

## Scratch Quartet Contest 2025

Lace City Chorus thank you for your interest in this exciting event which we hope will encourage more people to have a go at quartet singing. Participating choruses are:

- Gem Connection Chorus
- Grand Central Chorus
- Ignite UK Chorus
- Major Oak Chorus
- Pitch and Mix Chorus
- Lace City Chorus

### When and where is it?

Date: Saturday 20th September 2025

Time: 10:30am - 4:30pm

Location: Carlton Junior Academy, Foxhill Road, Carlton, Nottingham, NG4 1QS

Directions: Parking is limited to event organisers and allocated disabled parking. Please park on Foxhill Road or surrounding streets. You will turn into a long, uphill school driveway. The Junior Academy is at the top of the drive. You will pass the Infants School on the left.

### How do we take part?

- Click [this link](#) to access the registration form.
- Entry closes on 31/08/2025, or when the contest is full. Whichever is earliest.
- The entry fee is required to secure your quartet's place in the contest. (non-refundable). Payment details will be sent by email upon receipt of registration.
  - £12 early bird by 31/07/25
  - £15 fee from 01/08/25

### Who can enter?

- Quartets may be mixed, male or female.
- At least one member of each quartet must be from within one of the 6 participating choruses.

- You may mix and match across choruses.
- Existing quartets may enter (respectfully, no gold medallist quartets but an individual can be a gold medallist).
- Membership of multiple quartets is permitted.
- Space is limited to 24 quartets.

### **What should we sing?**

- Quartets will perform **one** song of their choosing, in 4-part harmony.
- In the interest of time, we ask that songs are of no more than 4 minutes in length.
- We ask that you choose songs suitable for an audience of all ages with no offensive language. Please consider whether the song is respectful and appropriate in terms of equality, diversity and inclusivity.
- The song can be from a chorus' existing repertoire OR something you choose to purchase at your own expense. It doesn't need to be a 'contest song'.
- You are asked to provide the title, arranger and composer on the registration form, or upon arrival on the day.

### **Will there be space to warm up?**

- Yes a warm up room will be available.
- You will be notified of your allocated warm up slot and performance time 7-10 days prior to the contest.
- You will get approximately 10 or 15 minutes in a warm up room. There is plenty of space outside the school and in other areas for you to have a sing too.
- We will draw the order of appearance when registration closes on 31/08/25.

### **Who is judging the contest?**

1. **Ellie Blackeby** (Director of Lace City Chorus and Bass of 2024 R31 Quartet Champions, Vida Loca)
2. **Zac Booles** (Director of Ignite UK Chorus and BABS quartet champion with Monkey Magic and Locksmiths)
3. To be finalised
4. To be finalised

**Will there be any awards?**

There will be three awards on the day:

- Best overall quartet
- Most entertaining quartet
- Novice quartet

**What is a novice quartet?**

- No member of the quartet shall have competed in an official barbershop quartet contest before.
- There will be a box to tick on the entry form to indicate eligibility.

**Can I come just to watch?**

Absolutely! Audience members are welcome with a suggested donation of min £2 on entry.

**What will the structure of the day be?**

10:00 - 10:30 Arrival and checking in  
10:30 - 11:00 Physical and vocal warm up for all  
11:00 - 13:00 Contest session 1  
13:00 - 13:45 Lunch break  
13:45 - 15:45 Contest session 2  
15:45 - 16:15 Break and adjudication  
16:15 - 16:30 Results

**What else will happen on the day?**

- Book sale
- Hamper raffle
- Tea, coffee, and cakes for sale

**Do I need to bring lunch?**

Yes - bring your own lunch and please bring a mug for tea and coffee to avoid use of disposal ones. There is a Tesco Superstore within 5 to 10 min walk, or 2 min drive.

**Is there parking?**

There is limited parking in the school grounds, which we will prioritise for organisers and those with mobility issues. Parking is available on the road outside the school. We will have people on hand between 9:30 am and 10:30 am to help direct you if any spaces are free. If you require an accessible space please let us know ahead of time.

**Finally - have FUN! We can't wait to meet you.**