

Standing Order 4

REGULATIONS for CHORUSES

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 The word “Association” where it appears means the Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers Inc. (AAMBS) trading as Barbershop Harmony Australia (BHA).
- 1.2 The term 'member(s) of BHA' includes the requirement that the person(s) be financial with BHA.
- 1.3 A Barbershop Harmony Australia (BHA) registered male chorus is defined as any chorus which:
 - (3.a) maintains registration with BHA, and
 - (3.b) is composed wholly of male members of BHA who are also financial members of a club registered with BHA, and
 - (3.c) is composed of at least 8 singers (not including the Music Director), and
 - (3.d) is not a professional chorus within BHA’s definition, and
 - (3.e) is not under suspension of its BHA standing, and
 - (3.f) performs regularly in public.
- 1.4 A Barbershop Harmony Australia (BHA) registered mixed chorus is defined as any chorus which:
 - (4.a) maintains registration with BHA, and
 - (4.b) is composed of male and female members of BHA who are also financial members of a club registered with BHA, and
 - (4.c) is composed of at least 8 singers (not including the Music Director), and
 - (4.d) is not a professional chorus within BHA’s definition, and
 - (4.e) is not under suspension of its BHA standing, and
 - (4.f) is composed of no more than 60% male or 60% female members, excluding the Music Director, and
 - (4.g) performs regularly in public.
- 1.5 BHA does not provide for registration of wholly female choruses.

2. REGISTRATION

- 2.1 Registration of a chorus is required to be renewed with BHA on an annual basis. This registration is effected in conjunction with registration of the parent club. An annual registration fee may be charged. Initiation of the registration process is the responsibility of the parent club. Registration and any required fees for renewal are due and payable on the first day of the BHA membership year, each year.
- 2.2 Registration will be effected by BHA upon receipt of an acceptable application together with any applicable fees, and shall remain in force until:
 - (2.a) confirmed advice is received of the disbanding of the chorus, or
 - (2.b) BHA determines that such registration shall be suspended or revoked, or
 - (2.c) an application and payment for renewal of registration has not been received within a period of grace determined by BHA.

Note: Chorus registration is performed by its club. Club registration forms may be downloaded from the BHA website, www.barbershop.org.au.

3. CHORUS NAMES

- 3.1 Approval of chorus names is the responsibility of BHA. Names are approved under the following guidelines:
 - (1.a) A name which is currently a registered club, chorus or quartet name cannot be used.
 - (1.b) A name must be in good taste, containing no offensive innuendoes.
 - (1.c) A name cannot be registered which is phonetically similar to one that is already registered as a club, chorus or quartet name or is otherwise so similar as to be confusing or misleading.
 - (1.d) Adding to, subtracting from or changing other than the “essence” of a name does not constitute a new

chorus name. For example, if The Herdsmen was a registered name, another chorus could not be registered as The Bathurst Herdsmen.

- (1.e) None of the above guidelines shall prevent registration of a chorus name that is similar to, or is part of, the name of the chorus' parent club, provided that the name sufficiently differentiates the chorus from the club.
- 3.2 The approval given by BHA, through the registration, is for the use of the name. A chorus name may not be registered for the sole purpose of reserving a particular name.
- 3.3 Acceptance of money or other consideration for the release of a chorus name is not acceptable.

4. PRIVILEGES

- 4.1 A BHA chorus may:
 - (1.a) make use of the Association's name, initials or emblem, or of the registered logo, with the approval of the BHA Council;
 - (1.b) engage in BHA contests;
 - (1.c) claim the Association's protection of its name;
 - (1.d) be party to the Association's Public Liability Insurance and Accident Insurance cover;
 - (1.e) be party to the Association's Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA) licence, and
 - (1.f) be party to any other insurance, performance or copyright protection that the Association may effect from time to time.

5. PROFESSIONAL CHORUS

- 5.1 A chorus shall be considered to be professional when the filling of chorus engagements becomes the principal vocation of any of the chorus's singers.
- 5.2 While BHA membership is open to professional and amateur musicians alike a professional chorus cannot qualify as a BHA chorus.
- 5.3 The amateur/professional status of a chorus shall be determined solely by the BHA Council.

6. NAME RETENTION

- 6.1 Once registered, a chorus name can never be registered by another club unless:-
 - (1.a) the club that effected the current registration of the name formally advises BHA that it wishes to relinquish the name, or
 - (1.b) the club that effected the current registration of the name has been subsumed into the club that wishes to re-register the name.

NOTE:

The BHA Council has the right to amend any Standing Order if emerging circumstances dictate. In this event Club Secretaries and all registered Quartets will be immediately notified of any such variation.