

Song Leading

PURPOSE:

To encourage the development of song leading skills.

GUIDELINES:

1. There are separate divisions for boys and girls, with four grade levels in each division: 3-4, 5-6, 7-9, 10-12.
2. **Rule change:** Men and Woman will be allowed in the room where the girls lead songs.
3. **Rule change: ACTION REQUIRED - Participants may lead the song of their choice. Please email a powerpoint presentation file of the students song choice and the students name/congregation to songleadingmen@gpltc.net or songleadingwomen@gpltc.net (Two stanzas, and only two stanzas, of the chosen song are to be led.) The deadline to submit the participants song choice is 3/1/2024 which aligns with the GPLTC registration deadline. The music must contain a CCLI #. If you do not have access to music slides or do not have an active CCLI license, please contact the men or women's songleading coordinator and we will provide you with licensed music slides. Change or submission of song will not be permitted after the registration deadline. If a student does not submit a song before deadline and would still like to participate at the convention, they will be allowed to go last in their room and lead a song that was previously led by another participant.**
4. **Rule change:** At convention, a QR code will be provided that is linked to a pdf, preloaded with the song that the student submitted so that singers will have the music available.
5. In alphabetical order of last name, students will lead their songs.
6. Students will announce their name, and congregation number. Then when prompted by the judges, begin the song.
7. The student will lead two, and only two, verses of the chosen song. They may repeat the first stanza if the song is only one stanza long.
8. The audience will remain for all participants so as to provide an adequate number of singers for all leaders.

AWARDS: There are three ratings available in each grade level – Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

- **Pitch and Tempo:** Points will be deducted if the song is pitched incorrectly. The tempo should reflect the mood of the song. If one verse is a different tempo, the transition should be smooth.
- **Volume:** The song leader's voice should have good volume and diction as the song is announced and started. Also, the leader should follow the dynamic markings of the music which indicate if the music should be soft or loud.
- **Beat:** The beat of the song should be indicated by the leader; it does not have to be in a 4/4 or 3/4 type pattern, but the beats in the song should be indicated in some manner by the hand.
- **Verse Transition:** Leaders must move well from one verse to the next while letting the audience know their intention. (Two stanzas, and only two stanzas, of the chosen song are to be led.)
- **Leadership:** Leadership is the ability of leaders to show confidence and to get the audience to follow direction. They are expected to set the tone, mood, and atmosphere for the audience. Assertiveness is expected.
- **Overall Effectiveness:** This is the judge's assessment of the overall effectiveness of the song leader.

COACHES AND CHURCH COORDINATORS:

- Please ensure that participants have the song of their choice submitted before the deadline. The event coordinator will need to know which verses will be sung at the convention when the file is submitted.

- Make certain that the student is correctly registered in this event.
- Be certain that their song leaders are registered for song leading and only song leading for a given time period. No one will be allowed to participate in an event if they have a conflict with another event.
- Make certain that each student arrives at their room in time, and accompanied by at least one encourager.