



P.O. Box 135, Woburn, MA 01801

<http://www.mishawumchoral.org>

MEMBER GUIDELINES, 2015/2016 Season

Welcome to the Mishawum Choral Society. We are happy to have you join us for another exciting season of music making. Whether you are a new or returning member please take a few minutes to create your member profile on our new web site (see address above). The sign-up form is in the black pull-down menu under 'membership'. This will ensure a current and accurate membership database which is our main tool for communicating with all members.

We offer you the fun and enjoyment of sharing music together, and we hope you will find the following guidelines helpful.

NEW MEMBERS:

The Mishawum Choral Society is a non-audition community chorus that welcomes new voices (SATB) during the months of September and January. However, we do prefer that new members be able to read music and have some prior 4-part choral singing experience. In addition, since total membership and sectional balance of the chorus needs to be controlled some potential new members may not be able to be accommodated.

REHEARSAL TIME & ATTENDANCE:

Rehearsals are from 7:30pm to 9:30pm on Tuesday evenings in the Chorus Room of Woburn High School unless otherwise notified. Please be prompt and in your seats and ready to sing by 7:30! This is a courtesy to the Music Director and other chorus members, and it will allow us to get working together earlier. Attendance at rehearsals is required in order to sing in concerts. Please notify the Music Director (Brian Gilbertie) or the Chorus Manager (Renelle Hebert) **prior** to missing a rehearsal. Anyone with more than three unexcused absences in a season may be asked to sit out the concert. Please note that attendance of the dress rehearsal is mandatory. As we practice our entrances and exits and are given final instructions on many details of the event, there is no substitute for being there to receive all information.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT:

Dues: Annual dues, necessary to cover music and operating expenses, are \$80 per year. Dues for members only participating for half a season are \$45. They should be paid by the end of September.

Tickets: All members are expected to sell 4 or more tickets for each concert to help meet expenses and ensure a good audience.

Sponsorships: Members are encouraged to find sponsors. They are an important part of our funding activities, since member dues and ticket sales do not cover all expenses. Information regarding sponsorships can be found on the web site.

OVER

MUSIC:

Each member is assigned a number which is listed on each piece of music issued. Music must be returned at the end of the season or when requested by the librarian. Black folders are required for performances, and can be purchased from the librarian at cost. We recommend that members purchase two folders: one to hold the music for the first half of the concert, one for the second half.

CONCERTS:

Full attendance is expected at all dress rehearsals, concerts, and other scheduled appearances unless otherwise indicated. If you know you must miss any scheduled event, notify the Music Director or Chorus Manager as early as possible, preferably at least four weeks in advance. In an emergency, please notify any board member.

CONCERT DRESS CODE:

Women: Long-sleeved **black** blouse, **floor-length** black skirt or pants, black stockings & shoes. No glittery jewelry, please or fragrance of any kind.

Men: White long-sleeved shirt, black jacket & pants (or tux), red bow tie for Christmas, black bow tie for spring, black shoes. Jackets may be discarded for the spring concert.

Please note: Due to allergies of some members, please **DO NOT** wear perfumes or colognes.

COMMITTEES:

Presenting concerts takes a lot of behind the scenes work. Your help is needed to keep the group going and make the load manageable for all. Please volunteer when asked. The more that pitch in, the less burden there is on everyone. A reception is held after each concert and members will be asked to provide refreshments for our guests.

If you have any questions at any time please feel free to contact an officer, member of the Board of Directors, or the Music Director. The best way to contact them is through the website.