

Guru Nanak Foundation of America
12917 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904
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12th Annual Washington Capital Sikh Youth Kirtan Sammelan
May 28, 2016
Rules and Guidelines

The registration deadline is April 24, 2016. Email registration forms to harsharan3@gmail.com. Changes are in red.

1. Each jatha will recite one Shabad.
2. There are four age groups (age on December 31, 2015).
 - Junior (7 to 10 years)
 - Intermediate (11 to 14 years)
 - Senior (15 to 18 years)
 - Advanced (19 to 25 years)

A participant may perform as a vocalist in one jatha only. A participant may perform in a group older than his/her age group but not in a younger group. An instrumental accompanist (tabla/strings/winds player) can play for more than one jatha but only for his/her age group or an older age group. Please ensure that this is strictly observed. Please memorize your shabad and its meaning as well as the raag/taal explanation. It is a requirement. See judging criteria.

3. Jathas are required to give the gist of the Shabad and the raag/taal explanation in Punjabi. See judging criteria.
4. Only Gurbani Kirtan is to be recited, in the raag as indicated in the Sri Guru Granth Sahib; that is, the Shabad should be recited in the 'nirdharit' raag. - 20 from Main Competition, - 10 from Outstanding Achievement section for not singing in 'nirdharit' raag. Deductions will not be applied for bani written without a raag specification.
5. A jatha must have a minimum of three participants (two vocalists and one percussionist) and no more than eight participants. A gurdwara can send multiple jathas.
6. All jathas will be graded on items 1-10 on the judging criteria sheet for determining 1st

place, 2nd place and 3rd place in each age group. This will constitute the main competition. Separately, each jatha will also be graded on items A-D for purposes awarding an outstanding achievement award to one jatha from each age group. **Best Percussion Award in each age group to highest scorer in item 8 of judging criteria.**

Please note changes in Judging Criteria Sheet in items 7, 8, and D.

7. Junior, Intermediate and Senior jathas have up to 12 minutes, and Advanced jathas have up to 15 minutes to complete their performance. (Time taken for tuning instruments is not counted.) After this, there is a grace period of 1 minute for all jathas. A green light will come on at 12 minutes (15 minutes for Advanced jathas), Yellow light at 12 minutes 30 seconds (15 minutes 30 seconds for Advanced jathas), Red light at 13 minutes 1 second (16 minutes 1 second for Advanced jathas). At start of Red Light, - 10 from Main Competition. - 5 from Outstanding Achievement section. For every additional minute, another - 1.5 points from both the Main Competition and the Outstanding Achievement section. At 17 minutes 1 second for the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Jathas, and 20 minutes 1 second, for the Advanced jathas, there will be disqualification from both sections. The timekeeper will record these deductions, not the judges.

8. Explanation of item A (Shaan) on judging criteria sheet: Shaan is the instrumental prelude to kirtan and sets the mood for the shabad. All the instruments being used by the jatha are played at this time. The same raag as that of the shabad is used. The percussion player plays fixed compositions.

9. We request that girls wear salwaar kameez and boys wear kurta pajama

