

**GIMME THE MIKE! CHARLOTTE**  
**2007**  
**OFFICIAL RULES**

1. **THIS TALENT COMPETITION IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CONTESTANTS TO SHOWCASE THEIR VOCAL TALENTS ON WSOC-TV'S TELEVISION SERIES, GIMME THE MIKE! CHARLOTTE. NO PURCHASE OR OTHER CONSIDERATION IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR TO WIN. ALL FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS APPLY. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED OR REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED OR REGISTERED.**
  
2. **Eligibility.** Subject to the additional restrictions below, the GIMME THE MIKE! CHARLOTTE Competition (the "Competition") is open to North and South Carolina residents who are 18 years of age, or older at the time of entry, have never been convicted of a crime other than minor traffic violations and have never had a professional recording contract. Employees of WSOC-TV ("Sponsor"), Cox Broadcasting, Inc., Post-Newsweek Productions, Title Sponsors, or other television and radio stations in the Charlotte, NC market area and each of their respective affiliated companies, their advertising and promotional agencies, the immediate family members of, and any persons domiciled with, any such employees, are not eligible to enter or to win. The term "immediate family members" includes spouses, parents, grandparents, siblings, children, and grandchildren. Only individual singers are allowed to compete in the Competition – no groups or instrumentalists will be allowed to audition. Persons belonging to a professional acting, theater or musical organization, such as SAG or AFTRA, are not allowed to compete in the Competition. Persons who entertain, whether it be their whole or part time income, are allowed to compete so long as they do not belong to any professional organization connected with the entertainment industry that would cause Sponsor to pay such Contestant a fee or any other benefit for taking part in any Competition event. Previous Gimme the Mike! Charlotte Contestants, semi-finalists and finalists, other than the 2004, 2005 and 2006 winners, are eligible to enter and win.
  
3. **How To Enter and Win.**
  - (A) **Entry:** To enter the Competition every Contestant must complete an Audition Request and Entry Form. There are three ways to obtain an Audition Request and Entry Form. (1) This form will be available the days of the **auditions being held at Concord Mills (near Food Court area), Concord, NC on Saturday, March 31, 2007 between the hours of 10:00am and 4:00pm and at Concord Mills (near Food Court area), Concord, NC, Sunday, April 1, 2007 between the hours of 11:00am and 4:00pm.** The audition hours may be extended at the sole discretion of the Sponsor. Or, (2) Download an Audition Request and Entry Form: by simply visiting [www.wsoc.tv](http://www.wsoc.tv) - click on the GIMME THE MIKE! CHARLOTTE LOGO and print out a form. Entry forms will be available on-line at [www.wsoc.tv](http://www.wsoc.tv) from Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> through 12:00Noon Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007. WSOC-TV is not responsible for computer errors, electronic failures, phone or web site malfunctions, computer hardware or software malfunctions, incorrect, incomplete, garbled or delayed electronic communications regardless of their cause or any such electronic failure which may limit the ability of a Contestant to enter or participate in the Competition. The Sponsor reserves the right to cancel or modify the online portion of this audition process should it become technically corrupted. Or you (3) may also obtain an Audition Request and Entry Form by dropping by the studios of WSOC-TV, Main Lobby Area, 1901 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC, Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:30pm. **Audition Request and Entry Forms must be completed and brought to the actual location of the Auditions along with a form of photo identification. NO EARLY COMPLETED ENTRY FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED PRIOR TO THE ACTUAL AUDITION DATES.** Sponsor will begin registering Contestants at the beginning of each audition day. Subject to verification of eligibility and compliance with these official rules registered Contestants will be issued an Official Audition Number. You may enter the Competition only once. Any questions regarding the number of entries submitted shall be determined by Sponsor in its sole discretion, and Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify any entries by persons determined to be tampering with or abusing any aspect of the registration process or Competition. Sponsor will not be responsible for incomplete, lost, late, or illegible entry registrations, or for any transmission failures or technical failures of any kind, including, without limitation, malfunctioning of any network, hardware or software, whether originating with a Contestant or Sponsor, which may limit the ability of a Contestant to enter or participate in the Competition. All entries become property of Sponsor and none will be returned.
  
  - (B) **Initial Audition Process:** Initial Auditions will be held on a first-come, first-serve basis only during the Audition times stated in Paragraph 3 (A) of these rules, Contestants' receipt of an audition number

does not insure him or her an opportunity to audition should the number of contestants exceed the audition time available. When a Contestant's Official Audition Number is called, he or she will be asked to sing two approved songs of his or her choosing for the taping. All performances must be sung a cappella (without accompaniment.) Contestant will be asked to sing two different tempo songs, no longer than thirty seconds in length for each song. No original songs are allowed. Contestants may be asked to discontinue their audition performances at any time. Each Contestant may audition only one time. Subject to approval of the Sponsor, all forms and styles of music are permitted. Based upon each Contestant's initial audition performance the competition's judges will select fifty (50) Contestants as provisional semi-finalists by no later than Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007. **If selected as a provisional semi-finalist, each such contestant will be invited to a callback audition to be held at WSOC-TV studios located at 1901 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28206 between the dates of Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Such provisional semi-finalists will be notified at the telephone number(s) provided on the Official Audition Request and Entry Form starting Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> and by no later than Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007.** Sponsor will make no more than two attempts to notify each provisional semi-finalist for a callback audition and is not obligated to leave a message. Each Callback Contestant will be required to provide proof of North Carolina or South Carolina residency and also one form of photo identification proving they are eighteen years of age, or older. During the Callback Audition, each Callback Contestant will be asked to sing two different tempo songs, songs of choice, no longer than thirty seconds in length for each song. No original songs are allowed. Each Contestant must perform individually and must perform a capella, without any musical instruments or musical accompaniment. From the provisional semi-finalists who participate in the callback auditions, the judges will select twenty (24) contestants as potential semi-finalists along with two (2) alternate potential semi-finalists. All Provisional Semi-Finalists will be required to sign a General Appearance Release, which includes their consenting to a background check investigation. These potential semi-finalists and alternate potential semi-finalists will be notified no later than Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 at the telephone numbers provided on their Audition Request and Entry Form. Sponsor will make no more than two attempts to notify each potential semi-finalist or alternate potential semi-finalists and is not obligated to leave a message. Sponsor's inability to reach a potential Semi-Finalist or alternate potential semi-finalists may result in their disqualification. Decisions of judges and Sponsor shall be final and binding in all respects. BY PARTICIPATING, EACH CONTESTANT ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT AUDITIONS WILL BE VIDEOTAPED AND THAT WSOC-TV AND OTHER COMPETITION SPONSORS SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BROADCAST, EDIT, DISPLAY, OR OTHERWISE USE AUDITION FOOTAGE IN ANY WAY THEY SEE FIT WITHOUT LIMITATION WITHOUT COMPENSATION TO CONTESTANTS.

- (C) **Selection of Semi-Finalists:** Each potential Semi-Finalist and alternate potential Semi-Finalist will be required to submit to a background check and sign an Appearance Release Form. In addition, each potential Semi-Finalist and alternate potential Semi-Finalists also must agree to be available on Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007 (times to be determined) for a show dress rehearsal and on Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 (times to be determined) to compete against other Semi-Finalists in a videotaped television show that will be broadcast on WSOC-TV. Potential Semi-Finalists and alternate potential Semi-Finalists must also agree to be available on Wednesday, August 1, 2007 (times to be determined) for a dress rehearsal and for the live broadcast of the Final Competition that is expected to be held on Wednesday, August 1, 2007 if selected as a Finalist in the Competition, and must agree to attend promotional appearances as described in Section 4, below. Subject to the Sponsor receiving a background check which, in its sole discretion, is satisfactory to itself, verification of eligibility, the signing of an Appearance Release Form, and availability on the required dates, and compliance with these official rules, each of the twenty-four (24) such potential Semi-Finalists will be declared a Semi-Finalist in the Competition. If either of the twenty-four (24) potential Semi-Finalists is unwilling or unable to submit to a background check, sign an Appearance Release Form, or participate in show taping and/or broadcast on the dates set forth above, or is otherwise determined to be ineligible under these official rules, he or she will be disqualified and an Alternate potential Semi-Finalist will take his or her place.
- (D) **Selection of Finalists:** On Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Sponsor will conduct and videotape six (6) GIMME THE MIKE! CHARLOTTE Semi-Final Shows, which is expected to be broadcast on WSOC-TV starting at the beginning of July 2007. On each show, four (4) different Semi-Finalists will perform a song before a panel of three (3) judges. Semi-Finalists will be randomly grouped by Sponsor and will not be able to select their co-competitors. Each Semi-Finalist will have one

opportunity to perform one song before the judges. Songs must be no more than two (2) minutes in length. Semi-Finalists will be singing with accompaniment. All songs must be selected from a pre-approved list of songs that have been selected by sponsor. In the event that more than one Semi-Finalist wishes to perform the same song, the Semi-Finalist who first requested the song will be given priority. Semi-Finalists may not sing the same song. Performance attire is subject to Sponsor's approval and must be brought to the dress rehearsal on Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007. During show taping, individual performances will not be interrupted unless problems of a technical nature develop that would be detrimental to a Semi-Finalist's performance, in which case the producer may, in his or her sole discretion, stop the performance and allow the Semi-Finalist to begin again. It is the sole responsibility of each Semi-Finalist to continue his or her performance on the show, regardless of circumstances, unless notified by the producer otherwise. During each show, the judges will score the Semi-Finalists on a scale of 1 to 10 based on an overall assessment of each Semi-Finalist's showmanship, vocal performance, breakthrough performance, uniqueness and audience appeal. The one (1) Semi-Finalist from each Show who has the highest score for that particular Show will be declared the winner of that Show and a Finalist in the Competition. Six (6) Finalists will be selected in this manner. In the event of a tie, tied entries will be re-judged based on the same criteria listed above. Immediately following the airing of each of the six (6) GIMME THE MIKE! CHARLOTTE Semi-Final Shows, viewers will be asked to log on to [www.wsoctv.com](http://www.wsoctv.com) and vote for their favorite non-winning Semi-Finalist from that particular show. Voting will be open for a period of twelve (12) hours after the close of each of the six (6) shows. After voting for the last show has closed, the Sponsor will compare the top non-winning Semi-Finalist vote getters from each of the six (6) shows and the one non-winning Semi-Finalist who received the most votes will be declared the WildCard Finalist and be the 7<sup>th</sup> Finalist in the Competition. In the unlikely event that there is a tie between the highest vote getters from one or more of the six (6) shows, the 7<sup>th</sup> Finalist will be selected at random by the Sponsor from the tied Contestants. The 7<sup>th</sup> Finalist must be available to perform live in the GIMME THE MIKE! CHARLOTTE Final Competition, which is expected to be held on Wednesday, August 1, 2007 and be available for the dress rehearsal which is expected to be on same day, Wednesday, August 1, 2007 and must be willing to attend promotional appearances as described in Section 4 below. Any Finalist who is unable or unwilling to be available for the Final Competition or to participate in promotional appearances will be disqualified and an alternate Finalist may be selected by the Sponsor in Sponsor's sole discretion.

- (E) **Selection of the Winner:** The seven (7) Finalists will be given the opportunity to compete to become the winner by participating in the GIMME THE MIKE! CHARLOTTE Final Competition, which is expected to be held on Wednesday, August 1, 2007. A dress rehearsal will be conducted the same day as the live broadcast of the Final Competition. The Final Competition will be broadcast live on WSOC-TV and each of the seven (7) Finalists will be allowed to perform one song for a panel of three (3) judges. The Final Competition will be operated and judged in accordance with the same rules and conditions described above for the Semi-Final Shows, except that, because this will be a live broadcast, individual performances will not be interrupted and it is the sole responsibility of each Finalist to continue his or her performance on the show, regardless of circumstances. The one (1) Finalist with the highest score will be declared Winner and in addition to the notoriety and opportunities which this may afford, shall be given the promotional appearances and public exposure listed in paragraph 4 below. These appearances and exposure do not have a stated retail value. In the event of a tie, tied entries will be re-judged based on the same judging criteria described above in Paragraph D. Decisions of judges and Sponsor shall be final and binding in all respects.

4. **Promotional Appearances.** The Semi-Finalists in the Competition shall make a limited number of promotional appearances during the time from April 23<sup>rd</sup> through August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Finalists shall make advertising and promotional appearances organized by the Sponsor and scheduled between June and July, 2007 and the date of the broadcast of the Final Competition, which is expected to be on Wednesday, August 1, 2007. The Finalists and the Winner shall also be required by Sponsor to make certain promotional appearances during the week after the Competition concludes (which is expected to be through Wednesday, August 8, 2007.) The Sponsor will provide Semi-Finalists, Finalists and the Winner with reasonable notice of any such required appearances. During the Competition, Contestants may not make promotional appearances on any radio or television stations that are not approved in advance by the Sponsor. The morning immediately following the broadcast of the Final Competition, Contestants may only make promotional appearances at participating radio and television stations authorized by Sponsor.

5. **Grand Prize Description:** The prize package to be awarded to the Grand Prize Winner is 1) from Sound Choice - an iPod (80 gig)-Value of \$350, a Dopi Karaoke Unit (iPod Mixer & Microphone) – Value of \$60.00, a certificate for 50 downloadable Karaoke songs from Dopi Karaoke – Value of \$100.00, a recording session at Sound Choice Recording Studios (8 hours Studio Time-To be used for 5 song demo session) (5 song demo using Sound Choice Tracks) (Mastered CD Disc) – Value of \$1500.00 – **Total Retail Value is \$2,010.** 2) One \$100.00 Concord Mills gift card to be used at Concord Mills. **Total Retail Value of \$100.00.** The Sponsor reserves the right to add additional prizes to be awarded to the Competition Winner. Any such additional prizes and their retail value will be announced and published in addendums to these rules when and if they are posted.
6. **Winner Acceptance.** Winners may waive their right to receive prizes. Prizes are nonassignable, nontransferable and non-redeemable for cash. No substitutions allowed by winners. Prizes and individual components of prize packages are subject to availability and Sponsor reserves the right to substitute prizes of equal or greater value. Winners are solely responsible for reporting and payment of any taxes on prizes. Winners will be required to complete an affidavit of eligibility and a liability and publicity release (except where prohibited by law) which must be returned within ten (10) days of date of personal delivery or date of postmark. Failure to sign and return the affidavit or release within ten (10) days, or to comply with any term or condition of these Official Rules, may result in a winner’s disqualification, the forfeiture of his or her interest in the prize, and the award of the prize to a substitute winner. EXCEPT WHERE PROHIBITED, PARTICIPATION IN THIS COMPETITION CONSTITUTES WINNER’S CONSENT TO THE PUBLICATION, BROADCAST OR DISPLAY OF HIS OR HER NAME, BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION, VOICE AND LIKENESS IN ANY MEDIA, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, FOR ANY COMMERCIAL OR PROMOTIONAL PURPOSE, WITHOUT LIMITATION OR FURTHER COMPENSATION. Prizes not won and claimed by eligible winners in accordance with these Official Rules will not be awarded and will remain the property of Sponsor.
7. **Participation.** By participating, Contestants agree to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of Sponsor and the Competition judges. Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify persons found tampering with or otherwise abusing any aspect of this Competition as solely determined by Sponsor. In the event the Competition is compromised by tampering or other causes, which corrupts or impairs the administration, security, fairness or proper operation of the Competition, Sponsor reserves the right in its sole discretion to suspend, modify or terminate the Competition. Should the Competition be terminated prior to the stated expiration date, Sponsor reserves the right to award prizes based on the entries received before the termination date.
8. **Construction.** The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of these rules shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision. In the event that any such provision is determined to be invalid or otherwise unenforceable, these rules shall be construed in accordance with their terms as if the invalid or unenforceable provision was not contained therein.
9. **Sponsor.** GIMME THE MIKE! CHARLOTTE is sponsored by WSOC-TV. The decisions of Sponsor and the Competition judges regarding the selection of winners and all other aspects of the Competition shall be final and binding in all respects. Sponsor will not be responsible for typographical, printing or other inadvertent errors in these Official Rules or in other materials relating to the Competition. For a list of the winners (semi-finalists/alternates & winner) (available after August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007) or a copy of these Official Rules, visit [www.wsoc.tv](http://www.wsoc.tv) or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to “Gimme the Mike! Charlotte Winners List/Official Rules”, WSOC-TV, P.O. Box 34665, Charlotte, NC 28234.