



Region 34
Convention Bulletin
First Edition

Wednesday 13 May to Sunday 17 May 2026
Wrest Point Hotel, Hobart



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WELCOME

Hello to our CAL, chorus and quartet members in Sweet Adelines Australia!

Planning is underway for our 2026 Convention and Competition to be held at Wrest Point Hotel, Hobart, 13 - 17 May.

We welcome two new members to our 2026 Convention Steering Committee (CSC): Competition Coordinator - Su Owen; and, Official Panel Liaison - Alison Hamersley. Christine McShane has graciously stepped up again as our CSC Home Chorus representative, as have Cathy Sterling (RMT Events Coordinator) and Therese Donlevy (Chair of Regional Convention).

Thank you to all those who took the time to respond to the Post-2025 Convention survey. We found your feedback very valuable and will take on board what we can in order to improve the Convention experience for all of our delegates.

This is the First Edition Convention Bulletin with information to assist with your planning for convention 2026. Convention updates will also be posted on the Sweet Adelines Australia website. Here's the link: [Convention 2026](#).

We're looking forward to another great Convention and Competition in 2026.

Cathy (Events Coordinator), Su (Competition Coordinator) and Therese (Chair of Regional Convention).

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

All competitors and those who want to **attend** the Convention must be registered. Once registration is open, an email will be sent to all SAA members containing a link to the registration site. It will also be possible to register using a link on the SAA Convention 2026 webpage.

The anticipated deadlines associated with Cvent registration are as follows:

Earlybird Registration Open: 12 January 2026;
Earlybird deadline: 28 February 2026;
Registration Close: 15 April 2026.

Registration costs for Convention are:

SAA members: \$315.00 (early-bird registration);
Youth: \$180.00 (early-bird registration);
Other registrants: \$365.00 ((early-bird registration).

Registration cost increases by \$50 after the early-bird registration deadline.
Details on Session Tickets will be available in the 2nd Bulletin, February 2026.

Please note that Convention registration is a separate process to registering to **compete** through Sweet Adelines International (SAI). More information follows.

PROCESS AND DEADLINES FOR COMPETITION

Quartet and Chorus contacts are requested to check their contact details in the SAI database as this information is used for sending of competition forms and notifications.

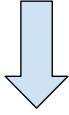
There are both Sweet Adelines International AND Regional requirements for competition which enable your Judges, Competition Coordinator and Panel Secretary to know you (quartet or chorus), your songs and your song order.

Please note that the Region does not know if you have a current registration for your quartet or chorus members or whether your quartet or chorus has applied for contest until the SAI Order of Appearance draw. It's very important that the following steps be completed by your quartet or chorus contacts.

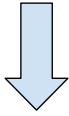
International Deadlines

SAI open for contest entry	30 January 2026
Quartet Entry deadline	16 March 2026 (late fees apply after this date)
Quartet Late Entry deadline	31 March 2026
Final Order of Appearance Draw	2 April 2026
Chorus Entry deadline	17 March 2026 (late fees apply after this date)
Chorus Late Entry deadline	1 April 2026
Final Order of Appearance Draw	2 April 2026

Current membership
or registration with
SAI



Apply for contest
with SAI



Check all songs/medleys
listed on SAI Song Evaluation
Database

IMPORTANT: The paperwork for new and renewing quartets must be submitted and processed before you may apply for competition with SAI. New quartets or renewals received after January 15 will be charged additional registration fees (last application date 31/3). Make sure all quartet/chorus members are financial and have correct affiliation. The Convention team will use the affiliations listed with SAI in the Convention program and in announcements. Ensure the contact email is one that is regularly monitored.

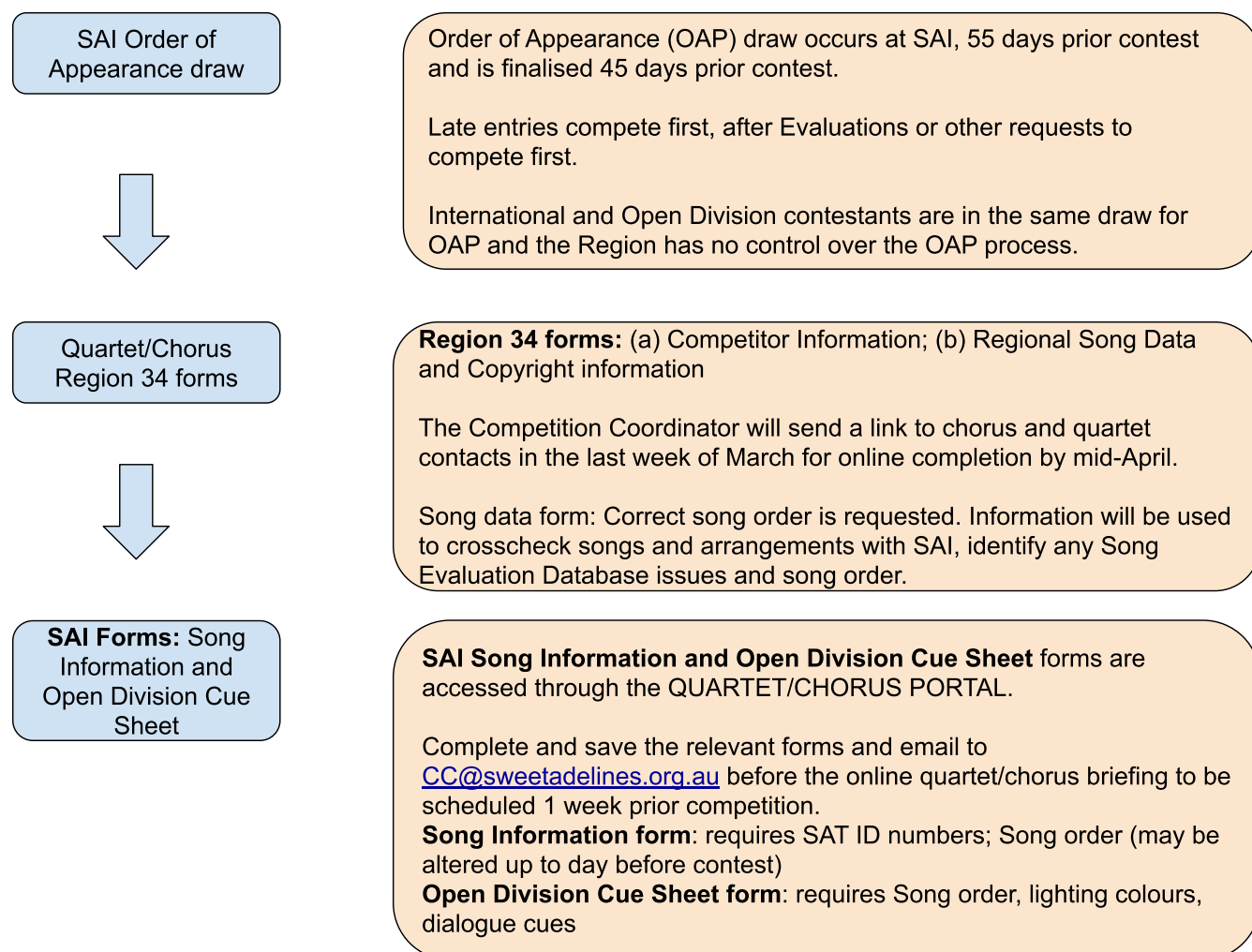
SAI Applications for regional contest open 30/1/26 (105 days before contest). "International" division is regular contest (other options are Open Division, Evaluation Only, Evaluation Only:International Bound). Entries close 60 days before contest. Fees apply for late entries up to 45 days before contest. Use the application forms on the QUARTET or CHORUS PORTAL on SAI members website, under Regional Contest. (See links at the end of this flow chart)

SAI requires all arrangements to be listed on the Song Evaluation Database. If not, you need to apply with the Song Assessment Tool (SAT) for approval. Use the SAI link to access the database. Find your song with correct arranger and record the Song ID number in far right column.

READ the review notes for your songs in case there is a lyric alert (very important!).

An admissibility request submitted through the SAT form is required for any of the following situations (do early! It can take up to 2 months):

- Your song is not listed. This includes medley component songs.
- Your arrangement is not listed.
- Your song is a parody or contains more than minor lyric modifications.



The **Quartet Portal** is on the SAI website under Events: [SAI 2026 Quartet Portal](#)

The **Chorus Portal** is on the SAI website under Events: [SAI 2026 Chorus Portal](#)

Both the **Song Evaluation Database** and the **Song Assessment Tool** are listed on the portal.

The link is [Song Assessment Tool](#). Start by looking for your songs on the Song Evaluation Database (linked from the Song Assessment Tool page). Note the Password is there to use. If your song is not listed, it is recommended to submit a Song Assessment Tool request at least 2 months before your competition date.

There are times the **Competition Coordinator** may contact you. This might be :

- If a quartet member does not have a chorus or CAL affiliation listed or any member will not be financial at the date of contest.

- Your forms have not been received.
- Songs are listed in a different order. This will need to be confirmed with you. While the song order can be changed up until the day before contest, it is needed as early as possible by the Panel Secretary.
- If a Song ID number does not match the given arrangement.
- If a song is listed as pending. You will need to email the CC and advise when it is completed and provide the Song ID number. If not, the CC will email you. The Panel Chair and Secretary will have been in touch with CC about this.
- If further information on lighting or dialogue cues is needed from Open Division or Evaluation:Internal Bound contestants.

Any questions? Please contact Su Owen, the Region 34 Competition Coordinator on cc@sweetadelines.org.au.

YOUR JUDGES FOR 2026

Becky Maybury – Sound



Becky Maybury serves as an assistant director and section specialist for Skyline Chorus, the 2024 Sweet Adelines International Third Place Medalist chorus. She also serves as Skyline's creative show and staging director.

Becky also sings lead in Last Call quartet and is an Approved Candidate Judge in the Sound Category. Becky is a coach to many different Sweet Adelines Quartets and Choruses and creates custom learning media, enhancing ways

for singing groups to learn music.

Becky joined Sweet Adelines in 1999 and believes strongly in giving back to Sweet Adelines as a member who has benefitted her entire life from the great education and mentorship the organization offers.

Corinna Garriock – Music



Corinna Garriock has been a member of Sweet Adelines International since 1988. She is a Certified Music Judge, a Master Director, and the tenor of the 2012 Sweet Adelines International Quartet Champion, Martini. She also serves on the Arranger Certification Program (ACP) Moderator's committee, helping to administer this educational program for Sweet Adeline arrangers. In the past, she has served on the International Faculty and the Education Direction Committee and was an Associate Director of Lions Gate Chorus in Region 26

(Vancouver, Canada) for many years. Corinna enjoys coaching and arranging and has several arrangements available through SA and SMP. She currently resides in Halifax, Nova Scotia on the east coast of Canada and is a Chapter-At-Large member in each of Region 1 and 26.

Paula Davis – Expression (Panel Chair)



Paula Davis is a 42-year member of Sweet Adelines International and has lived in 4 different regions during that time, finding a chorus family wherever she moved. She is a Past International President of SAI (2016-18), a Certified Expression Judge and International Master Faculty. Paula currently is the Judge Specialist Moderator, providing leadership and vision for all judges while, along with the Judge Specialists, being responsible for all judges and the SAI Judging Program. In her “real life”, she was a high school choral director and now enjoys being able to teach Sweet Adelines. She chartered and directs Song of Seattle Chorus in Region 13 and sings in Touchstone Quartet, once again finding a wonderful singing family when she and her husband, Bob, moved to the Seattle, Washington area to be closer to their grandchildren. Paula is looking forward to welcoming you to her region and city for the 2027 and 2028 International competition!

Donna Halley – Visual Communications



Donna Halley, an Approved Candidate Judge in Visual Communication, hails from suburban Philadelphia, Pennsylvania USA. A Sweet Adeline for 46 years, Donna has had the opportunity to perform on the International stage, on the front row, with the Valley Forge, Greater Harrisburg and Pride of Baltimore Choruses. She is a former Education Coordinator for Region 19 and most recently sang with the Philadelphia Freedom Chorus (SAI) and Parkside Melody (BHS). Donna has sung in multiple SAI quartets and sang for many years with her husband in the championship mixed quartet, PhilHarmonix. Donna wishes to thank everyone in Region 34 for their hospitality and a special thank you to the convention team for outstanding communication and arrangements for the judging panel.

KEY CONVENTION ROLES

CSC	Events Coordinator (EvC) events@sweetadelines.org.au	Cathy Sterling
	Chair of Regional Convention (CRC) crc@sweetadelines.org.au	Therese Donlevy
	Competition Coordinator (CC) cc@sweetadelines.org.au	Su Owen
	Official Panel Liaison (OPL) opl@sweetadelines.org.au	Alison Hamersley
	Home Chorus representative	Christine McShane
	Panel Secretary (PS)	Therese Cooney
	Page	Megan Bishop
	Stage Manager	Aaron Hewitt
	Cvent Coordinator lpg037@gmail.com	Lorraine Graham
	Registration Secretariat registrations@sweetadelines.org.au	Bathurst Panorama Chorus
	Parade of Champions Coordinator	Liliana Macarone
	MC Coordinator	Liliana Macarone
	Harmony Bazaar Coordinator harmonybazaar@sweetadelines.org.au	Hobart Harmony Chorus
	STAR Chorus Coordinator	Justine Cox
RMT	Team Coordinator teamcoordinator@sweetadelines.org.au	Linda Britts
	Communications Coordinator (CoC) communications@sweetadelines.org.au	Michelle Roy
	Directors' Coordinator (DC) directors@sweetadelines.org.au	Vicki Dwyer
	Education Coordinator (EC) education@sweetadelines.org.au	Bec Hewitt
	Finance Coordinator (FC) finance@sweetadelines.org.au	Tori van der Donk
	Marketing Coordinator (MkC) marketing@sweetadelines.org.au	Karen Phillips
	Membership Coordinator (MeC) members@sweetadelines.org.au	Tracey Ezzy

REHEARSAL SPACES

Each competing chorus is provided with a 1h flat floor rehearsal at Wrest Point.

The rehearsal schedule will be developed by the CRC after the SAI Order of Appearance draw is finalised and is typically allocated on the Friday evening and Saturday morning of Convention.

If any chorus does not wish to take up this rehearsal opportunity, please let Therese know as soon as possible (crc@sweetadelines.org.au).

Requests for additional paid rehearsal time/space are not guaranteed as room availability must be balanced against economic considerations. If your chorus would like to request additional paid rehearsal time at Wrest Point please let Therese know as soon as possible (crc@sweetadelines.org.au).

WEBCAST

This Convention, we are re-introducing the Competition Webcast to enhance the experience of those unable to attend.

Quartets and choruses, be prepared! We'd like to have representatives ready to speak with our Webcast comperes after your performance.

CONVENTION EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS

Draft High-level Schedule of Events

	Wednesday 13 May	Thursday 14 May	Friday 15 May	Saturday 16 May	Sunday 17 May
AM			Registration (if needed) STAR Chorus rehearsal Harmony Bazaar Mass Sing Opening Ceremony Quartet Competition	STAR Chorus rehearsal Chorus rehearsals Chorus Competition	Quartet/Chorus Masterclasses Closing Ceremony
PM	Quartet Reception Quartet Open Mic Event	Harmony Bazaar Registration Quartet Chorus rehearsal Quartet/Chorus Walkthroughs	Harmony Bazaar Quartet Competition cont. Chorus rehearsals	Chorus Competition cont. Parade of Champions Afterglow	Closing Ceremony cont. Education Classes Sunday Sesh

The 2026 Convention opens with the Wednesday evening **Quartet Reception** followed by the **Quartet Open Mic** event. Stay tuned for further information on how established quartets can apply to perform some of their non-competition repertoire at the Open Mic event.

Harmony Bazaar will return once again however, due to feedback from vendors, we're trialling trade opening on just Thursday and Friday of Convention.

Parade of Champions showcases our winning quartets and choruses and is full of entertainment for everyone. We've listened to your feedback and are streamlining the concert compared to previous years.

Trybooking session tickets to attend quartet and chorus competitions and Parade of Champions will be available for on-line purchase after the close of registration. We encourage your friends and family to buy tickets on-line prior to the day of competition. Details on when session tickets can be purchased will be communicated widely next year.

Afterglow is free to all full delegates and is a great way to celebrate after the competition.

Quartet and Chorus **Masterclasses** with Judges are scheduled for Sunday morning and are followed by the Closing Ceremony. Some awards, previously presented during the Parade of Champions, will now be presented during the **Opening and Closing Ceremonies**. Please plan your travel accordingly so that we can fully acknowledge these award recipients.

Sunday **Education Sessions** with our Judges are scheduled for the afternoon. More details on class topics and durations will be communicated nearer the time.

Sunday Sesh returns for late Sunday afternoon! Fun, festivities and feasting are sure to result. Search for a venue better suited to our anticipated numbers has commenced.

CONVENTION TASKS

Thank you to those choruses and chorus members who have volunteered to take on our critical Convention Tasks for 2026. We really appreciate your generosity of spirit and look forward to working with you next year.

However, if you're a frustrated party planner, WE NEED YOU for **Afterglow**!

Please contact Therese (crc@sweetadelines.org.au) for more information.