

New Dominion Chorale Membership Agreement

The purpose of this Agreement is to demonstrate each member's understanding of and willingness to follow New Dominion Chorale (NDC) rules and regulations adopted in accordance with Chorale Bylaws, along with certain policies of that are of particular importance to an enjoyable singing experience and the continued vitality of the Chorale. Please take a moment to read this Agreement.

1. We offer both active and inactive memberships Dues and fees Run from Sept to Sept and are described on the registration form. Membership fees are not pro-rated for those joining later in a season. Only active members may sing in performances. It may be necessary to limit the number of active members because of space demands for particular performances and rehearsals. If it is necessary to limit membership, preference will be given to currently active members, followed by inactive members, and then new members.

2. Active members of NDC elect a Board of Directors to govern NDC. The Board hires an Artistic Director whose duties and privileges (spelled out in an annually renewable contract) include (but are not limited to) choice of repertoire and scheduling of rehearsals and programs. We acknowledge that the decisions by the Artistic Director in such matters are final.

3. Attendance at rehearsals is necessary to achieve the quality members expect in singing with NDC. In preparation for each concert, the Board, in consultation with the Artistic Director, establishes the number of rehearsals (including sectionals) that a member must attend in order to sing in the concert (generally, 80 percent). Section leaders take attendance at each rehearsal, but it is the responsibility of each member to see that his or her attendance is recorded. Attendance at a rehearsal means attendance for the whole rehearsal.

4. Every NDC member singing in a concert must attend all dress rehearsals for that concert. Because of the importance of the dress rehearsal for integrating all the performers, there will be no exceptions to this requirement of mandatory attendance regardless of how compelling a reason an individual member might have to miss a dress rehearsal. The Artistic Director, whose authority is delegated to the Board President and his/her designee(s), with the assistance of Section Leaders, determines seating of members for each concert.

5. Ticket sales for our concerts are an important source of revenue to keep the Chorale a functioning organization. For many Chorale members, a "full house" for a concert is part of an enjoyable singing experience. Therefore, each NDC member is asked to make reasonable efforts, appropriate to his or

her circumstances, to sell tickets to concerts. If every member sold two tickets, we would be well on our way to filling Schlesinger Auditorium.

6. The enjoyment of singing well includes precision in observing dynamic and tempo changes. It is helpful if the rehearsals immediately before a performance can be concentrated on these aspects of the performance. Accordingly, each Chorale member should strive to learn his or her music by at least two weeks before the performance, so that the last rehearsals can concentrate on perfecting those qualities that make for a truly outstanding performance experience.

7. To assure a professional and distinctive appearance of the Chorale, there is a dress code (see your Section Leader) to be observed by all who sing in a concert. Also, in consideration of the health and sensitivities of other members, singers should avoid any scented fragrances, oils or lotions, and strong foods or tobacco products on the days of rehearsals and performances. Due to union and contractual requirements, audio or video recording or taking of photos of concerts is prohibited, except by Chorale designee(s) for promotion or archival purposes.

8. The NDC Board of Directors generally meets once a month. Advance notice of the time and place of these meetings is given to members. Members are welcome to attend and observe any Board meeting and to present issues to the Board either in writing or orally (subject to reasonable time limits). The Board may at its discretion schedule further discussion on any matter raised by a member. Because under our Bylaws the Board is responsible for governing the Chorale, if a member making a comment or suggestion to the Board is dissatisfied with the Board's response, the member involved may ask for a refund of dues for the current season. Any liability of the Board, the Artistic Director, or other members of NDC shall be strictly limited to such refund. Any person who has received a refund of dues will no longer be considered a member during that season.

9. In situations where dues are to be refunded, a processing fee of 10% of the current year's dues will be charged. Decisions to refund dues will be made by the Executive Committee.

Payment of dues indicates that you have read and accept the provisions of the Membership Agreement.