

## **RULES OF THE 2003 EUROVISION SONG CONTEST**

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## **RULES FOR THE 48th EUROVISION SONG CONTEST (2003)**

### **I. PARTICIPANTS**

1. Under the auspices of the EUROPEAN BROADCASTING UNION (EBU) and as part of the television programme exchanges known as "Eurovision", the EBU Member organizations in Austria (ORF), Belgium (RTBF), Bosnia-Herzegovina (PBS BIH), Croatia (HRT), Cyprus (CY/CBC), Estonia (EE/ETV), France (GRF/FT3), Germany (ARD/NDR), Greece (ERT), Iceland (RUV), Ireland (RTE), Israel (IBA), Latvia (LT), Malta (MT/PBS), The Netherlands (NPB/NOS), Norway (NRK), Poland (PRT/TVP), Portugal (RTP), Romania (RO/TVR), Russia (Channel One Russia), Slovenia (RTVSLO), Spain (TVE), Sweden (SVT), Turkey (TRT), Ukraine (NTU) and the United Kingdom (BBC) (26 countries), hereinafter referred to as the "participants", have decided, under the present Rules, to take part actively in the

#### **48th EUROVISION SONG CONTEST,**

which will be held at Skonto Hall in Riga (Latvia) on 24 May 2003.

2. Participants are free to withdraw up to 31 October 2002, after which date they shall be liable for their financial commitments, even if they subsequently decide not to enter a song. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a participant withdraws later than 31 October 2002 it may be replaced by a Member from the next country on the waiting list if this is still compatible with the schedule for preparing the Contest.

### **II. AIM**

1. The purpose of the Contest is to promote high-quality original songs in the field of popular music, by encouraging competition among artists, songwriters and composers through the international comparison of their songs.
2. Only songs (lyrics or music) not commercially released before 1 October 2002 may be performed at the Contest Final. Each participating organization shall obtain a signed statement from the songwriters and composers that the entry has never been published or released commercially before the above-mentioned deadline. This formality must be completed before the national selection procedure takes place.
3. Only the EBU may approve the commercial release of a compilation album of all the entries for the 2003 Final.
4. The Contest is mainly intended for broadcasting on television by Eurovision members.

### III. ORGANIZATION

The organization of the Contest comprises:

1. The national selection by each participant - preferably by means of a national competition - of the best possible song. It is recommended that this selection should be made through a televised show using televoting.
2. Familiarizing the public with the songs in advance of the Contest Final through:
  - (a) the provision of recordings on videotape or film of all the participants' entries, which must reach the producing organization by 20 March 2003 and which shall be transmitted by the producing organization on 2 April 2003 for simultaneous recording by all participants;
  - (b) the subsequent broadcast of these recordings by interested participants on one or more dates convenient to each participant prior to the Contest Final.
3. The performance before a live audience of all the songs presented by the participants, during the live transmission of the Contest Final. On the basis of the Contest Final,

#### THE GRAND PRIX OF THE 2003 EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

shall be awarded.

4. The provision of an international complementary web site ([www.eurovision.tv](http://www.eurovision.tv)) of a quality comparable, in creativity and professionalism, with the Contest Final broadcast.

### IV. NATIONAL SELECTION PROCEDURE

1. The national selection procedure shall be decided by each participant as it deems fit. However, the song selected, the national selection criteria and the performance of the song must conform to the present Rules. The maximum duration of the song and its performance shall be three minutes.
2. As a condition for the national selection, and with the sole purpose of promoting the Contest and the participating authors and artists as extensively as possible to an international audience, each participant must ensure that the songwriter(s), composer(s), artist(s) and any other possible rightowner(s) of the selected song are prepared to grant the following transferable rights (unless permission to use any such rights is obtained from a collecting society):

- a) "broadcasting rights": these are the world-wide exclusive rights, unlimited in time, to broadcast the performance of the song at the 2003 Contest Final, in the widest sense of the term (the technical method of signal delivery and the form of signal display, such as large screens or video walls, being irrelevant), covering both live and deferred transmission, in whole or in part, for both private and public reception; it is understood that the exercise of these rights also allows the live or deferred Internet transmission of the Contest Final or otherwise making available (including on-demand use) of the live performance of the song at the Contest Final via the Internet;
  - b) "preview rights": these are the exclusive rights to present a sound or video recording of the performance of the song, in whole or in part, prior to the Contest Final and for a short period thereafter, including via the Internet;
  - c) "CD compilation rights": these are the non-exclusive rights for incorporating a sound recording of the selected song, together with such recordings of all other songs, in the 2003 Contest Final, into a CD (or similar carrier), to be released by the EBU Permanent Services or an appointed third party on behalf of all the artists; it is understood that such a (studio and/or live) compilation is limited to the performances of the songs at the 2003 Contest Final and shall not prejudice any existing or future record producing agreement of the artist(s) or other rightowners;
  - d) "extract rights": these are the exclusive rights, unlimited in time, for incorporating a sound or video recording of the broadcast performance of the selected song, as part of the 2003 Contest Final, in whole or in part, in any other media services provided by the participants, including via their own websites and/or the international complementary website ([www.eurovision.tv](http://www.eurovision.tv)), for the purpose of promoting or illustrating the Eurovision Song Contest as such.
4. The songwriter(s) must be asked not to object to free translations being made of the lyrics of the song in English and French, these being intended only for informational use by the EBU, the participants, the commentators and juries, and possibly for the above-mentioned compilation CD.

## V. CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO THE CONTEST FINAL

### 1. *Active participants:*

Active participants in the Contest are selected on the following basis:

- (a) The Member which presented the winning song in 2002.
- (b) Previously participating Members which were not admitted in 2002 but which have complied with all other rules relating to participation. The principle underlying this system of rotation is that all candidates can take part in the Contest Final at least once every two years.
- (c) The largest contributing participants (which are, at present, France, Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom).

For the remaining places, until the maximum of 26 participants is reached, the Members (other than those falling within categories (a) (b) and (c) above) which obtained the highest score in the previous Contest Final. Where two Members have the same number of points, the Member who has obtained points from the most countries will qualify. If they received votes from the same number of countries, then the highest number of 12-point scores will be decisive. If it is not possible to determine the next Member in line through this procedure, then the number of ten-point scores awarded will be the deciding factor, and this may continue down to the number of two-point scores.

If up to two Members withdraw, no new participants shall be admitted. If the number of participants falls below 24, substitute Members may be sought.

2. *Passive participants:*

Non-participating Members willing to participate in 2004 shall inform the Permanent Services in writing by 14 April 2003 and shall broadcast the 2003 Contest Final as passive participants, as this is one condition for participation the following year. However, *the Song Contest format is presently being reviewed and, at present, there are no guaranteed places for 2004.*

3. *Admitted participants:*

Under exceptional circumstances, and upon prior approval by the EBU Television Committee after refusal of the Member(s) in the country concerned, a non-EBU Member can be allowed to participate actively in the 2003 Contest Final. It is understood that, in that case, the non-Member will be subject to the present Rules.

## **VI. PROMOTION OF THE CONTEST: PREVIEW PRESENTATION OF THE SONGS - THE INTERNET**

1. Each participant shall make its best endeavours to promote the Contest Final as a major cultural event, taking due account of the aim of the Contest. In particular, before the broadcast of the Contest Final, participants must undertake at least one of the following: television coverage of the national preselection, a television broadcast of the previews (see below), or a television broadcast about the Contest, presenting the artist(s) who will be participating in the Contest Final.
2. Each participant shall provide, free of charge, for use by all other participants, both a sound and a video recording or film of its complete entry (maximum duration: three minutes). The production featured on the recording may be of any kind chosen by the originating organization, but the song presented and the artist(s) must be the same as those who will be appearing in the Contest Final.
3. The recordings specified in (a) above must reach the producing organization by 20 March 2003. All entries, including that of the producing organization itself, shall be transmitted by the latter on 2 April 2003 for recording by the other participants.
4. The songs must be announced as being entries for the 2003 Eurovision Song Contest, and in each case the organization and country entering the song must be identified.

5. Each participant shall be exclusively responsible for all expenses incurred for the production of its song, and for the provision of the recording or film to be distributed.
6. The cost of distributing the recordings or films over the Eurovision network for the preview presentation and the Contest Final (together with the possible expenses incurred by the Permanent Services and the distributing organization) shall be shared in accordance with the existing Eurovision rules.
7. All previews may also be made available on each participant's website, as well as on the official site developed by the producing organization.
8. Each participant should provide a link from its own website to the official website developed by the producing organization.

## **VII. PERFORMANCE OF THE SONGS**

1. The producing organization has full responsibility for the broadcast of the Contest Final within the terms of these Rules, and for ensuring that the Rules are observed.
2. The producing organization shall be obliged to produce the programme within the duration specified by the Television Committee (i.e. a maximum of three hours).
3. The Contest Final shall consist chiefly of the successive presentation by the artist or artists of each song selected under the conditions defined in Article IV above.
4. Artists may sing in the language of their choice.
5. It is recommended that each song or its performance should express some "national flavour".
6. A song may be presented by a maximum of six artists. To be admitted, artists must have attained the age of at least 16 in 2003.
7. The lyrics and/or performance of a song must not bring the Contest into disrepute.
8. The producing organization shall be responsible for checking that the performance of each song does not exceed three minutes. If, at the end of the second rehearsal, any country's song exceeds three minutes, the producing organization shall consult the EBU Scrutineer, and together they may, at their sole discretion, disqualify that country's song from the Contest Final. In such circumstances, the head of delegation of the country concerned shall be informed in writing of the decision.
9. Amplifying equipment, stage design elements for decorative purposes and other possible elements on the stage are allowed if the producing organization has been notified about such requests by 20 March 2003 and has given its confirmation.

10. Musical instruments are allowed on stage subject to approval by the producing organization, but no instruments may be connected to a microphone. Upon request, the producing organization shall provide a comprehensive drum kit and/or a grand piano. The producing organization must be notified about such requests at the Head of Delegation meeting on 20 March 2003 at the latest.
11. The use of backing-tracks is permitted on condition that they are instrumental only. No backing vocals or computerized vocals are allowed on the backing-tracks. When it receives the backing-track tapes, the producing organization shall check that this provision has been observed. In case of doubt, the producing organization shall contact the Permanent Services immediately.
12. The producing organization shall present its proposed format to the Eurovision Song Contest Reference Group no later than eight weeks prior to the Contest Final, to ensure compliance with these Rules. The producing organization shall send a detailed and timed line-up to all participants at least two weeks before the Contest Final.
13. Changes in the lyrics, the name of the artist or group, the title of the song and the language of the song's performance (i.e. - all elements that appear in official printed materials such as brochures, CD covers and booklets) shall be allowed only up until 20 March 2003, and changes to the final sound recording of the song shall be permitted until two weeks before the Contest Final. After the deadline mentioned above, minor adjustments in the songs should be agreed by the EBU and the producing organization.

### **VIII. ORCHESTRA**

The producing organization is not obliged to provide an orchestra. If it does not intend to do so, it must inform the Permanent Services in writing no later than 30 September 2002.

### **IX. SCORES - RECORDINGS - TEXTS AND ARTISTS OF THE SONGS - OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES**

Each participant must, as soon as possible, but not later than 10 March 2003, appoint a representative (called the head of delegation), who shall be responsible for

1. Obtaining and verifying all relevant information on the producing organization and the host country and distributing it within his/her own organization, and providing information to the producing organization, well in advance, before and during the event; this includes the verification and delivery of any entry recordings and the arrangement of translations;
2. Making the following material/information available to the producing organization, by 20 March 2003 at the latest:
  - (a) The signed contract for the compilation CD, along with all material requested by the record company (DAT, pictures of artists, lyrics, biographies, etc.)

- (b) A sound recording of its entry, and the appropriate backing-track where applicable.
  - (c) A video presentation of the song on stage by the artists participating in the Contest Final (for internal use by the director), clearly showing how it will be performed on stage. If any changes are made after 20 March 2003, a new version must be sent.
  - (d) The videoclip of the song to be used as the preview item.
  - (e) A list of requirements, i.e. instruments, props, etc.
  - (f) The lyrics of the song in the language that will be used during the Contest Final, together with English and French translations, for duplication and distribution to the commentators. A copy of the lyrics and the translations thereof shall also be sent by the same deadline to the Permanent Services, which shall duplicate them for the relaying organizations and the juries.
  - (g) If the producing organization is providing an orchestra, the score of the song to be performed, adapted to the composition of the orchestra made available by the producing organization; this material shall be returned after the Contest Final.
  - (h) Name, function and contact details of the notary who will be verifying the results of the national voting on 24th May 2003;
3. Attending personally the information session to be held on 20-21 March 2003 at the venue of the Contest Final, and bringing all material and other documents that are requested by the Permanent Services;
  4. Making available to the producing organization, from 19 May to 24 May 2003, the artist(s) designated by it to perform the song, and its own conductor if applicable. The producing organization shall draw up a staggered timetable for rehearsals so as to allow the stay of foreign conductors and artists in its country to be as short as possible;
  5. Attending personally the Contest Final week, from 19 May to 24 May 2003, for liaising with the producing organization and the Scrutineer, and being empowered to take last-minute decisions on behalf of his/her organization;
  6. Supervising all relations with the press and other media, unless a head of press is specifically appointed therefore.

## **X. ORDER OF PRESENTATION OF THE SONGS**

The order of presentation of the songs in the Contest Final shall be determined by a draw among the participants on 29 November 2002 in the presence of a representative of the Permanent Services.

## **XI. VOTING PROCEDURE: TELEVOTING AND JURY**

Televoting is obligatory in each country. A back-up jury must be created to deal with the case of a technical failure (see also below for a description of the procedure). If it is necessary to ask for a back-up jury, the reason(s) must be notified in writing to the Permanent Services by a notary. Upon request, the Reference Group is authorized to make an exception to the televoting rule for a country where telecommunications penetration is less than 80%. In that case, the country shall create a jury, in accordance with the rules for a backup jury (see below).

No later than 15 minutes after the start of the voting, the last five organizations in the voting procedure shall deliver their votes to the Scrutineer off-air (by fax), in order to facilitate verification of the final result. These votes shall be announced on-air in accordance with the normal procedure.

### *1. Televoting procedures*

Participants shall respect the following conditions:

- (a) Participants which have not successfully conducted a national telepoll within the last three years must seek advice from the Permanent Services.
- (b) Participants must be able to accommodate 25 different telephone numbers with the numbers ending with digits between 01 and 26 (it being understood that the total number may change, according to the final number of participants).
- (c) Participants shall have a stand-by jury of eight people.
- (d) Participants shall work closely with the main national telephone network operator and receive assurances from it that the televoting will not cause disruption to emergency service calls.
- (e) Voters are not allowed to vote for their own country of residence. To minimize the risk of national lobby groups voting for their own song in other countries, telephone numbers must be used that cannot be dialled across frontiers (or for which international calls can be excluded from the total count). No household shall be permitted to vote more than three times.
- (f) The televoting must be capable of being run and completed within five minutes.
- (g) The lines provided to answer calls must be equally accessible to any of the numbers being rung.
- (h) The telephone network must ensure that at least 80% of the population of the country stands an equal chance of successfully calling in.
- (i) Participants must keep the results of calls made to all numbers and provide these results to the Permanent Services after the Contest Final. These results must be checked and certified by a notary.
- (j) Participants must ensure that they can announce the result within a tight seven-minute time-frame, starting at the beginning of the voting. It is recommended that this element should be rehearsed before the Contest Final.
- (k) Participants shall promote the benefits of the televoting system within their country through positive public relations.

- (l) The start-time and cut-off time for counting the votes must be exactly the same for all numbers used in the televoting within any country. In particular, the call-counter (the logger) must be set at zero at the moment when the public is invited to start telephoning after it has heard all the songs. Any calls made before that time must be discounted.
- (m) Within each country, the cost of voting or the rate at which calls are charged must be the same for all people. Use of a national premium-rate code or other non-geographic code will ensure this. It is accepted that the cost of registering a televote will vary from one country to another.
- (n) Participants shall comply with the recommendation of the producing organization on how the televoting should be presented (i.e. in terms of graphics, commentators, etc.).
- (o) SMS voting is allowed. The rules on SMS voting must comply with the rules on televoting.

## 2. *Jury procedures (Stand-by Jury)*

The following rules shall apply for the stand-by juries, as well as a jury in a country where telecommunications penetration is less than 80%.

- (a) The participant shall appoint a national jury of eight members. The names of the members of the national juries may not be disclosed until the day after the Contest Final. Four members of each national jury must be representatives of the public in the country, the other four being music professionals. There should be an equal number of men and women on each jury, with four jurors aged below 30 and four above 30 years of age. Only one of the four professional jurors may be connected with a record company or music publisher. The composition of these juries may be completely different from that of the jury or juries appointed by participants for their national selection procedures.
- (b) Each member of each national jury shall award from one to ten votes to each song, excluding the song presented by the participant that has appointed him/her. Abstentions shall not be allowed.
- (c) The members of the national juries shall register their votes for each song as soon as it has been sung, on secret voting papers that shall be collected by the secretary.
- (d) Each jury shall have a chairperson, appointed by the relevant participant from its own staff, who shall be responsible for counting the votes after each song has been performed, and for allocating points accordingly for the Contest Final results, after the last song has been sung. He/she shall be assisted by a secretary who shall act as spokesperson and be responsible for communicating the jury's final points, clearly and distinctly in English or in French, when requested to do so by the producing organization's presenter.
- (e) Each national jury must sit in its own country in the presence of a notary, or similar official, whose task it shall be to ensure adherence to the above rules and to collect the completed voting papers and send them to the Permanent Services in Geneva, where they shall be filed in the archives.

## **XII. FINAL DRESS REHEARSAL - VOTING**

The final dress rehearsal shall be produced in full and under the same conditions as the Contest Final.

1. Each participant shall make a recording of the final dress rehearsal.
2. Each participant shall be required to order the circuits for the voting procedure as specified by the EBU Operations Department in agreement with the producing organization.
3. Each participant's spokesperson shall hold a rehearsal of the voting procedure in accordance with instructions issued by the Permanent Services.
4. The national real or standby jury shall assemble for the final dress rehearsal on 24 May 2003, the day of the Contest Final.
5. The real or standby juries shall receive the sound and vision of the final dress rehearsal of each song presented. They shall then hold a rehearsal of the voting procedure in accordance with instructions issued by the Permanent Services.
6. During the break between the end of that rehearsal and the broadcast, the juries may view/listen to this recording if they so wish.

## **XIII. FINAL VOTE BY THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES**

1. There shall be an interval of at least seven minutes after the recapitulative run-through of all the songs. After the voting has been completed, the secretary in charge in each country shall add up the number of votes obtained by each song. He/she shall allocate 12 points to the song gaining the most votes, 10 points to the song gaining the second highest number of votes, 8 points to the song gaining the third highest number of votes, 7 points to the next, and so on down to 1 point for the song gaining the tenth highest number of votes. The spokesperson shall stand by to make the public announcement of these results.
2. For the stand-by jury's results, should there be a tie for any of the above positions, the order of the tying songs shall be ascertained by a show of hands by the jury members. If two or more songs tie for the same place, and if there is still a tie after the show of hands, the final order shall be decided by the vote of the youngest member of the jury.

## **XIV. FINAL CLASSIFICATION**

1. The points allocated by each participant must be announced in ascending order, beginning with the minimum number of points (1) and ending with the maximum (12). Thus, the attribution of points shall take place in the following order: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12.
2. When called upon to announce the final points allocated, the spokesperson shall, in English or in French, state the name of the country for which he/she is speaking and then announce, in ascending order, how the points have been awarded.

3. The spokespersons are not necessarily called in the order in which the songs were presented.
4. The producing organization shall provide a suitable scoreboard in full view of the audience on which the cumulative points for each song shall be displayed as the points are announced by the spokespersons.
5. The total number of points and the final classification of the songs shall be established when the announcements of all the national votes have been completed.
6. The Scrutineer shall satisfy himself/herself as to the correctness of the voting operations leading up to the final classification. The Scrutineer shall be responsible for any decisions required in the course of the voting and for giving any necessary instructions to the presenter and the scoreboard operator(s).

### **XV. GRAND PRIX**

1. The song which obtains the highest number of points is awarded

#### THE GRAND PRIX OF THE 2003 EUROVISION SONG CONTEST.

2. Should there be a tie for first place, the Grand Prix shall be awarded to the song that has obtained points from the highest number of countries. If the songs received votes from the same number of countries, then the highest number of 12-point scores shall qualify. If the winner cannot be determined by this procedure, then the number of times ten points have been awarded shall be the deciding factor; if necessary, this method shall continue until account has been taken of the number of times one point has been awarded.
3. Should two or more songs still tie for first place, even after the above calculation, both/all such songs shall share the Eurovision Grand Prix.
4. The final result shall be announced immediately, and the transmission of the Contest Final shall end with a further performance of the winning song (or songs).
5. The participant which presented the winning song shall produce the Contest Final in 2004. Should there be a tie, the organizations concerned shall agree among themselves, in consultation with the Reference Group and the Television Committee, on the producer of the next Contest Final. If no agreement is possible, other countries shall be consulted, after which the Reference Group shall make a recommendation to the Television Committee, which shall make the final decision.
6. Trophy(ies) shall be presented to the composer(s) and the songwriter(s) who wrote the winning song(s), and to the performing artists.

## XVI. FINANCING

1. All participants (other than the producing organization) shall pay a participation fee to the Permanent Services, as a contribution to the producing organization's production costs, as well as to the EBU coordination costs, fixed by the Reference Group and approved by the Television Committee. In the event of a participant having to withdraw, these fees may be revised. The producing organization shall charge participants direct CHF 1,200 for each commentary position required.
2. Participants which have not paid their participation fee for the previous Contest Final may be excluded from the 2003 Contest Final, following a recommendation from the Reference Group approved by the Television Committee.
3. Members which were not admitted in 2003 but which have announced their desire to participate in 2004 must broadcast the 2003 Contest Final and are therefore obliged to pay a broadcast fee corresponding to 50% of what their fee would have been had they participated in the 2003 Contest Final. This fee will be remitted to the producing organization.
4. Any other television organization which is granted the express authorization to broadcast the Contest Final shall pay the EBU an agreed broadcast fee, which shall be forwarded to the producing organization.
5. All expenses incurred in organizing and broadcasting the Contest Final, over and above the total participation fees and broadcast fees, shall be borne by the producing organization, with the exception of:
  - (a) All expenses incurred by each participant relating to its own participation (such as fees and travel and subsistence costs for the artist or artists, commentator, jurors, official representatives, etc.). Such expenses shall be the full responsibility of each respective participant and cannot be refunded.
  - (b) The cost of relaying the Contest Final over the Eurovision network (together with the corresponding expenses incurred by the Permanent Services). Such costs shall be shared in accordance with existing cost-sharing rules.
6. Each participant shall bear its own costs related to the national contest.
7. The cost of the international website shall be included in the producing organization's production costs. Feeds for streaming on the site should also be freely available to participants. The costs of streaming video on the international website may be met by sponsorship if this can be arranged by the producing organization in a way compatible with any participants' constraints on advertising, and subject to approval of the Reference Group. The cost of arrangements requested by participants for special services required for digital broadcasting, etc. should be met on a "user pay" basis.

## **XVII. BROADCAST OF THE CONTEST FINAL**

1. The Contest Final, produced in accordance with the applicable Eurovision rules (especially as regards advertising and sponsorship), shall be transmitted in its entirety as a live continuous programme over the Eurovision network on 24 May 2003 from 19.00 GMT to approximately 22.00 GMT, unless emergency procedures interrupt the programme, in which case the producing organization may broadcast the dress rehearsal.
2. There will be three opportunities for commercial breaks during the programme: one during the presentation of the songs, one before the announcement of the voting, and one during the announcement of the voting.
3. The participants' commentators shall respect the fairness of the competition, and should refrain from talking during the performance of the songs.
4. The producing organization shall transmit the EBU logo before and after the programme and each participant shall relay it.
5. All participants shall broadcast the Contest Final live on their national programme service. They are also entitled to broadcast the Contest Final simultaneously on their 100%-owned digital or satellite channels without editorial changes (i.e. including commentary, televoting information, etc.).
6. The same shall apply to candidates for participation the following year, except that if for imperative scheduling reasons a live broadcast should not be possible a deferred broadcast shall be carried out within 24 hours.
7. During a period of 30 calendar days following the date of the Contest Final, all participants, as well as candidates for 2004, shall be entitled to repeat the broadcast wholly or in part, an unlimited number of times, on their terrestrial channels or on 100%-owned digital or satellite channels.
8. Subject to prior authorization by the Permanent Services, the Contest Final may also be broadcast live or by deferred relay by EBU active Members in other countries. Deferred transmissions must take place within 30 calendar days of the date of the Contest Final.
9. Notwithstanding the foregoing, television and radio organizations throughout the world shall be entitled, upon written request to the producing organization, to news access, free of charge, not exceeding two minutes, of the Contest Final for the purpose of reporting the results thereof in their regularly-scheduled news bulletins.
10. Sound broadcasting organizations throughout the world may, upon written request to the producing organization, broadcast the Contest Final live or by deferred relay. However, in countries where the EBU has an active Member organization or organizations, this applies only to that organization or organizations. If in a given country no EBU Member organization chooses to broadcast the Contest Final, another broadcaster in the same country may be authorized to do so.

11. In agreement with the Permanent Services and the producing organization, the Contest Final may also be broadcast, live or by deferred relay, by television organizations located outside the European Broadcasting Area, whether EBU Members or not.
12. After the time period referred to in point 7 above has elapsed, all participants shall continue to be entitled, without any limitation in time, and in accordance with the applicable Rules on Use of the Eurovision Signal, to use extracts from the 2003 Contest Final not exceeding eight minutes' total duration (but no more than two minutes per song) in any of their television programmes.
13. In agreement with the Permanent Services and the producing organization, and with the specific approval of the Reference Group, the Contest Final may also be transmitted or made available for on-demand use or otherwise presented, wholly or in part, via the Internet, by one or more participating organizations or an appointed third party.
14. Use of extracts from the Contest Final by third parties for broadcasting in the widest sense of the term requires the prior authorization of the producing organization and the consent of the EBU Eurovision Song Contest participating Member in that country.

### **XVIII. COMMERCIAL EXPLOITATION**

During the programme and at the venue, the commercial exploitation of the Contest shall be the responsibility of the producing organization in accordance with the Eurovision Rules regarding advertising and sponsorship. In that regard, the following are permitted:

1. On-screen identification of a maximum of two provider(s) of the scoreboard computer graphic display and data transmission:
  - Identification of the provider(s) may appear only at the same time as the picture of the scoreboard.
  - There shall be a maximum of 60 seconds of identifications in total during the voting sequence, but no more than six seconds each.
  - The service providers' logo may be faithfully reproduced in the original lettering and typeface and colours.
  - The maximum number of television lines utilized for the identification shall be ten lines (20 half-lines) in total in 625 lines standard. The identification shall appear at the bottom of the screen.
  - Such identifications may be made by insertion into the telecast feed.
2. Postcards and green room

The postcards and the green room are not intended as an opportunity to advertise, but it is permissible for the producing organization to feature appropriate local tourism, products or services to a modest degree, and subject to the final consent of the Permanent Services.

3. On-screen presence in the closing credits should be limited to the parties which have made a significant contribution to the staging of the Contest.
4. Sponsorship of the event (not on-screen) is the sole responsibility of the producing organization.

Any on-screen reflection of the event sponsorship must be kept to a strict minimum and be mutually agreed by the producing organization and the Permanent Services.

### **XIX. GUARANTEE**

Each participant, by the very fact of entering a song in the Contest Final, shall guarantee that it has obtained all the necessary authorizations from all the rightowners concerned. Accordingly, it shall indemnify all organizations concerned against any claim whatsoever from authors, artists, publishers, producers or any other persons or entities in respect of any of the broadcasts or other uses of the songs referred to in Articles IV, VI, XVII and XVIII.

### **XX. DISQUALIFICATION – SANCTIONS**

1. Disqualification of a song

A song may be disqualified:

- (a) if during the rehearsal week there is evidence that an artist, a member of the delegation or a spokesperson has not complied with the requests of the producing organization and/or the Scrutineer and may therefore cause disturbance to the programme;
- (b) if the artist(s) depart(s) from the planned performance as rehearsed at the final rehearsal, and thereby cause(s) disturbance to the programme;
- (c) if a participating organization/artist has in any way attempted to breach the present Rules at any stage of the preparation of the Contest, or is about to do so during the Contest Final itself.

The decision to enact disqualification is taken by the Scrutineer after consultation with the executive producer and at least three members of the Reference Group.

- If the disqualification of a song is decided upon before the deadline for sending all material (see Article IX.2 above), the participant shall be entitled to propose another song and to submit all related material by the deadline specified above.
- If disqualification of a song is decided upon after the deadline mentioned above but before the day of the Contest Final, the participant concerned shall not present its entry and shall not be able to vote, but shall remain liable for its financial contribution.

However, time permitting, the participant shall have the right to appeal against the decision to the Chairman of the Television Committee and, if he cannot be reached, to the Secretary General of the EBU.

Any decision taken in accordance with the above-mentioned procedure shall be final, and no legal remedy shall be possible.

## 2. Sanctions against participants.

Sanctions may be imposed upon a participant, if it:

- (a) does not comply with the present Rules; or
- (b) withdraws from the 2003 Contest later than 31 October 2002; or
- (c) does not broadcast the Contest Final in accordance with Article XVII; or
- (d) inserts advertising items or sponsorship messages during the broadcast, except in the sections of the programme allowing for commercial breaks as expressed in Article XVII and in accordance with Article XVIII;
- (e) is one of the last five countries to announce its vote and does not submit a fax of its results in accordance with the Rules;
- (f) fails to make its best endeavours, in the view of the Reference Group, to promote the Contest Final on its territory.

Any sanctions shall be pronounced by the Television Committee, following a proposal by the Reference Group. Sanctions shall be proportionate to the damage or prejudice caused to the EBU, the producing organization and/or the reputation of the Contest, shall have a deterrent effect, and may amount to the exclusion from one or more of the following Contests.

Any decision taken in accordance with the above-mentioned procedure shall be final, and no legal remedy shall be possible.

## **XXI. FINAL CLAUSES**

1. By entering a song for the Contest Final each participant accepts these Rules, which apply to the 2003 Eurovision Song Contest as a whole.
2. In case of dispute, the English version of these Rules shall prevail.
3. Each participant must provide the Permanent Services with all quantitative and qualitative information on the Contest Final that is requested by the Permanent Services after the Contest Final.

**2003 EUROVISION SONG CONTEST****Summary of deadlines**

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Despatch of the Rules  | early October 2002 |
| 2. Deadline for withdrawal  | 31 October 2002    |
| 3. Draw for running order   | 29 November 2002   |
| 4. Heads of delegation to be appointed by   | 10 March 2003      |
| 5. Signed compilation CD contract, sound recordings, backing track, video, preview clips, lyrics, etc. to reach the producing organization by | 20 March 2003      |
| 6. Information session for heads of delegation  | 20-21 March 2003   |
| 7. Preview presentation of all the songs (injection of recordings)  | 2 April 2003       |
| 8. Rehearsal week   | 19-24 May 2003     |
| 9. Final dress rehearsal and Contest Final  | 24 May 2003        |
| 10. Notarized televoting and/or jury results to reach the EBU by  | 24 May 2003        |
| 11. Responses to questionnaire on audience figures, commercial break use and sponsorship to reach the EBU by                                  | 17 June 2003       |
| 12. Participation fee to be paid by   | 31 August 2003     |

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