

## Bethel Ritual Competition – Basic Information

**DAUGHTERS COMPETING:** All Daughters attending Grand Session must compete in Bethel Ritual competition. The Officers participating in the competition must be those who were installed during the term in which the competition is held. Any Daughters of your own Bethel who are attending Grand Session and who have not been installed may protem an office they are eligible for. These officers must be eligible for installation as an officer (under age 20, dues paid, etc.) Any Daughter who is twenty years of age or older and was NOT installed in an office in your Bethel in May is not eligible to compete even if she is in Grand/Supreme Bethel. If you have a question about whether a Daughter is eligible to compete, please ask for clarification. Daughters proteming for Line Offices must be PHQ's or have served in that office.

**OFFICERS:** All non-speaking parts in the Ritual will be required as listed. If a station has a part and there is not a Daughter filling that office, the protem must walk to that office, perform the duty or say the part and then return to her original station. If the office requires multiple actions (like Recorder) the protem officer may stay at that station until it is necessary for her to return to her original station. Officers moving from station to station must use proper marching lines and may be marked down if property marching lines are not used. As an example, if Daughters are removing chairs, they should go to the Custodian's chairs, do the proper floor work to remove chairs, return to the Custodian's chairs and then may go back to their original stations for the closing cross.

**JUDGING:** Bethels competing against each other will have the same judges. The time allowed for the competition will be about one hour including walk through, and instructions to observers. Judging will be based on what is written in the Ritual.

**OBSERVERS:** Observers are welcome although Daughters and Council members from other Bethels competing may not observe Bethels in their own class. Observers will remain seated and not participate as sideliners unless specifically assigned a particular task for the competition.

**MUSIC & SONGS:** A CD player and Music CD will be provided for each Bethel's use. A Daughter or Adult from the competing Bethel or an adult from another Bethel must be assigned to play the music. You are welcome to bring your own CD and player or you can use the one provided. Only an installed Daughter Musician or a Daughter officially protemming as Musician will be judged on the music. All songs must be sung in the proper place and ALL Daughters must sing (except where otherwise provided for in the Ritual).

**PARAPHERNALIA:** All paraphernalia will be provided including a Charter and a Bible. The Honored Queen should bring her own gavel to use in the competition.

**RITUALS & PROMPTING:** There will be NO RITUALS allowed in the room during the competition except those used by the judges. Prompting will be done by the word judge, one word at a time. If an officer must be prompted, she needs to look at the word judge who will be introduced prior to the competition. If a Daughter does not look at the word judge she will not be prompted. Please practice and review the prompting policy with your Daughters so they are prepared. One point will be deducted for each word prompted. In addition, if words are added, deleted or repeated, one point will be deducted. Letter perfect according to the ritual is what we are following for word judging.

**ROBE INSPECTION:** Robes for all competing Daughters will be visually judged during the competition.

**BETHEL SET-UP:** Bethels will be assigned a separate Bethel Set up time which may be on Thursday or Saturday. Daughters doing the set up for your Bethel may wear street clothes and will not be judged on their attire. Ten minutes will be allowed for the Marshal and Custodians to set up the room and during this time judges will be present. After 10 minutes the Daughters will be released, and the judges will evaluate the set up. NO BETHEL ADULTS will be allowed in the room during the Bethel set up time. If you did not install a Marshal and Custodians you may substitute other officers to do the set up. Any substitutions must be listed on the officer sheet.

**COMPETITION DAY:** At the time of the competition, each Bethel will be allowed 5 minutes for the Bethel Daughters, BG, ABG and Musician to familiarize themselves with the room and equipment. The Daughters are also allowed to ask yes or no questions during the five minutes (only general questions will be allowed. The Judges will tell you if your question is too specific and they cannot answer).

The Honored Queen will be provided with a list for Escort, Introductions and Honors and an order of business. She should bring her own gavel to use. The Recorder will have a communication, receipts and bills. The Librarian and Treasurer will have their reports under their chairs. Your Daughters should make sure these items are in place during the 5 minutes and should take the time to review them in case there are questions.

The rooms are small so be sure to have your Daughters familiarize themselves with all the marching lines and to be prepared to stand close together or take smaller steps if necessary

Once the 5 minutes is up, observers will be allowed to enter the room and some adults will be asked to participate in the Escort and Introduction portion of the competition. Daughters should take this time to line up and be ready for the start of the competition.

The competition begins when the Bethel Guardian nods for the Music to begin and ends when the last daughter has left the "room" at the end of the meeting

**FINAL NOTES:** If your Bethel has a situation that is not addressed in these rules, please contact the Competition Chairman. It is possible that these special circumstances can be worked out.

Please look at every part of your Ritual for direction when practicing for your Competition. The Ritual will always be the final authority. Remember the first few pages of the Ritual outline specific direction for particular officers and situations and should also be taken into consideration.

## SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR OFFICERS:

### Required parts:

Preparation of Bethel Room  
Opening March  
American Flag  
Bethel Flag (Must be presented)  
Opening Charges from filled stations  
Signs & Responses (HQ fills in if missing Princess)  
Lord's Prayer  
Inner Guard informs that Bethel in Session  
Escort, Introductions & Honors  
Treasurer's Report  
Communications  
Receipts of the Meeting  
Bills  
Librarian's report  
Mother's Fathers & Guardian's prayer  
Closing Ceremony  
Closing prayer  
Inner Guard informs that Bethel is closed  
Custodians remove chairs  
Closing March  
Closing cross

### Not Required:

Pledge of Honor  
Opening Charges from offices not filled  
Reading of Special Dispensation  
Roll Call  
Reading of Minutes  
Petitions for Membership  
Reports  
Unfinished Business  
New Business  
Good of the Bethel

Based on this list, you will need an officer or a protem for the following stations:

Honored Queen  
Guide  
Marshal  
Chaplain  
Recorder  
Treasurer  
Librarian  
Senior Custodian  
Junior Custodian  
Inner Guard

**PROTEM OFFICERS:** Protems for a line office must be filled by a Past Honored Queen or a Daughter who has previously served in this office. Protem officers will proceed to the station she is protemming and then say the part or perform the duties of that office from there. Once she is finished, she will return to her original station (unless further duties are required from that station). When marching to and from offices proper marching lines will be required. **The Honored Queen will address the protem officer as the office she is protemming with wording from the Ritual (Note: this is a change from previous years).** If the Honored Queen addresses an officer and the Ritual requires her to pause while the officer stands, she should say "Treasurer" wait for protem officer to rise, "you will read the Treasurer's report". Officer then moves to Treasurer's chair, reads report, gives floor work, returns to Treasurer's station waits for rap from HQ and then returns to her station and is seated.

**INNER/OUTER GUARD:** If you do not have an Inner Guard another officer shall do the part of the Inner Guard including opening and closing the doors and communicating with the Outer Guard. A protem Outer Guard is not required and If you do not have an Outer Guard the Inner Guard should just speak to the Outer Guard as if she were there and assume she has responded to her raps. The rooms will likely not have doors to open and close so the Inner and Outer Guards should mimic the motions of opening and closing doors and giving the raps.

**CUSTODIANS:** The Custodians are responsible for setting up the Bethel room and for removing chairs. If you do not have Installed officers for these stations protem officers should be assigned. When removing chairs, the protem officers should go to the Custodian's stations, proceed from there and return to those stations before returning to their station for the closing march.

**CHAPLAIN:** The Chaplain will give the Lord's prayer, The Mothers' Fathers' and Guardians' Prayer and the Closing prayer. A Protem Officer should proceed to the Chaplain's station, attend at the Altar, return to the Chaplain's station and then return to her Station as required. If a protem officer does not have any duties between the Lord's Prayer and the Closing prayer she may stay seated in the Chaplain's station and then return to her station after the closing prayer.

**RECORDER:** A Daughter protemming as Recorder should advance to the Recorder's desk when the Honored Queen declares the meeting open and return to her station for the Closing Ceremony. The Recorder will have a communication to read and a "Flimsie" with Receipts and Bills listed. She should assume that the bills HAVE been audited.

**TREASURER:** A Treasurer's report will be provided and will be placed under the Treasurer's chair prior to the start of the competition. A protem officer should advance to the Treasurer's chair and after reading the report perform the proper floor work and return to the Treasurer's chair. Once there she can return to her original station.

**LIBRARIAN:** A Librarian's report will be provided and will be placed under the Librarian's chair prior to the start of the competition. A protem officer should advance to the Librarian's chair and after reading the report she can return to her original station.

**BETHEL FLAG BEARER:** The Bethel Flag MUST be presented. The Daughter presenting the Bethel Flag should leave from and return to her station observing all marching lines.

**GUIDE & MARSHAL:** The Marshal presents the American Flag. Another Daughter may present this flag but she must proceed to the Marshal's station, be acknowledged as "Marshal" by the HQ and proceed from there. Daughters filling in as Guide or Marshal during their duties should also begin and end from the Guide and Marshal's stations. They will be acknowledged as "Guide and Marshal" by the HQ. Note that there will likely not be actual doors to enter the Bethel room and they should mimic the motions of opening or closing the doors.

**BETHEL GUARDIAN & ASSOCIATE BETHEL GUARDIAN:** The BG and ABG will be judging on proper opening and closing per Ritual. The Bethel Guardian must be the current BG or a PBG of your Bethel.

**Bethel Ritual Competition – OFFICER FORM**  
**Please return this form ASAP but no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> of June!**  
[competejdi@wajdi.org](mailto:competejdi@wajdi.org)

OFFICER FORM Bethel No. \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Daughters Competing \_\_\_\_\_

Installed Officers:  
(Please list names)

Protem/Fill in Officers

\*Honored Queen \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Must be PHQ)

Senior Princess \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Princess \_\_\_\_\_

\*Guide: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Must be PHQ  
or previously Guide)

\*Marshal: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Must be PHQ  
Or previously Guide)

\*Chaplain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Recorder: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Librarian \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Musician \_\_\_\_\_ (List here only if installed Daughter)

1<sup>st</sup> Messenger \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Messenger \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> Messenger \_\_\_\_\_

4<sup>th</sup> Messenger \_\_\_\_\_

5<sup>th</sup> Messenger \_\_\_\_\_

\*Sr Custodian \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Jr Custodian \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Inner Guard \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Outer Guard \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Bethel Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Must be PBG  
Of the Bethel)

Adult Musician \_\_\_\_\_

Bethel Set up (3 Daughters) 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

\*Asterisked offices must have either an installed officer or a proteм/fill in officer. Note there may be duplicated names in the "Protem/Fill in side as Daughters may be filling in for several stations. Those without lines are allowed to have proteмs, just write them in where applicable

# Bethel Ritual Competition

DEADLINE for ENTRY is an ELECTRONIC TIMESTAMP by midnight (see online entry form for deadline date).

Sorry, No Late Entries can be accepted.

Note: Bethels will be grouped into classes with other similar sized Bethels

Once entries are received, each Bethel will be provided with more information and copies of the judging forms.

Each Bethel must complete and return the Officer's sheet showing which offices will be filled during the competition and what protems will be used. This form must be returned to the chairman by mail or email as soon as possible but no later than June 10th.

Visit [www.wajdi.org](http://www.wajdi.org) for online entry forms

Click on Forms & More/Grand Session

## Questions

Competition Coordinators: [competejdi@wajdi.org](mailto:competejdi@wajdi.org)

- Registration questions
- Schedule changes
- Cancelations
- Registration Confirmations
- Awards
- Rules and Guidelines questions – These questions will be forwarded to the current chairman
- Scoring and Judging questions – These questions will be forwarded to the current chairman