

Dearest Region 17 Members,

The following message is to provide an important update on the plans for the 2022 Region 17 Regional Competition. Based on the current scientific understanding of COVID-19 and the unpredictable nature of future variants, members of your Region 17 RMT and the 2022 Convention Committee have opted to move forward with a video contest. There will be no live, in-person contest for 2022.

Video Contest Details

The details of a video competition are in progress, and we will update our membership as soon as these plans have been finalized so those who wish to compete can begin to make the appropriate preparations. Your patience as we navigate this newly charted territory is appreciated. For guidance, we have provided the Sweet Adelines International Video Submission Procedures. Although we encourage every member to read this material in its entirety, below are a few notable highlights

- Videos must be unedited, in one continuous recording, and unpublished (eg, not previously posted on social media, chorus/quartet website, or webcast)
- Videos must be submitted in .mp4 digital format
- Microphones used should be for recording input only and not amplification
- Lighting should be uniform throughout the performance and no special effects are to be used
- Videos must be recorded 1 to 4 weeks prior to submission
- All videos must be submitted on or before 11:59 PM ET on May 2, 2022. Any videos submitted after this time will not be eligible for contest

Hotel Contract

As many of you know, our contracts with the contest venues are signed and secured many years in advance. Currently, we are working with the Cleveland Renaissance Hotel regarding our contract. Although safety is our number 1 priority, appropriate management of membership funds is also a responsibility that we do not take lightly. The hope is that our longtime relationship with this establishment will help navigate a favorable outcome regarding the contractual, legal, and financial implications of this decision.

Feedback to Your RMT and Convention Committee

The support that has been provided by our members has been greatly appreciated. Questions and respectful comments are and always will be welcome. The decision to conduct a video contest was made in collaboration with members of both your Region 17 RMT and Convention Committee, as well as feedback from membership. Please understand that these decisions were not made lightly. The health, well-being, and life of every single member of Region 17 is valuable. We are trying to do our part, as Region 17, to stop the continued spread of COVID-19 and limit the risks for our singers. We want to see your faces again, to hear your voices, to share your smiles, to make more memories together. Please help us so that this day will come sooner rather than later.

Sincerely,

Your Region 17 RMT and Convention Committee