



KWC USA 2021 Competition Rules

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

These rules and conditions of entry apply to Karaoke World Championships USA in 2021

By entering this competition entrants are bound by these 'Conditions of Entry'.

The organizers of KWC USA reserve the right to determine an entrant's eligibility over and above these Conditions of Entry. No correspondence will be entered into. All decisions will be final.

1. Who is eligible to enter:

1.1. All entrants must be, at the time of entry into the competition

- a) 18 years and over; The singer has to be 18 years old before November 1st 2021
- b) An American Citizen (this does not include permanent residents);
- c) An amateur solo performer (No duets allowed for the 2021 season)

1.2. An amateur is defined as someone who meets the following criteria –

- a) Does not sing for a living [making 50% or more of their income, in a professional capacity, regardless of whether or not they have a day job will be considered as a professional for these purposes]
- b) Does not have a signed contract with a studio or producer as a recording artist
- c) Does not have a manager and does not have a major label recording contract or have a record deal at time of entry or during competition.
- d) Singers with record releases from 3 or more years ago or have recent indie releases on Spotify, etc. are welcome to compete under amateur status
- e) Participants in major vocal television shows will be considered as amateur singers so long as they were not included in the final rounds of the competition, did not win the show they were on, and were not given any contractual obligations that might be in conflict with participating in the full KWCUSA competition season.
- f) This year's singers will also be eligible in 2022 providing the above criteria are still met and they have not won a worlds competition by that time.

1.3. Karaoke World Championships USA Officials, Department Directors, Judges, or Program Coaches are not eligible to enter the competition season.

1.4 Any individual having been banned from participation by the Karaoke World Championships main organization (headquartered in Finland) or by any of the other participating partner countries will not be eligible to compete in the Karaoke World Championships USA competition season.

2. Entry Conditions

2.1. All entries are subject to the competition's full Conditions of Entry. If an entrant is unsure of their position, they must contact KWC USA via www.kwcusa.com for verification of eligibility;

2.2. Contestants may try out for any open round during the competition series. Once they have placed in the top three of any divisional finals round, they may NOT continue to compete for a place at a different divisional final level.

2.3. If a contestant is unsuccessful in an open round making a final, they may try out in any other open round for the duration of the season.

2.4. The organizers reserve the right to disqualify any contestant whose manner, or that of their associates, is disrespectful towards other singers, coordinators, sponsors and organizers of the event. All decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into.

2.5 Any contestant, family member or associates who argue the decision of officials may be considered unruly and the contestant may be disqualified from advancing in competition. Should the argument concerning the official outcome of a final event, and the contestant be awarded a prize, that contestant may be stripped of the prize and such prize awarded to another contestant.

2.6 Contestants, their family members, or any of their associates who exhibit offensive behavior during any portion of the contest will disqualify that contestant from future competition. If the contestant, their family, or associates exhibit offensive behavior after the contestant has competed, and such behavior is on KWCUSA public social media sites or via private direct messaging and supporting evidence is provided, even after the winners are announced, would nullify that contestants score. If the contestant whose score has been nullified is a winning contestant, the next contestant in scoring position for that particular category shall be the winner. It will not be the responsibility of KWCUSA or any of its representatives to recover any money or prize awarded a contestant who is later disqualified or found to be ineligible following final review and decisions of the officials.

2.7 KWCUSA will have present during all phases of the KWCUSA competition season, an appointed representative to answer any complaints concerning the KWCUSA competitions. No KWCUSA official shall answer a complaint concerning official judge scores and opinions or the outcomes of any judged event.

2.8 Complaints not made directly in person at the event or via email correspondence within 24 hours of the broadcast airing concerning any breach of KWCUSA rules must be made in writing and sent by registered mail to KWCUSA 5047 Auburn Skyline Ave Las Vegas NV 89139. A complaint must reach the KWCUSA office no later than one week after the tournament or finals in question to be considered for action. Such complaint should include all relevant facts concerning such complaint. If the complaint concerns the eligibility of a winning contestant the complaint must include relevant documents. Any statements of fact are to be notarized, including statements by witnesses.

3. Entry Requirements

3.1. All entrants must be eligible to obtain a United States passport should they be crowned 'Karaoke World Champion United States of America Champion'.

3.2. The organizers reserve the right to make the final decision regarding an entrant's eligibility over and above these conditions of entry. Entrants may be asked to sign legal documents and provide proof of eligibility.

3.3. All issues regarding an entrant's eligibility must be addressed, clarified and cleared 7 days prior to National Finals. Proof of claim will be required.

3.4 If you have been removed or prohibited from participating in any of the KWCUSA platforms for any reason you will not be able to compete in the remainder of the 2021 season following that removal.

4. Prize Package

4.1 Prizes for the KWCUSA 2021 National Finals will be listed at www.kwcusa.com

4.2. The winner will be responsible for all costs that are not offered as part of their prize including, but not limited to, resort fees & taxes, travel costs to and from all airports, travel insurance, food, drinks, and any additional travel outside the offered prize package as well as any digital payment processing fees for cash prizes.

4.3. Prizes are not transferable or redeemable for cash. Entrants who do not attend their respective finals will forfeit any prizes not already presented to them.

5. Competition Format

5.1. Digital Open Audition Rounds will be held for amateur singers across the USA.

5.2. Rounds will run for 2-week segments throughout the competition season and close at 11:59 pm PST on the final date posted for each round.

5.3. Any submissions coming in past the posted deadline will be moved into the next open audition round for judge's review.

5.4. Three winners will be selected from each audition round- gold, silver, and bronze- to move on to a divisional finals event.

5.5 Singers will compete against other finalists of the same placement level in each divisional final event- gold, silver, and bronze.

5.6 The top 3 placing singers from each divisional final event will move on to the National Finals Training Program.

5.7 Singers who do not earn one of the top 3 places in their divisional finals but place in the 4th through 7th placement will automatically be entered into a Blue Ribbon Run Off round to select the remaining 3 competitors for the National Finals Program.

5.8. Contestants may sing any song of their choice during the open audition rounds (*except the genre specific rounds in which they would need to adhere to that specified genre) HOWEVER they may NOT reuse a song should they proceed into a divisional finals round. After placing into the National Finals Training Program all song options become available again.

5.9. All contestants are responsible for their own video production and submissions.

5.10 Video submissions should be from one performance shot in one take with only one camera allowed. Singers face must always be visible. No cuts or edits are allowed.

5.11 Audio can be recorded on a separate device but must be done at the same time.

5.12 Lip syncing is not allowed and is grounds for disqualification.

5.13 recorded live stage performances are only allowed for video submissions as long all of the following criteria are met: the face of the singer is in the frame and visible at all times, The lighting is adequate to see the singer during the entire performance, and the audio is taken from a clean source such as directly from the venue sound board.

5.14 The video must start from where the song starts and end where the song ends. Only trimming of starting and ending points is allowed.

5.15 No editing of any kind: no fade-ins or fade-outs, no graphics, no logos, no texts of any kind or country flags added in the picture. We will add a uniform graphics layer to all the videos.

5.16 KWCUSA Finals producers have the right to refuse the use of a contestant's audio or video format if they feel it is in violation with any of the listed rules or may violate pirating laws or does not play on their system properly.

6. Judging Criteria

6.1 It is recommended that contestants dress to suit their song choice at all levels so as to maximize judging points.

6.2. Judging will be based on the following criteria for the 2021 season: Voice, Technique, Artistry, and Overall Entertainment Value. See www.kwcusa.com for full judging criteria breakdown

6.3 Each audition round will have at least 5 judge officials and selecting the top 3 singers based on the provided criteria free from any bias whatsoever. No audience participation judging will be allowed.

6.5. The officials' decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into.

6.6 All notices, rule changes, contestants advancements, or other pertinent information will be posted on the official website at www.kwcusa.com.

6.7 Contestants, their family members or associates are not allowed to have any contact with any Official during the contest performance periods. Officials on break during a contest period are treated as though they are still judging the contest either live in person or via social media. Offering bribes of any nature to a judge to help advance a contestant is strictly prohibited. Contestants are not to fraternize with the officials.

6.8 Contestants may talk freely with any provided coaches and mentors made available through the program.

7. Karaoke World Championships requirements

7.1. The Grand Final winner will be required to have 4 songs prepared for the Karaoke World Championships International Finals. These songs must be arranged in the preferred performance order by the set deadline for the international Karaoke World Championships panel. These songs can be from any category and are the choice of the contestant. Song choices may be subject to a time limit by the organizers of the Karaoke World Championships due to time restraints. Once submitted, the song choice and preferred performance order cannot be changed by the finalist.

7.2. The Grand Final winner/s will be required to adhere to the conditions of entry of the Karaoke World Championships. Prize money at world finals may be subject to the local tax laws of the host country.

7.3. If the United States representative/s is crowned Karaoke World Champion and is awarded a trip to KWC the following year as a prize, they will be required to attend.

7.4. If the United States representative/s is awarded a recording deal at the world finals, they will be required to sign a contract from Finland and may be required to travel to Finland at a future date.

7.5. The United States winner/s will be required to make themselves available for media requests for the duration of their reign.

8. Indemnity

8.1. By entering this Competition you agree not to hold the Organizers liable for any loss, damage, illness, death, injury or claim whatsoever and to abide by the conditions of entry. Entries remain the property of the Organizers.

8.2. If applicable, any Cash Prizes awarded will be finalized within 60 days of National Finals.

8.3. By entering the competition, you agree to your image, sound and performance from any association of your involvement of KWCUSA being broadcast in any form at any time, both now and in the future while you are performing as an official representative of KWCUSA, and you will not claim any performance rights or fees. Recordings & photographs remain the property of the organizers & photographers.

8.4. By entering the competition you acknowledge that the organizers of Karaoke World Championships USA are not responsible for any changes to the organization, international final destination and prizes by the official world sponsor Singa. The USA organizers reserve the right to change the National Championship prize package details to suit any unforeseeable changes made by Singa & their sponsors.

8.5. The organizers accept no responsibility for changes in prizes provided by sponsors and reserve the right to change the National Championship prize package details to suit any unforeseeable changes made by sponsors.

8.6. The official international organizers of the Karaoke World Championships is Singa.

8.7. The official partners of the Karaoke World Championships USA is Epic Performance Productions

8.8. All decisions made by the organizers are final. No correspondence will be entered into.

8.9. The 'Conditions of Entry' are subject to change without notice. All changes will be posted on the official website www.kwcusa.com