

## NEW DOMINION CHORALE MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

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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 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 July 1 to June 30. Membership fees are not prorated 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.
2. Active members 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) 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(s) for integrating all performers, there will be no exceptions to this requirement of mandatory attendance. 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 concert tickets.
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 not use any scented fragrances, oils or lotions, and should avoid 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.

The NDC Board of Directors generally meets once per month. **The schedule for the Board Meetings is posted on the web site. 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). Since several members may attend, discussions may be limited to ensure everyone has the opportunity to speak. The Board may, at its discretion, schedule further discussion on any matter raised by a member. Payment of dues indicates you have read and accept the provisions of this Membership Agreement.