

# RULES GOVERNING THE FIRST EDITION OF THE BUÑOL INTERNATIONAL WIND ORCHESTRA CONDUCTING COMPETITION

## FIRST. Definition

The purpose of the competition governed by these rules is to emphasize Buñol's international recognition as a city with a rich tradition of brass bands, represented by its two award-winning Musical Societies, in collaboration with the Spanish Association of Orchestra Conductors (AESDO), by hosting conductors. The aim is to promote their professional careers in an environment of recognized cultural heritage, as a commitment to and impetus for new projects in the musical field.

Cristóbal Soler, conductor of the Banda Sinfónica Municipal de Valencia, is appointed artistic director of the First Edition of the Buñol International Wind Orchestra Conducting Competition.

## SECOND. Participant Requirements

Conductors of all nationalities and no age limit to participate.

## THIRD.- Publication and Deadline for Submitting Applications

This will be announced on the official competition website (Buñol Town Hall) and/or on the AESDO website, and all available channels will be used to ensure maximum diffusion

The deadline for submitting applications is May 15, 2026.

## FOURTH.- Submission of Applications

Participants must complete and submit the registration form electronically, which will be available on the official competition website and/or on the AESDO website, within the deadline indicated in the previous section. The following documentation must also be submitted:

- A scanned copy of their National Identity Document (DNI), Foreigner's Identity Number (NIE), passport, or equivalent document.

- A brief biography of no more than 400 words;

- A high-resolution portrait photograph;

- One to three videos, taking into account the following aspects:

The candidate must be conducting a group (symphonic band or ensemble).

The total duration of the submitted video(s) must exceed ten minutes.

The candidate must be visible from the perspective of the musicians for at least fifty percent of the total duration of the video(s).

The resolution and sound must meet the minimum quality standards established in the call for applications.

If two or three videos are submitted, they must showcase different styles.

The video(s) must be submitted via the links established in each call for applications.

The following minimum resolution and sound quality standards, as well as preferred links for video submission, should be established:

Resolution between 1080p and 4k, encapsulated in a commonly used format such as .mov, .avi, .wmv, .mp4, or .flv.

Minimum audio quality: uncompressed stereo .wav 48 kHz and 24 bits, or compressed format with a minimum quality of 384 Kbps.

YouTube and Vimeo are acceptable. Videos submitted via email, WeTransfer, or similar platforms will not be accepted.

Videos that do not meet the specified requirements may be disqualified by the jury during the application evaluation phase.

The organizers reserve the right to request any documentation they deem necessary to resolve any questions that may arise from the information provided.

The official competition website will publish the required templates and other relevant information for each call for entries. The registration fee is set at €30.00, payable by registered participants via bank transfer to account number IBAN: ES66 2103 7273 3900 3003 2763 and BIC: UCJAES2M,

with the reference "CONCURSO DIRECCIÓN BANDA" (Band Conducting Competition) and indicating the participant's full name(s). AESDO members are exempt from paying the registration fee.

#### FIFTH.-Candidate Selection

After evaluating the submitted documentation, once the registration period has expired and in any case within the following seven business days, the organization will send registered applicants an email accepting or rejecting their application.

Accepted candidates will have five days from the confirmation of receipt of the email to pay the corresponding participation fee as specified in each case, with the warning that failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of their right to participate in the call for applications.

The participation fee is set at €80.00, and €50.00 for AESDO members, payable by selected individuals via bank transfer to account number: IBAN: ES66 2103 7273 3900 3003 2763 and BIC: UCJAES2M, with the reference "BAND CONDUCTING COMPETITION" and indicating the selected individual's full name(s).

If applicants are excluded for any of the reasons stipulated in these rules, those on the reserve list, in strict order of priority, may be eligible to participate.

The maximum number of candidates accepted by the initial selection committee is set at twenty.

AESDO members must submit proof of membership at the time of registration (proof of payment for the last quarter).

#### SIXTH.- Competition Schedule

The reception of candidates and the drawing of lots to determine their order of participation in the competition will take place on July 8th at 9:00 AM at the Buñol Town Hall.

The three phases of the competition will be held according to the following sequence:

FIRST PHASE: July 8th, from 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM and from 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM

A maximum of twenty candidates may participate.

The candidates must conduct a rehearsal with the following repertoire:

Octet for Wind Instruments by Igor Stravinsky, revised version 1952, Boosey and Hawkes

The movement(s) to be conducted by each candidate will be proposed and communicated by the jury before the start of the rehearsal. Each candidate will have a maximum of fifteen minutes to complete this test.

SECOND PHASE: July 9, from 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Candidates who pass the first phase may participate, with a maximum of eight contestants in any case.

The applicants must conduct a rehearsal with the following repertoire:

Gran Partita, Serenade in B-flat Major KV. 361 by W. A. Mozart, Bärenreiter-Verlag, Kassel

The movement(s) to be conducted by each candidate will be proposed and communicated by the jury before the start of the test.

Each candidate will have a maximum of twenty minutes to complete this test.

THIRD PHASE – REHEARSAL AND FINAL. July 10th, rehearsal from 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM, final concert at 11:00 PM.

Candidates who pass the second phase may participate, with a maximum of three contestants per person.

A draw will be held again to determine the order of performance for the finalists.

The competition will be divided into two parts: rehearsal and concert.

The repertoire that each candidate will work on and conduct in both parts will be the following:

Coplas de mi Tierra by Manuel Palau (the score will be provided by the Buñol Town Hall or the AESDO website) and Chamber Symphony No. 1 by Jose Suñer (published by Tot per l'aire).

Each finalist will have a maximum of fifty minutes to rehearse. This will be the repertoire they must conduct in the closing concert of the competition.

#### SEVENTH.- Evaluation Jury

The evaluation panel for each phase will be composed of the following members:

##### SELECTION OF CANDIDATES:

President: Cristóbal Soler, Director of the Valencia Municipal Symphonic Band

Member: Angel Carreño, Director of the Granada Municipal Band

Member: Juan Miguel Romero, Director of the A Coruña Municipal Band

Secretary (voice, no vote).

##### FIRST, SECOND, OR SEMIFINAL PHASE:

President: Cristóbal Soler, Director of the Valencia Municipal Symphonic Band

Member: Angel Carreño, Director of the Granada Municipal Band

Member: Juan Miguel Romero, Director of the A Coruña Municipal Band

Secretary (voice but no vote)

##### THIRD OR FINAL PHASE:

In this phase, new personalities, conductors, and composers from the world of professional bands will join the aforementioned members of the jury. Their names will be announced on the competition website a few weeks before the start of the competition.

#### EIGHTH.- Evaluation Criteria

The scores awarded by the jury members will be based on the following criteria:

##### SELECTION OF CANDIDATES:

Critical analysis of the videos;

Biography;

##### REMAINING PHASES:

The evaluations will be given in whole numbers with up to two decimal places.

The members of the judging panel will individually score the documentation submitted for the first phase, as well as the candidates' participation in each of the subsequent stages of the competition.

The Secretary will calculate the average score, which is the sum of the points assigned by all members of the judging panel divided by the total number of criteria established for each candidate.

These average scores will determine the selection and subsequent advancement to each stage, with the highest scores prevailing over the lowest. Candidates with the lowest scores will be disqualified, in accordance with the maximum number of participants for each stage of the competition.

The scores assigned in the different phases are not cumulative.

The jury's deliberations will be confidential. The Secretary will keep a record of the proceedings of each phase, expressly noting the scores obtained by the candidates, which will be final and cannot be appealed. The jury members may interrupt any participant's performance, ask any questions they deem necessary, and decide to end the tests before the allotted time has elapsed.

Once the final phase is complete, the jury's decision will be made public.

#### NINTH.- Award Procedure

The procedures arising from the processing of applications for these awards will be based on a competitive process.

#### TENTH.- Prizes

The jury will award the following three prizes, for which it will draw up the corresponding minutes:

##### FIRST PRIZE

€5,000.00 and a certificate awarded by the Buñol City Council.

Furthermore, the winner of the first prize may be invited to conduct different professional symphonic bands representing Spain and Lithuania, collaborators in this edition, during the next two seasons (2027-28, 2028-29).

The terms of engagement as a guest conductor with these symphonic bands will be separate from the competition.

#### SECOND PRIZE

€1,500.00 and a certificate awarded...

#### THIRD PRIZE

€1,000.00 and a certificate awarded...

#### AESDO SPECIAL PRIZE

The AESDO member who obtains the best overall ranking in the competition will be awarded the prize and may be invited to conduct at least three representative professional symphonic bands from Spain over the next two seasons (2027-28, 28-29).

The terms of engagement as a guest conductor with these symphonic bands will be separate from the competition.

The AESDO prize is compatible with any of the above prizes.

Additionally, €1,000.00 will be awarded for the musical direction of one of the bands from the Buñol Musical Societies, along with a certificate issued by the Spanish Association of Orchestra Conductors (AESDO).

The monetary amounts awarded must comply with the corresponding tax obligations.

The names of the awardees will be published on the official competition website and the AESDO website.

#### ELEVENTH: Aspects to be noted regarding the organization of the competition

The organizers will cover the cost of accommodation and breakfast for the competition finalists during the days they actively participate in the rehearsal and concert of the final phase.

The competition organizers will only provide information regarding the edition of the music to be used by the ensemble and orchestra members. Only in exceptional circumstances will full scores be provided to the contestants; therefore, each candidate is responsible for their own scores.