

ScotianAires Qs&As for Return to Inside In-Person Singing

Revised February 2021; revised April 5, 2021

1. What if another member is part of my bubble and we attend an in-person rehearsal together – do I have to maintain physical distancing?

Members should aim to maintain physical distancing (2 meters/6 feet) at all times while at rehearsal; members should refrain from interactions that break physical distancing such as hugs, or leaning over to point out things in each others' music, etc.; it should be noted that some members belong to the same family group or travel "bubble" and may be more comfortable with closer interactions while masked. This should not be assumed between other members, and cannot happen when singing.

2. I've already been singing with others in small groups outside, can we choose not to physically distance during the rehearsal?

No. All members will be expected to maintain physical distancing, **as in question 1**, regardless of previous rehearsals with other members outside of ScotianAires rehearsals.

3. How do I know if I'm at higher risk and what can I do to protect myself?

You can read more information about people who may be at a higher risk of developing complications from Covid-19 at the following [Government website](#).

4. I know I'm in the high risk group for COVID complications due to an underlying health issue, but I really miss singing in person and socializing with my ScotianAires sisters, can I come to in-person rehearsal anyway?

Each member of the ScotianAires is encouraged to understand the risks of COVID-19, follow Health Guidelines, assess their own personal situation and make their own personal decision whether to attend an in-person rehearsal. Zoom rehearsals continue for all members and represent a safe alternative for any member in a high risk group for COVID-19.

5. What if I can't attend in person, will I fall behind or miss out on learning or other things that may impact my ability to be a part of the chorus?

The majority of members will be rehearsing on Zoom each week, with a small group attending an in-person rehearsal. Each group will be following a similar rehearsal schedule and will be working on the same song list. Each rehearsal will have equal importance and there is no penalty for any member who wishes to continue to rehearse virtually, or preferential treatment for those who choose to rehearse in-person. A recording of each rehearsal will be shared with the membership so that no member will 'fall behind'.

6. Why wouldn't we take the temperature of people as they arrive? They're doing that at lots of other places.

Although having a fever is a symptom of Covid-19, forehead temperature checking has been found to be unreliable in the fight against Covid-19 transmission. The best way to prevent transmission is by washing your hands, avoiding touching your face, wearing a mask and physically distancing.

7. I'm not feeling well but I know it's probably just a cold. I took some cold medicine and am feeling better. I can still attend rehearsal, right?

If a member is experiencing new or worsening cough and cold-like symptoms they should not attend in-person rehearsals. They should attend the virtual rehearsal on Zoom, and if their symptoms worsen, contact 811 for further advice.

8. What if I said I didn't want to go to an in-person rehearsal but I've changed my mind. Should I just go to the hall?

The chorus has been surveyed and members invited to sign-up if they would like to attend in-person rehearsals. If a member chooses not to sign up at this time and then changes their mind, they can reach out to the Directors to see if there is room for an additional member at in-person. A member should not plan on attending an in-person rehearsal unless they've been given permission to do so by the Director. The chorus will be polled at regular intervals throughout the year to allow additional people to sign-up.

9. What if I signed up to go to in-person rehearsals but have changed my mind?

We understand that a member's circumstances or comfort level with the in-person rehearsals may change over time and request that you send an email to the Directors to let them know that you wish to continue with Zoom rehearsals only.

10. How can I tell if someone's already in the washroom? Is it ok to go in if someone is already in there? Can I use the men's washroom instead?

In order to maintain physical distancing, only one member may be in the washroom at a time during our in-person rehearsals. Rather than creating a system with another high-touch point, we instead ask members to verbally check whether the washroom is empty before entering. At this time,, we believe the ladies washroom will be sufficient. We ask that you do not use the men's washroom as this would create another area for the clean-up team to address.

11. I have a hard time singing with the mask on my face but found this great mask called a "mingle mask" – can I wear this at rehearsal instead?

Unfortunately, the Mingle Mask does not offer the same level of protection against Covid-19 transmission as a regular non-medical mask, and therefore does not meet the requirements for our in-person rehearsals as per Public Health recommendations.

12. I have come in close contact, in the last 14 days, with someone who is being tested for COVID-19, but I'm feeling fine and have no symptoms. Can I still come to rehearsal?

In order to protect our membership, if a member has been in *close* contact with someone who is being tested for COVID-19, as per direction of NS Public Health, we would ask that they remain at home and attend the Virtual rehearsal instead that week. We recognize that this is more than currently required by NS Health, however, we feel this added measure of protection is important to protect the safety of our members.