**Chorus Check In and Official Inspection**

**Choruses are required to check in and present needed paper work on Thursday March 31 between 6 and 7 PM Eastern. This should be done by the chorus president/team leader or director**

**We request that all chorus directors and leadership participate in the Official Inspection and mic testing to serve as the large, mid-size and small choruses. We will begin with the large chorus at 7 and then move to mid-size and then small chorus under the direction of the panel chair.**

**When is the Chorus briefing?**
The chorus briefing will begin immediately following the Official Inspection by the judging Panel chair on Thursday, March 31, 2022 (anticipated to be about 8 PM).   More information on the briefing can be found [here](https://sai-region4.org/pattern).

**Will there be a walk-through of the chorus pattern?**
Chorus leaders or anyone concerned about the pattern will be encouraged to walk through the pattern on their own time. There will be no formal walk through.

**New (and hopefully only) for 2022**

1)      You will not have a hostess to guide your chorus through The Pattern.  We will provide you with your time to start The Pattern at your assigned Warm-Up Room.  Your chorus will make their way to the Warm-up Room on your own at your own pace.

2)      We are extending the time between choruses in order to allow the filtration system to work between groups.  Therefore, Pattern times this year will be slightly longer.

3)      We are asking that all competitors wear their masks throughout The Pattern until you reach the pre-stage area. You will have time to apply lipstick in the pre-stage area and put your mask in your bag. It is up to each chorus as to how they want to handle their masks while on stage.  If some members are more comfortable singing with masks, judges have indicated there will be no penalty assessed.  We suggest a gallon size ziploc type bag that each competitor can put their AET/Name Badge and mask in.  These can be placed on a table in the Pre-Stage area as your chorus is lining up to go onto stage.  It is up to each chorus to send someone (a friend/family member) to collect all of the Ziploc bags in order to bring them to the chorus after they leave the stage area.

4)      In keeping with limiting the number of people involved with each stage of The Pattern, there will be no volunteers handling personal items.  We ask that no bags are brought into the pattern this year.  If there are members that must have items with them that they will not be taking on stage, the chorus must make arrangements amongst themselves for how to handle those individual items.

5)      Once you leave the Warm-Up Room you will be directed to walk to the Pre-Stage area via the stairs or escalator or small elevator.  In past years we have sent choruses to Pre-Stage via the freight elevators.  In trying to limit the number of people in enclosed small spaces we are eliminating this step except for those who do need access to an elevator in order to travel to the Pre-Stage area. [The Pre-Stage area remains the same location as years past.]

Other Items:

**How do we handle riser chairs?**
Riser chairs (of any description) must be brought to the contest hall by Friday evening.   Whoever will be positioning the chairs on the risers during the competition needs to meet with the Competition Coordinator after the chorus briefing.  A rehearsal of placing and removing the chairs needs to be completed Friday evening.  Chairs may be left in the back-stage area.

**What about special needs?**
If any of your members have special needs (use a wheel chair, use a riser chair, etc) please be sure to note that on the Regional Chorus Registration.  This information will be consolidated into a list and a copy of this list is provided to the pattern volunteers and the on-stage crew.  It really helps for all of them to know what is coming next.

**Are there restrooms available in the chorus pattern?**
Restrooms are located in the hallway outside of the chorus warm-up rooms and adjacent to the pre-stage area.

**Where does the chorus pattern start?**
Chorus Pattern will start at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center on the 2nd floor outside the warmup rooms (Rooms 1&2 and 4&5). There will be no busses or Hostesses this year.

**What is the pre-stage area?**
The pre-stage area is a section of the Event Center II exhibition hall that is adjacent to the contest hall, separated by an air wall.  Restrooms are in the adjacent hallway.  Water, mirrors, hair spray, tissues, etc. will be available in the pre-stage area.  There will be room for the chorus to line-up in the pre-stage area.  There will be a coat rack and dressing room in the pre-stage area for dual members competing with multiple choruses.  Please be as quiet as possible; you will be able to hear the competitor who is on stage.

**What to do with personal items while on stage?**
Each competitor is responsible for bringing a gallon size ziploc style bag for the pattern.  All personal belongings must fit into one ziploc style bag.  Bags should have your name and Chorus listed on the outside, with your AET easily visible inside. (If the AET is clearly visible, it can serve as the marking of name and chorus.)

**When will chorus photos be taken?**
Official photos will be taken on stage.  Candid photos will be taken during the performance and will be available through the photographer’s website 30 days after competition.

**How does a chorus enter and exit the stage?**
From the pre-stage area, choruses will be directed to the stage door.  Someone from the Stage Crew will open the stage door and guide the chorus to the stage. Choruses will enter the stage through a set of curtains from Stage Right.  The stage lights will be dim as the chorus is positioned on the risers.  When the chorus is ready, the Director will nod to the Stage Crew.  When the judges are ready, the emcee will go to the podium.  As the emcee says the name of the chorus, the lights on stage will come up to full strength.  There will not be a curtain in front of the risers.   At the end of the performance, after the director accepts applause, the chorus will get in position for the official chorus photo. After the photo, the lights will be dimmed, and the chorus will exit the stage on Stage Left (walking towards the podium and then through the side curtains).  The Stage Crew will escort the chorus to the exit.

**What does a Chorus do after competing?**
The stage exit door will take competitors into a hallway that leads to the main lobby of the Northern Kentucky Convention Center.   The entrance to the contest hall will be immediately to the right.  The food area is in the lobby.  Restrooms are just past the entrance hall.  Still TBD but plan for The Director and/or President/Team Leader go to the webcaster desk located in the back of Event Center I. The webcasters will interview you, and this is your opportunity to say hello to family and friends who are watching the webcast.