

**THE 13th INTERNATIONAL PADEREWSKI PIANO
COMPETITION**

Bydgoszcz, November 9–23, 2025

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE JURY

I

General Provisions

The Jury is composed of eminent Polish and foreign musicians enjoying international prestige gained on account of their artistic achievements.

The Jury operates on the basis of the Rules and Regulations of the Competition and the Rules and Regulations of the Jury.

II

The Board of the Paderewski Association shall appoint the President of the Jury.

During its first session, the Jury shall appoint the Vice-President.

Should the President be absent, the Vice-President shall assume the President's duties.

The President shall chair the Jury's sessions and represent the Jury externally.

III

At the first meeting of the Jury, each Juror shall submit a declaration affirming that there is no conflict of interest with any pianist participating in the Competition, as described below.

According to the Rules of the Competition, pianists are not eligible to participate if they:

- have been regular students of the Juror at any music school or conservatory within the past three years (from October 1st, 2022),
- have taken paid private lessons from the Juror within the past three years (from October 1st, 2022),
- are related to the Juror.

These limitations shall not apply to pianists who have only occasionally participated in masterclasses conducted by the Juror, including those held online.

IV

The Director of the Competition shall appoint the Secretary of the Jury.

The Secretary shall participate in the work of the Scrutinizing Commission, which may also include the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and the Director of the Competition.

V

During the Competition, Jurors shall not contact participants until their active involvement in the Competition has ended.

Jurors and members of the Scrutinizing Commission shall refrain from exchanging opinions among themselves and from making public comments on participants or the results of individual stages.

VI

Each Juror is obliged to audition and assess all participants in each stage of the Competition and attend all Jury sessions.

In the event of a justified absence from some auditions, the decision whether the Juror's votes are to be considered shall be made jointly by the Director of the Competition, the President and the Vice-President of the Jury.

This is only admissible if the Juror has auditioned at least three-quarters of the participants in the 1st, 2nd and Semi-Final stages, and all participants in the Final.

In exceptional and random cases, with the consent of the Director, the President and the Vice-President, a Juror may participate only in the Semi-Final and Final stages. In such cases, the Juror is strictly obliged to audition all participants of these stages.

VII

Assessment Criteria

The organizers of the Competition place full trust in the Jury, recognizing their artistic competence, experience and integrity.

Jurors assess pianists with full awareness of the great responsibility for each vote – both towards all participants and towards the Competition and its prestige.

The Jury shall assess each participant's artistic interpretation and award prizes to the best.

The Jury shall evaluate the repertoire chosen by the participants and its interpretation, taking into account the ability to construct a recital program, to understand and convey the depth of works representing various musical styles, thereby demonstrating their musicality and artistic personality.

All assessments of the Jury will be published on the official Competition website immediately after its conclusion.

VIII

The Jury shall, in principle, accept no more than 20 participants to the 2nd stage, no more than 10 to the Semi-Final, and 5 participants to the Final.

IX

Method of Assessment

The performance of the participants is assessed on a point scale from 1 to 25.

X

After the completion of Stages I, II and the Semi-Final, each Juror submits a completed and signed assessment card containing the numbers, surnames and first names of the participants.

The assessment consists in entering a whole-number score from 1 to 25 on the card, according to the following suggested rules defining the artistic value of the performance:

- 1–10 – poor performance
- 11–14 – average performance
- 15–17 – satisfactory performance
- 18–20 – good performance
- 21–23 – very good performance
- 24–25 – excellent performance

Jurors evaluate on the assessment cards only the performances of the current stage, not taking account of previous rounds.

The score of a Competition participant on the completion of a given round is the average of the scores given by the Jury members in that round, after the application of the correction procedure described in paragraph XII, accumulated from the given Competition participant's scores from the previous rounds, taking account of the weightings specified below:

When calculating cumulative scores for round two, the individual rounds have the following weightings:

- 1st stage – 50%
- 2nd stage – 50%

When calculating cumulative scores for qualifying for the final, the individual rounds have the following weightings:

- 1st stage – 33,33%
- 2nd stage – 33,33%
- Semi-Final – 33,33%

When calculating cumulative final scores, the individual rounds have the following weightings:

1st stage – 25%

2nd stage – 25%

Semi-Final – 25%

Final – 25%

XI

After the completion of Stages I, II and the Semi-Final, the Jury shall receive the results of the auditions in the form of an anonymized list with the scores arranged in descending order, after the correction procedure described in paragraph XII, with accuracy to two decimal places.

Taking into account the suggested number of participants for the subsequent stage of the Competition, the Jury shall decide by open vote where to close the list of participants qualifying for the next stage:

-20 after Stage I (qualification for Stage II)

-10 after Stage II (qualification for the Semi-Final)

- 5 after the Semi-Final (qualification for the Final).

XII

Correction Procedure

The arithmetic mean of a pianist's score shall be calculated to two decimal places by dividing the total number of points awarded by the number of Jurors who assessed the pianist.

If a Juror's score differs from the arithmetic mean obtained by the pianist in a given stage by more than:

- 3 points in Stage I,

- 2 points in Stage II and the Semi-Final, Final

a second arithmetic mean shall be calculated. In this case, all scores differing from the first mean by more than the above limits shall be corrected to fall within the permitted range.

(For example, if the average score in Stage I is 16.35, scores higher than 19 will be adjusted to 19.35 and scores lower than 14 will be adjusted to 13.35. Scores of 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 will remain unchanged.)

The result of these calculations shall be submitted to the Jury, but without disclosing the names of the participants to whom the scores apply.

XIII

Final Voting

After the Final performances, Jurors shall assess the participants using whole numbers on a scale from 1 to 25, where 1 is the lowest score and 25 is the highest. Jurors assess only the Final performance, without taking into account the previous stages.

After the assessment cards have been received (signed and initialed next to any corrections made) and the average scores have been calculated using the correction procedure described in paragraph XII, the Secretary of the Jury shall present the Jurors with an anonymized ranking of the finalists based on the cumulative average scores from all stages.

When calculating the cumulative results, the following weights shall be applied:

Stage I – 25%

Stage II – 25%

Semi-Final – 25%

Final – 25%

Based on these results, and after any discussion deemed necessary, the Chair of the Jury shall present a proposal for the award of the main prizes and call for a vote. The verdict shall be valid only if it is approved by at least two-thirds of the Jurors present. Only after the verdict has been determined will the Secretary disclose the names of the finalists.

XIV

During the voting for Special Prizes, each Juror shall propose in writing the name of one candidate who they believe should receive the prize.

A Juror may refrain from awarding a Special Prize if, in their judgment, no candidate is deserving.

The announcement of the Special Prize winners shall take place after the final vote.

XV

The Jury should, in principle, award all the prizes provided for in the Rules and Regulations.

However, the Jury has the right to modify the distribution of prizes, provided that the total prize fund is not exceeded and that prizes are not lower than those provided for in the Rules and Regulations.

XVI

Final Provisions

Should the need arise to resolve matters not provided for in these Rules and Regulations, decisions shall be made by a simple majority vote of the entire Jury.

The decisions of the Jury are final and not subject to appeal.

XVII

The Rules and Regulations of the Jury shall be approved by the Director of the Competition.

XVIII

The Rules and Regulations of the Jury have been prepared in both Polish and English.

In case of doubt, the Polish version shall be the sole authentic text used for interpretation.