

Singing members' commitment

Anyone joining the choir or renewing their membership agrees to be bound by the choir's policies

Choir members are required to demonstrate:

- (a) a commitment to attend a minimum number of rehearsals and performances as determined by the Music Director;
- (b) a degree of musical literacy and competence;
- (c) willingness to generate sufficient performance energy to reach the required standard;
- (d) commitment to sell as many tickets as possible;
- (e) willingness to attend special classes as required from time to time for those who need to improve their voices and skills;
- (f) commitment to study music at home between rehearsals; and
- (g) an undertaking to meet financial obligations.¹

Attendance

Choir members are expected to attend all rehearsals in full and to prepare appropriately. (For these purposes, a half-day session on a weekend counts as one rehearsal.) Should illness or accident prevent attendance on a particular occasion, the choir member must provide an apology and an explanation to the relevant voice part leader (not to the president) before the rehearsal. The voice part leader will note the absence on the attendance roll. Choir members must ensure that they sign the attendance roll, and voice part leaders will monitor attendance within their voice part. Choristers must familiarise themselves with the contact details of their voice part leader.

If a chorister misses more than three rehearsals (with apology) in a concert term and wishes to sing in the concert, the chorister will be required to attend an individual audition session (on the work(s) being prepared) separate from normal rehearsals. If a choir member misses three rehearsals in a concert term without apology and explanation, the choir member will not be permitted to sing in the concert. Voice part leaders will remove the names of these members from the list of those singing in the concert in their voice part. Choir members who miss designated compulsory rehearsals will not normally be permitted to sing in the concert (at the Music Director's and/or the committee's discretion).

The list of those singing in a concert will be finalised two weeks before the concert. In the final week, the rehearsal on Monday night, as well as the compulsory orchestral rehearsals, will be exclusively for those choristers singing in the concert.

Ticket sales

Choir members should endeavour to sell a minimum of four tickets for each concert (or four annual subscriptions).

Return of unsold tickets must be completed at least 24 hours before the start time of the concert.

¹ Extract from the Agreement between the Executive of SUGC and the Music Director

Any tickets that are not returned by then will be considered sold and the member will be charged.

Financial commitment

Choir members must pay all fees owing by the due date (see also Fees Policy). If there are special circumstances, they should be discussed confidentially with the Treasurer without delay. Any choir member who is not financial will not be permitted to sing in a concert.

Intellectual Property Rights

Choir members agree that SUGC owns all intellectual property rights to any recording that is made of the performance and they assign any rights to SUGC that are necessary to give effect to this ownership.

Photographs taken of choristers during any of the choir's activities may be published in a range of media. Choristers who do not agree with this policy must provide the president with written notice.

Privacy of personal information

Following renewal of membership, the choir will produce a mailing list including all contact details (phone number, address, email address) and a small photograph. This will be distributed to all current choir members to facilitate identification and contact.

Choristers should provide written notification to the president (cc the database volunteer) that they do not wish to have their contact details and image included in this list.

Volunteer positions

The choir is a non-profit-making body relying on the voluntary contributions of its members to cover management and administration. Volunteers organise rehearsals, suppers, the staging of performances, promotion, financial management and so on. Members are expected to make whatever contribution they can by volunteering for one or more of the roles required.

For the information of choir members: Music Director's authority

- (a) The Music Director, in consultation with the Management Committee, shall have the discretion to make decisions which, in their opinion, are necessary or appropriate for the Choir to perform at a level acceptable to the Music Director at each Performance. Such joint authority shall include, but not be limited to, an entitlement to specify the way in which the Choir is to perform and whether or not individual choristers may sing throughout the whole or any part of the Performance.
- (b) The Music Director and the Management Committee may change the proposed program for any Performance if they reasonably believe that it is necessary or appropriate to do so.

Commitment

Choir members are expected to sing in all concerts scheduled each year, including the Christmas concert at the Town Hall, unless they have provided advance notification to the relevant voice part leader. In cases of last minute change, notice should also be given to the concert manager, as indicated in the concert notes.