

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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### Membership Requirements

Any member absent from three consecutive rehearsals or with a pattern of sporadic attendance as monitored by the membership chairperson is not considered in good standing, unless written notification with Board approval has been given. Attendance during July and August will not be subject to the above, but chorus members should make every attempt at regular attendance during the summer months.

A member in "good standing" is defined as a member with dues paid to date and one who has met the above attendance requirements. **A member not in good standing loses all voting and chorus privileges.** She may restore her status by attending three consecutive rehearsals if her default was attendance. She may bring her dues up-to-date if her default was financial. She may also be subject to musical retesting at the discretion to the chorus director.

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION \$\$

Welcome! We hope you are enjoying your visit with us, and that you will soon become a member of our chorus. You are probably wondering about the specific financial obligations that are involved. Following is a summary of the financial commitments associated with being a member of the *Grand Harmony Chorus* of Sweet Adelines International.

As you review this information, please keep in mind that not all amounts are due right away. Some expenses will occur much later in the year, and some are optional. This information is provided to allow you time to budget your expenses and to discuss any questions or concerns you may have with the membership representative of the Financial Coordinator.

### Dues and Per Capita Fees (Updated Annually)

Our Chorus dues are payable monthly (\$30.00/month), quarterly (\$90.00/quarter), semi-annually (\$180.00) and yearly (\$360.00/year). After your application has been accepted, you should contact the Chorus Treasurer to set up your payment plan for the year.

In addition, Sweet Adelines International collects a per capita fee of \$80.00 U.S. per year from each member to support the programs managed at the International level. This fee is due in full when you apply for membership, and annually thereafter, during your anniversary month.

Students attending post-secondary school will be required to pay half the amounts stated above, of which \$15.00 per month is for chorus dues and \$40.00 U.S per year is for per capita fees. Sweet Adelines also offers a lifetime membership available for \$1,200.00. If you become a life member, you won't have to concern yourself with per capita fees or escrow account again.

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### **Lifetime Membership**

This one time \$1,200.00 fee is non-refundable and non-transferable. After payment of the fee, the member is not required to pay the annual per capita fee. Even if the lifetime member allows her membership to lapse, she will not have to pay the International per capita fee if she decides to rejoin. Following is additional information on lifetime membership:

- Lifetime memberships are valid only for the life of the individual, regardless if she is a member of a chartered chapter or chapter-at large.
- Lifetime memberships are not affected by any subsequent increases in the International per capita fee.
- Lifetime members who are also chapter-at-large members will not be required to pay the \$10.00 chapter portion of the CAL dues each year. However, they will be furnished with a renewal form, which should be completed and returned to International Headquarters each year for tracking purposes.
- Lifetime members are included on chapter renewals and count toward the 20 members required to recharter.
- Lifetime membership in Sweet Adelines International is initiated and granted by the International Management Team to each immediate past International President.

### **What Happens to the Money?**

Your International per capita fees are sent to Sweet Adelines International Headquarters, which uses them to provide educational programs, member services, publications, training and accreditation of judges, and staff to handle the logistics of a 30,000-member organization.

A portion of your chorus dues also is sent to the Region, which uses the funds to support education, membership development, and administration of the activities and programs provided by the region. Our chorus receives support from the region to help defray some of our outside coaching costs, as well as other expenses involved in preparing to represent the region at an International competition.

The remainder of your chorus dues supports chorus operations such as paying for rehearsal facilities and risers, paying a nominal fee to our director, and covering all the administrative, telephone, and printing costs associated with our busy chorus life. Other expenses incurred by the chorus, such as outside coaching, costume materials; refreshments, etc. are paid for from other monies (not dues). We raise such funds through performances, shows, and fundraising events and projects.

## **What other Things Do Members Pay For?**

From time to time, some other expenses may still have to be paid for by members, such as:

- Chorus Music
  - Contest Costs (all events badge, chorus photo, hotel ,meals, bus transportation ,if necessary)
  - Regional Weekend Retreats (registration ,hotels, meals, bazaar)
  - International Convention Costs (registration, hotels, meals, bazaar)
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