



Yellowknife Choral Society Membership Guidelines

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Becoming a Member

Membership is renewable annually. To join or to renew membership you need to:

- Pay the current year's dues (see next section)
- Submit the Membership Registration Form
- For Aurora Choralis, perform a voice check and placement exercise at the discretion of the Artistic Director
- For Ursa Miners, by audition, at the invitation of the Directors
- Non-singing supporters of the choirs may become a member of the society
- Renewal of Membership can be denied if, in the Board's judgment, your membership is not in the best interests of the society and the choir (requirement of the *Societies Act*).

Membership Dues

Yellowknife Choral Society Membership Fee: \$50

Aurora Choralis Registration Fee: \$150 per year or \$75 per half session.

Ursa Miners Registration Fee: \$50

All choir registrants must pay the Society Membership Fee in order to register.

Payment is made by cash or cheque to the Yellowknife Choral Society or by PayPal on the public website at www.ykchoralsociety.org.

Membership dues are set for each year based on budgetary requirements. The Board makes every attempt to keep the fees reasonable through fundraising initiatives and ticket sales. Financial assistance is available to those who may require it; please speak to the Registrar, President or Treasurer. At the discretion of the Treasurer, members may be granted a prorated reimbursement if they are unable to continue to sing with the choir.

Communications

This choir uses email and Facebook for correspondence and communication. Membership Lists are updated twice annually, in September and January. Please keep your Section Leader informed of any changes of your contact information. Your section leader can also explain how to find the singers' internal website and private Facebook group.

NOTE: Members' names are listed by section on the public website. If you do not want your name listed, please contact your section leader, the YCS registrar or the YCS webmaster and your name will be removed.

Rehearsal and Performance Expectations

We strive to achieve a high standard of performance and enjoyment with the following guidelines:

- All singers are expected to be at all scheduled rehearsals, retreats and performances on time.
- All technical and dress rehearsals are mandatory.
- Retreats are considered to be scheduled rehearsals.
- If singers are unwell and not able to sing they are, nevertheless, still expected to attend if able. They can choose to sit out of the rehearsal and take notes.
- Singers who miss a rehearsal or sectional must contact their section leader for all markings and instructions given during that rehearsal.

- Section leaders will take attendance at all rehearsals and will notify the Artistic Director if a singer has missed more than three rehearsals without prior arrangement. It is the singer's responsibility to review the missed material on their own and to get notes and markings from their section members at the next rehearsal. The Artistic Director will assess whether a singer who has missed rehearsals is 'performance ready'.
- Sectional rehearsals outside of regular choir rehearsals will be called.
- If a singer opts not to sing a concert due to other obligations or commitments, they should inform their section leader and the Artistic Director before the rehearsals for the particular concert have begun.

Music Preparation

All singers are expected to work on their Yellowknife Choral Society music between rehearsals. The artistic director shall communicate the focus of each rehearsal. This is intended to allow you to focus on the material for the upcoming rehearsal. If you do not have a piano (or similar) at which to practice, please approach your section leader to team you up with members who can help. The following items are provided for all singers:

- Sheet music for loan or purchase
- Seat and section assignments
- Concert schedule for the season
- Rehearsal and performance schedule
- Weekly rehearsal schedule by email
- Language aids, rehearsal CDs, and coaching

Ursa Miners Auditions

The directors are looking for singers who can learn music quickly and who can sing comfortably with other vocal parts in a small group. Ursa Miners members are expected to attend as many rehearsals as possible and to be able to learn their music independently. Practices will be used mostly for putting parts together and polishing pieces.

Audition:

- No preparation is required
- Auditions will include range checks, simple ear tests, and sight-reading/quick study of a short song
- To schedule an audition or if you have any questions, contact ykchamberchoir@gmail.com

Miscellaneous

Volunteering: All singers are expected to volunteer to help with necessary tasks and fundraising activities. Please be sure to select one category on the registration form in which you would like to volunteer your time. The Yellowknife Choral Society is an organization run by volunteers and it requires all its members to participate in order to make it successful.

Dress Code: The Artistic Director will announce the dress for each engagement. The standard dress is black tops and bottoms. No perfumes or scents should be worn during rehearsals and concerts.

Season Schedule: Please refer to the season hand-out or information provided by the Artistic Director for details on the current season rehearsal and workshop dates as well as the concert schedule.