

The Annual



Participant's Guide

2016/1437

Conditions for Participating

- The South African National Qiraa'atul Qur'aan Competition is open to all ages and nationalities.
- Only exclusions are those who have been awarded first position in the IQRA event in Cape Town for the years 2013/2014/2015.

Type of Competition

- Contestants will be judged on their ability to recite the Qur'aan beautifully in Mujawwad/ Tajweed (very slow pace) form.
- Participants who do not recite according to the required pace will automatically be disqualified.
- As this is not a Hifdh (memorization) competition, contestants may recite from an open Mus'haf (Qur'aan) and do not need to be fully Haafidh in order to participate.
- Contestants are allowed to recite other than the recitation of Hafs 'an Asim (eg. Qaloon, Warsh, etc) but may only follow one form of Qiraa'at during the presentation.

Categories of Participation

Male Section:

- The male category is divided in four age groups as follows:
 - Under 16
 - Under 18
 - Under 23
 - 24 Years & over
- The age group is considered as per your age by 30 June for the current year. So if (for example) you turn 16 after 30 June 2016, you will fall in the U18 category.
- Please note that the organisers might change (lower or rise) the (age) categories in accordance with the amount of participants in the competition or based on the outcome of any preliminary screenings.

Female Section [Gauteng Only]:

- The female section is an open- aged category of only one round. Females are advised not to participate if they are experiencing their menses.

General Guidelines

- All applicants will receive an SMS/ Email with confirmation of their online application.
(Note: Should any applicant not receive a notification; then kindly contact the relevant area/ person as per below contact details)
- Successful entrants (males) will receive an SMS/ Email two nights prior to their date of appearance with details on which verses they should prepare for the competition.
(Note: For the Under 16 category preliminary round in Gauteng, participants can recite any portion (Juz/ Surah) from the Qur'aan)
- Participants must be dressed appropriately and on time at all events and are advised to be well prepared and strive to give their best. It is important to maintain a strict discipline and to observe all rituals befitting the people of the Qur'aan.
- The three participants that achieve the highest scores from each category will qualify for automatic participation as finalists in the International Qur'aan Recital Award (IQRA) to take place in Cape Town in September 2016.
(Note: Winners will be provided with all relevant details closer to the event)
- South African nationals who win any of the competition categories at the IQRA in Cape Town will be considered to represent the country at international competitions based on the invitations we receive and the criteria as set out by the host countries. We therefore advise you to apply for/ renew (in case of expiry) your South African passport.

Competition Rules

- The organisers reserve the right to immediately disqualify any contestant that is found to be smoking, showing inappropriate behaviour, contact with the opposite sex, or involved in any other misdemeanour whilst being at the event.
- Contestants are not allowed to recite verses other than those that were allocated, nor may they add any other verses (e.g. from another Juz or Surah) to their recitation. If the allocated verse is close to the end of a Juz/ Surah, the contestant may continue into the next Juz/ Surah provided the time allocation allows for it.
- Upon arriving at the venue, all participants are required to check in at the registration desk in order to receive their name tags.
- This tag should be visible at all times whilst present at the competition venue.
- At the time of appearance, you will be seated and introduce yourself as follows:

"Assalaamu Alaikum. My name is [___Your Name___]
from [___town___ & ___country___] and I will be reciting
from [___surah___, [___verse___]]".

- A traffic light signal system will indicate the following with regards to time to a participant:
 - The **GREEN** light will indicate the start of the recitation.
 - The **ORANGE** light will indicate that there is one minute left of your allotted time.
 - The **RED** light will indicate that your allotted time has expired.
- A Qur'aan will be provided at the venue, but should any participant feel more comfortable using their own, they may do so.
- Participants, their parents/ guardian are NOT allowed under any circumstances to have any contact whatsoever with any of the judges.
- The expertise, independence, and arbitration of each judge will be respected and absolutely no discussions, rating, or queries regarding a participant's performance is to be held with the judges before, during, or after the contest.
- All queries, complaints, or requests for clarifications are to be directed at the judge president or the administration team.

Recitation Rules and Judging

The competition recitation rules have three sections of which section one is split into two categories. Below is a description of the different categories of how a participant will be judged during a recital. Each participant starts off with 100 points.

Kindly study these carefully in order for you to be prepared for your recitation at the competition.

Section 1 - Tajweed

Commandments – (Ahkaam) = [40 Points]

A participant starts off with 40 points. Points are then deducted for each non-observance of a particular rule which is as follows:

- Disregard of Tajweed rules such as; Qalqalah, Ghunna, Tarqeeq, Tafkhim, Taqleedh, Idghaam, Id'haar or any of the other temporary remaining characteristics [-1]
- Disregard Makhaarij-ul-huroof [-2]
- Adding or imperfection of the quality of letters [-1]
- Not balancing of Madd, Ghunnah, etc. [-1]
- Not observing natural and easy pronunciation of Modud letters [-1]
- Rectifying a mistake in the same breath [-2]
- Rectifying a mistake with a new breath [-3]
- Should the participant not rectify a mistake and a judge rectifies the mistake; between 10 or max 30 points will be deducted based on the judge's discretion [-10/30]

Eloquence – (Fasaaha) = [20 Points]

A participant starts off with 20 points. Points are then deducted for each non-observance of a particular rule which is as follows:

- Disregarding a Waq'f or Ibtida of Aqbah and Qabeeh [-2]
- Disregarding a compulsory Waq'f [-2]
- Repeating a verse or a part of a verse unnecessary without going to a new voice pitch [-1]

- Taking a breath whilst reciting a verse [-10]
- Weakness of an eloquent Arabic accent (*a maximum of 5 points will be deducted during the recitation*) [-1]

Section 2

Melody or Tune – (Lahn – Beautiful recitation) = [25 Points]

A participant starts off with 20 points. Points are then deducted for each non-observance of a particular rule which is as follows:

- Begins the recitation with an unusual, non-base chord. [-1]
- Repeating the same level of tune [-1]
- Shifting of tunes not harmonious [-1]
- Imbalance in recitation speed [-1]
- Rhythm, style and tune variation that is not beautiful [-1]
- Not presenting tunes completely [-1]
- Reciting with unusual tunes/ melody [-1]
- The tune/ melody correspond with the meaning of the verse being recited [+3]
- Completing all the levels of a maqaam [+3]

Section 3

Voice – (Saut) = [15 Points]

A participant starts off with 15 points. Points are then deducted for each non-observance of a particular rule which is as follows:

- Nervousness affects the performance of the participant. [-1]
- Screaming or refilling the vocal cords [-1]
- Weak voice or a voice that cannot go into a high pitch [-1]
- Rough, broken or harsh voice [-1]
- Reading through the nose [-1]
- Voice not clear, smooth or audible [-1]
- The voice is soft and/or no flexibility of the voice (*the ability and speed to shift from one chord to another*) [-1]

Notes to the participant:

- The above (points deduction) rules will apply for every repeated mistake.
- This competition does not emphasise or put focus on the practice of Maqaamat, although it being a requirement in most international competitions.
- Evaluation will be done on the natural and ordinary beauty of the reciter's presentation and the ability to captivate the listener through his/ her recital style.

Duration of Recitation

The duration (time) per participant will be as follows. Should a participant exceed the allotted time, then one point [-1] will be deducted for every minute over.

Categories

- Gauteng U16 Preliminary Round = 4 minutes
- U16 = 5 minutes
- U18 = 6 minutes
- U23 = 7 minutes
- 24yrs & over = 8 minutes

Competition Dates

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING OF APPLICATION FORMS

Gauteng	
U16 Only	All other Categories
15 April 2016	06 May 2016

COMPETITION DATES

Gauteng Competition			
Date	Event	Time	Venue
23 April 2016	U16 Prelim	11am	Masjid Ul Huda, Robertsham
14 May 2016	Female	10am	Bosmont Masjid
14 May 2016	U16 & U18	After Thuhr	Bosmont Masjid
14 May 2016	U23 & 24 Over	After Asr	Bosmont Masjid

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING OF APPLICATION FORMS

Kwa-Zulu Natal
All Categories
20 May 2016

COMPETITION DATES

Kwa-Zulu Natal Competition			
Date	Event	Time	Venue
28 May 2016	U16 & U18	From 9am	MTQ, Pietermaritzburg
28 May 2016	U23 & 24 Over	From 11am	MTQ, Pietermaritzburg

Contact Details

For any queries or further info, kindly contact:

Gauteng

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AWQAF SA

Media and public relations

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Competition Entry Form

The following information is required should you wish to enter the competition.

Select the Category that you will compete in: *	U16
	U18
	U23
	24 & Over
	Female

All required or mandatory fields are marked with the red *

First Name: *	[Your First Name in full]
Last Name: *	[Your Surname/ Last name in full]

Address 1: *	[House Number/ Street Name]
Address 2: *	[Street Name / Suburb]
Town/ City: *	[Town/ City Name you reside in]
Province: *	[Province you reside in]

Nationality: *	[Your Nationality] e.g. South African
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SA ID/ Birth Certificate/ Passport No: *	[Identification/ Passport Number]
Age: *	[Your current Age]
Date of Birth: *	[Your Date of Birth]

Email Address: *	[Your email address to contact]
Mobile Number: *	[Your cell phone number to contact]
Landline Number:	[Your landline to contact]

Current Occupation: *	[Your Occupation – e.g. Student, Teacher, Other]
Institution of Study:	[The name of the place where you study if a student]

On behalf of the organisers, panel of judges, and sponsors we wish you all the best. – Competition Organising Committee