequate seating available for anyone wishing to watch the remainder of the contest.

VENUE CATERING

Hot and cold food will be available throughout the weekend in Hall D with cold food also available in Level 5 bar area. Full bar service is available in Hall D and Level 5 Bar.

BABS RECEPTION & REGISTRATION DESK

This will be open in the main foyer from Friday morning and throughout the weekend. We recommend that family and supporters purchase registrations and show tickets online, prior to arrival at convention. Registrations are cheaper when bought in advance.

Contestants must register by 31st March 2020.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS CONTEST SESSION TICKET

Only available to buy on the day at Convention. Entitles an individual to enter the session in which the competitor they want to watch is performing. The badges will be clearly marked for security purposes, and only applies to that particular session. The ticket holder will be expected to leave the auditorium and the Conference Centre at the end of the session. Entry to other events is not permissible. Cost: £15 Friday and Saturday. £20 Sunday.

SING BARBERSHOP
2020
HARROGATE
The British Association of Barbershop Singers



QUARTET COMPETITION

SING 2020

General Information

COPYRIGHT & SOCIAL MEDIA

To comply with copyright rules only officially approved visual recording, audio recording and photography may take place in the Auditorium. This includes any form of digital photography whether by camera device, mobile telephone or IPAD/Tablet devices.

Anyone found infringing this ruling will be asked to leave. The competition will be stopped if this happens, which could have a serious impact on a competitor's performance. Please remind your members and supporters to ensure that they are not the one to jeopardise a performer's chances on the competition or show stage. Please note that there will be official BABS Media Team members who have permission to use their equipment during contest.

So as not to interfere with any performance, please ensure that mobile phones, watch alerts or any other electronic communication equipment with an audible facility are switched off at all times.

Uploading of any unofficial recorded material to social media sites is strictly prohibited.

STAGE

The performance area will be lit to provide an even "face light" so the performers may be seen easily. The background of the stage will be lit with colour "mood" lighting (see heading below).

MOOD LIGHTING FOR CONTESTS

Quartets will have background lighting for each of their contest songs. Coloured lighting will NOT be focussed on the stage performance area, this will be lit with a general stage wash as in previous years. This will permit proper lighting for video. There are 7 choices of colour: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo and Violet.

- The chosen colour will be displayed on a "cyc cloth" behind the performance area.
- You may choose the same colour for both songs or a different one for each song.
- The colour you choose for the first will be displayed at the introduction of the quartet and will continue until the applause ends after your first song.
- The colour you choose for the 2nd song will be displayed at the end of the applause for the first song and will continue until the stage lights go down at the end of your performance.
- The background colour cannot be changed mid-song. It remains in place for the entire song.
- If you do not request a specific colour, the technicians will choose one at random.

Choose your choice of mood lighting on the Declaration Forms.



QUARTET COMPETITION

SING 2020

Weekend Timetable

A guide to the weekend is shown below. All timings subject to change.

FRIDAY 22ND MAY

- 0930 - 2030 BABS Reception Open
- 1000 - 1200 Quartet Contestant Stage Time
- 1100 - 1110 Official Opening by BABS Chairman
- 1110 - 1150 Convention Interview
- 1200 - 1230 Early Arrival Delegate Sing Time
- 1300 - 1705 Quartet Semi-Final Contest
- 1500 - 1530 Breakout Session
- 1545 - 1615 Breakout Session
- 1815 - 1845 Chorus Contestants Stage Familiarisation
- 2030 - 2230 Friday Show (No interval)
- 2230 - 0100 Afterglow

SATURDAY 23RD MAY

- 0800 - 1900 BABS Reception Open
- 0915 - 1900 Male Chorus Finals
- 1030 - 1100 Workshop
- 1115 - 1145 Workshop
- 1200 - 1230 Workshop
- 1400 - 1430 Workshop
- 1445 - 1515 Workshop
- 1530 - 1600 Workshop
- 2100 - 2230 Saturday Show
- 2230 - 0200 Afterglow

SUNDAY 24TH MAY

- 0900 - 2030 BABS Reception Open
- 0930 - 1000 Interdenominational Church Service
- 1100 - 1400 Mixed Chorus Contest
- 1130 - 1150 HCPod
- 1200 - 1220 HCPod
- 1230 - 1250 HCPod
- 1415 - 1435 HCPod
- 1445 - 1505 HCPod
- 1515 - 1535 HCPod
- 1600 - 1800 Quartet Finals
- 2030 - 2215 Sunday Show
- 2230 - 0200 After Glow including the new Sing Zone

MONDAY 25TH MAY

- 0930 - 1015 On Demand Preview - Videos of 2020 Winners
- 1030 - 1145 Monday Morning Delegate Events
- 1200 Convention closes

Visit www.sing2020.com for the latest details on the Biggest Annual Barbershop Event outside North America

SING BARBERSHOP
2020
HARROGATE
The British Association of Barbershop Singers



QUARTET COMPETITION

SING 2020

Sound and Vision

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The sections below are designed to give competitors, an insight in how the technical aspects of this event are implemented.

SOUND

As in previous years an active line array foldback system is in use on the stage, to provide an ambient acoustical environment for performers.

The quartet contest is amplified to the main auditorium in the following way: We use a cross pair of DPA Microphones for capturing the audio for quartets. These microphones provide the audio source for both the amplified sound and the recording, audio and video. The audio signals are split into two defined systems, one to amplify the sound for the auditorium and one to provide the audio for recording the videos.

All the amplified feeds are provided into the auditorium in a mono format to ensure as even coverage as possible for all spectators in the audience. At present we use the in-house loudspeaker system, but this is something that may change in the future. For the avoidance of doubt, NO compression is used anywhere in the audio chain.

Recorded Audio!

Sound to a barbershop person is clearly the most important thing! When we record this audio for the video we DO NOT alter this in any way.

Please bear in mind that when you watch the video back on a computer, iPhone, YouTube etc, the playback device you are using may alter the sound in many ways. For example, the speakers on an iPhone are very small and will sound very different to the sound through a home hi-fi system. With all of this in mind; we do hope you enjoy the record of your performance from this event.

VISION

What's the Purpose of the Videos?

It is created to give you a record of your performance on the day. We use High Definition cameras and recording equipment to give the best possible picture. We do not use any "artistic" video work, such as panning the picture, so that the best possible overall record is made for the quartet to review their performance.

The videos take a few days after the event to edit, title and check. A copy of the individual contest performance is made available to the quartet to view and download. Details to follow.

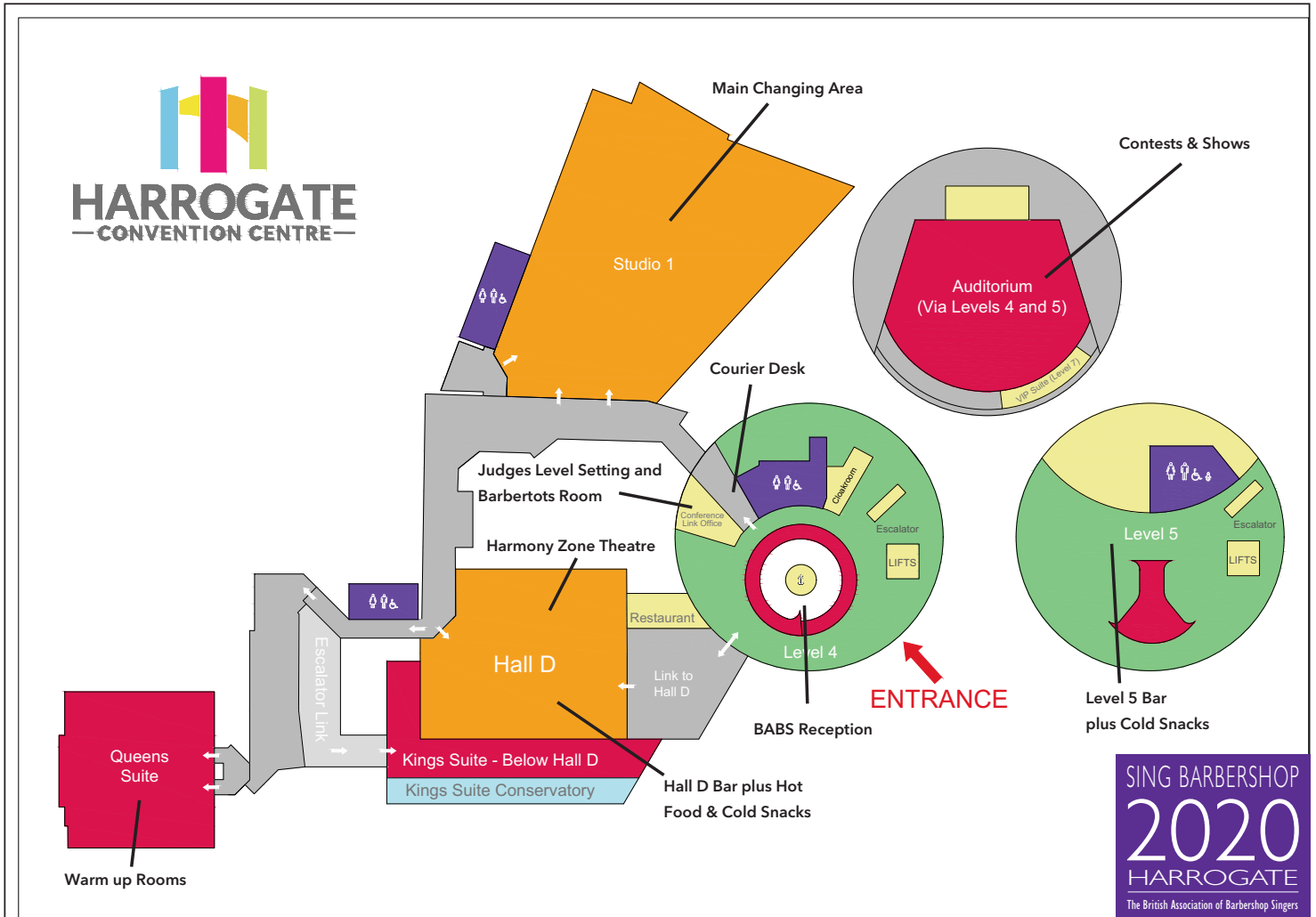
Every competitor's performance will again be made available, free of charge, to all members via the BABS On-Demand Free-to-View service. Full details to be published separately.



QUARTET COMPETITION

SING 2020

Venue Plan



SING BARBERSHOP 2020 HARROGATE

The British Association of Barbershop Singers

ADDRESS
Harrogate Convention Centre
King's Road
Harrogate
HG1 5LA



QUARTET
COMPETITION

SING 2020

Contest Declarations

QUARTET CONTESTS DECLARATIONS

Please submit your song and mood lighting declaration by clicking on this link:

<https://forms.gle/Fjhr2swDsksnUfds8>

Your form should be submitted by Midnight on 31st March 2020.

Please note, the semi-final Mic Warmer Quartets should enter "N/A" as your response to Quartet Final section.

Quartets aiming to achieve a Medal position should also submit the Champions Show Package.

SHOW PACKAGE AND DECLARATION

The 2020 Quartet Champions will be asked to perform a package of songs, lasting no more than 15 minutes (including dialogue), on the Sunday Evening Show. If you are aiming to achieve this position, please complete the Show Package Declaration by clicking on this link:

<https://forms.gle/nM9CmYQNm2gN9t1XA>

Your form should be submitted by Midnight on 31st March 2020.

In the event of the First placed quartet being unable to appear on this show, the second placed quartet will be asked to perform.

SING BARBERSHOP
2020
HARROGATE
The British Association of Barbershop Singers



Contest Recordings Policy Social Media Usage

We would like to draw your attention to the BABS policy on uploading contest videos on to YouTube and sharing across Social Media Platforms.

The BABS Board of Directors has sought external legal advice, and our adviser has confirmed that copyright of BABS contest performances has two elements: Copyright of the Recording and Copyright of the Music.

1. Copyright of the Recording

BABS owns the copyright of all the contest videos and approval for use is required from BABS.

2. Copyright of the Music

The copyright of the songs remains with the copyright holders of those songs, but YouTube in the UK has a blanket agreement with music publishers and separate approval is not required. However, should the owner of the copyright of a particular song not be part of this agreement, then that copyright owner may ask Google, owner of YouTube, to remove that song. It is not however necessary for whoever uploads that recording to get specific permission.

It is still a prerequisite that Clubs get full approval from the copyright holder to sing their songs in contest, and as part of their repertoire.

Uploading to YouTube

The Board of Directors, given the legal clarification, has decided that we will upload contest videos to YouTube via the BABS account and will make links available to Clubs. The videos will also be loaded onto our SingOnDemand platform (Vimeo). BABS will hold the original contest videos.

Clubs may further share such material on social media, conditional upon them being responsible for any and all liabilities incurred as a result of any legal action regarding copyright.

Other BABS Events

Any recordings taken at BABS educational events like Harmony College or Directors Academy plus any non-contest activity at Convention or any other BABS organised event, are the copyright of BABS. Any recordings taken at these events, whether taken by BABS or otherwise, may not be shared by Clubs, as permission to do so has not been granted.

Questions

Please refer any questions on the operation of this policy to the BABS Director of Administration email: administrationdirector@singbarbershop.com.

Friday, 22 May 2020												
Concert: 2020 Quartet Semi Final												
Contestant	Stage Familiarisation Time		Report Time	Dressing Room		Warm Up Room		Hold	On stage	Dr. Rm		
	On Stage	Off Stage		In	Out	In	Out				Out	Out
M/W 1 Barcode	10:00	10:05	12:02	12:12	12:27	12:32	12:52	12:57	13:00	13:45		
M/W2 Incline	10:05	10:10	12:17	12:27	12:42	12:47	13:07	13:12	13:15	14:00		
1 Northern Quarter	10:10	10:15	12:27	12:37	12:52	12:57	13:17	13:22	13:25	14:10		
2 Limelight	10:15	10:20	12:37	12:47	13:02	13:07	13:27	13:32	13:35	14:20		
3 San Nova Beach Club 4	10:20	10:25	12:47	12:57	13:12	13:17	13:37	13:42	13:45	14:30		
4 Quartessential	10:25	10:30	12:57	13:07	13:22	13:27	13:47	13:52	13:55	14:40		
5 Perfect Storm	10:30	10:35	13:07	13:17	13:32	13:37	13:57	14:02	14:05	14:50		
Interval: 20mins												
6 Vierless	10:35	10:40	13:37	13:47	14:02	14:07	14:27	14:32	14:35	15:20		
7 Deadlock	10:40	10:45	13:47	13:57	14:12	14:17	14:37	14:42	14:45	15:30		
8 Trailblazers	10:45	10:50	13:57	14:07	14:22	14:27	14:47	14:52	14:55	15:40		
9 The Shimmering Bonsai Boys	10:50	10:55	14:07	14:17	14:32	14:37	14:57	15:02	15:05	15:50		
10 Silver Street	10:55	11:00	14:17	14:27	14:42	14:47	15:07	15:12	15:15	16:00		
11 Chromatix	11:00	11:05	14:27	14:37	14:52	14:57	15:17	15:22	15:25	16:10		
12 Bagatelle	11:05	11:10	14:37	14:47	15:02	15:07	15:27	15:32	15:35	16:20		
Interval: 20mins												
13 Fifth Element	11:10	11:15	15:07	15:17	15:32	16:37	15:57	16:02	16:05	16:50		
14 Ziplock	11:15	11:20	15:17	15:27	15:42	16:47	16:07	16:12	16:15	17:00		
15 Eleventh Hour	11:20	11:25	15:27	15:37	15:52	16:57	16:17	16:22	16:25	17:10		
16 QM	11:25	11:30	15:37	15:47	16:02	17:07	16:27	16:32	16:35	17:20		
17 Diminished Fourth	11:30	11:35	15:47	15:57	16:12	17:17	16:37	16:42	16:45	17:30		
18 The Magic Soundabout	11:35	11:40	15:57	16:07	16:22	17:27	16:47	16:52	16:55	17:40		

Contestant		Report Time	Dressing Room		Warm Up Room		Hold	On stage	Dr. Rm.
			In	Out	In	Out			Out
Contest: 2020 Quartet Final									
Date: Sunday, 24 May 2020									
M/W 1	Sound Hypothesis	15:02	15:12	15:27	15:32	15:52	15:57	16:00	16:45
1		15:17	15:27	15:42	15:47	16:07	16:12	16:15	16:55
2		15:27	15:37	15:52	15:57	16:17	16:22	16:25	17:05
3		15:37	15:47	16:02	16:07	16:27	16:32	16:35	17:15
4		15:47	15:57	16:12	16:17	16:37	16:42	16:45	17:25
5		15:57	16:07	16:22	16:27	16:47	16:52	16:55	17:35
6		16:07	16:17	16:32	16:37	16:57	17:02	17:05	17:45
M/C	Sound Hypothesis	16:17	16:27	16:42	16:47	17:07	17:12	17:15	17:55