**Region 17 Back to Rehearsal Suggested Chorus Plan**

The intent of this document is to assist Region 17 choruses in making the best decisions possible regarding when and how to return to in person chorus rehearsals.

**Guiding Principles**

* ***Safety is our first priority.*** While we realize that everyone misses the fellowship and singing of our traditional chorus rehearsals, ensuring the health and safety of our chorus members and their families is our first priority.
* ***Decisions are local.*** Each chorus must make their own decisions based on:
  + Federal, state and local regulations and best practices
  + Local COVID conditions
  + Chorus member input
  + Chorus leadership input
* ***This is a rapidly changing situation.*** Each chorus must realize that they will need to remain aware of COVID changes and react and update their plans accordingly.

**Recommended Approach**

1. ***Review COVID Guidance.*** Review applicable COVID-19 guidance and local COVID conditions in the areas where your chorus members live. Some of these are guidelines, and some of these are laws and must be complied with. Be aware that these guidelines will likely be updated and changed going forward.
   1. [SAI Back to Rehearsal Resources](https://sweetadelines.com/back-to-rehearsal-resources) *(need to use your SAI site login)*
   2. [Region 17 Back to Rehearsal Guidance](https://region17online.org/backtorehearsal)
2. ***Contact your rehearsal facility.***Contact your rehearsal facility and find out what current COVID restrictions are in place.
3. ***Find out what your chorus members are thinking.*** We recommend the use of a survey so all participants feel free to comment. Here are **suggested survey questions** in [Word](https://region17online.org/sites/region17online.org/files/img_misc/Back%20to%20Rehearsals/Chorus%20Survey.docx) and in [PDF](https://region17online.org/sites/region17online.org/files/img_misc/Back%20to%20Rehearsals/Chorus%20Survey.pdf) formats.
4. ***Have chorus leadership make some key decisions about rehearsals.***
   1. Where will you rehearse? Indoors or outdoors?
   2. Will chorus members need to be vaccinated to attend in person? Will a percentage of chorus members need to be vaccinated to attend in person?
   3. Will chorus members need to wear masks?
   4. Will chorus members need to sign the [SAI Assumption of Risk Waiver](https://sweetadelines.com/back-to-rehearsal-resources)?
   5. Will you have a hybrid rehearsal?
   6. What are some key indicators that would cause the chorus to revisit these decisions?
5. ***Do detailed rehearsal planning.*** Utilize the [SAI checklists](https://sweetadelines.com/back-to-rehearsal-resources) to prepare a detailed plan for chorus rehearsals.
6. ***Engage with your chorus members.*** Communicate with the chorus and explain the reasoning for any decisions and when decisions may be revisited. Consider engagement activities or actions such as chorus masks.