



# NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE CHORUS

## Scales Adjudication Rubric

### PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

Category	1–2 <i>Highly Superior</i>	3–4 <i>Excellent</i>	5–6 <i>Good</i>	7–8 <i>Fair</i>	9 <i>Poor</i>
<b>Tone Quality</b> (Low & High Scales)	Exceptional tone quality using the vowel “ah”; highly professional sound.	Well-supported and appropriate tone using the vowel “ah.”	Above-average tone with some inconsistency.	Below-average tone quality or inconsistent vowel use.	Poor vocal technique or incorrect/missing vowel.
<b>Intonation</b> (Low & High Scales)	All notes are perfectly in tune, ascending and descending.	Almost all notes in tune with minor pitch discrepancies.	Some pitch inconsistencies, but the overall shape is intact.	Less than half the notes are in tune, or scale begins on the wrong pitch.	Majority of notes are out of tune, or incorrect starting pitch.
<b>Intonation</b> (Chromatic Scale)	Every half-step is in tune and centered in pitch.	Most pitches accurate with slight tuning issues.	Noticeable intonation flaws, but structure is evident.	More than half the notes are out of tune, or starts incorrectly.	Almost no accurate pitches, or incorrect starting note.

### SCORING GUIDELINES

Situation	Scoring Outcome
Sung on solfège or syllable other than “ah”	Disqualified – All 9’s
Edited/spliced recording	Disqualified – All 9’s
Scales out of order (e.g., High before Low)	No penalty – judge as heard
Missing or unclear pitch file	No penalty – judge as heard
Wrong starting pitch or direction	Quality judged as heard; Intonation scored between 6–9 at judge’s discretion
12-note chromatic scale submitted	Evaluate first and last 8 pitches only

### REMINDERS FOR ADJUDICATORS

- Score each category independently.
- Use 1’s and 9’s sparingly – reserve for best and worst performances.
- Remain consistent and fair, focusing solely on what you hear.