

## Pride of Kentucky Chorus Contest Qualification Program

### **Chorus Member Edition**

In preparation for a competition performance, we have revised our qualification program in a way that should make it easier and more supportive for our members. The goal is to assist each member in a way that helps them deliver their best possible overall performance individually and as the chorus. This process is absolutely not about criticizing but rather supporting and helping members master the songs so that they are 100% confident to deliver their ideal performance. When you know your music that well, you can take it to the next level and turn your focus to performing!

### **Qualification Process**

Chorus members will be assigned to either a Music Team (MT) member or a MT designee who has been asked to serve as their official "listener". The listener will work directly with their assigned chorus member (CM) to be checked out on the contest songs.

Each CM must be cleared on the contestable songs in order to be approved to participate in the competition.

The Qualifying program consists of three phases:

### **PHASE 1**

Debbie will determine both the start and end date of the qualifying process for the upcoming competition and announce to the chorus. The first part, Phase 1, will last for approximately one (1) month.

You can expect to be contacted by your assigned MT member/listener to determine how best to complete an initial review of the contest songs. The good news is there are a number of options to make it easier for you. The two of you can discuss and decide the best option to get the job done! The options available to accomplish the review are:

1. Sing live, in person, one-on-one for their listener, e.g. before chorus rehearsal and get immediate feedback.
2. Sing live, in person, one-on-one on the risers during a rehearsal when the director designates time to do so for immediate feedback.
3. Sing live, via Zoom, FaceTime, WhatsApp, etc. one-on-one for their listener at a mutually established date/time for immediate feedback.
4. Record yourself and send to the MT listener using one of the following choices:
  - Singing alone (blow pitch and sing);

- While singing on the risers
- Sing along with an approved recording of the chorus and send to your MT listener for feedback.

You will get feedback from your MT listener within seven (7) days of receipt of the recording. We all know that life can sometimes get in the way so if, for some reason, the MT member is unable to meet that 7 day timeframe, they will be letting you know. When they do, they should also provide an expected date when you can expect to get your feedback.

**If for any reason you have not received your feedback when expected, we would like you to notify the Music Chair regarding the matter. The Music Chair will follow up with the MT member to resolve the matter.**

### **Qualification Feedback**

Please keep in mind that we have set a goal to help you "MASTER" your music. Therefore, if your performance is not 100% correct, you will be asked to repeat the process, again, using one of the options noted above.

PLEASE NOTE: If there are issues like scooping or singing considerably flat, that is the equivalent of not "mastering" the notes, as the notes sung will not be synchronized with the chorus so they must also be redone.

Members can repeat the process as much as they need to and because it can be done outside of a Tuesday night, you can work with your listener to repeat as needed and get cleared quickly.

Once you get feedback that you have been cleared...YOU'RE DONE WITH THAT SONG!! We will be keeping records of everyone's status, which will be updated regularly to indicate when the member has been cleared.

### **PHASE 2 - Month following PHASE 1**

The goal of Phase 2 is to get as close to 100% of the membership cleared through the Qualification process and ready to perform at the competition. This means MT members will follow up with those members who still have not been cleared on both songs.

This could involve conducting a PVI with a member who needs help, having the MT members make a customized recording of a problem spot, meeting one on one to practice together, etc. We want you to be a success and we're here to help you!

If, at this point, you have not yet participated in the process, the MT member will be discussing the matter with Deb. Please don't be that person!

### **PHASE 3 - month prior to the Competition Date**

This is the "getting down to the wire" time where we need to have everyone confidently able to perform the songs. It is YOUR responsibility to ensure you have been cleared on all applicable music.

At this point, Deb will be reviewing the status of all members and discussing with their listener, what if any issues, are outstanding so she can decide what are the appropriate next steps. That could mean anything from Debbie asking you not to sing where the problem exists or if the problem is so extensive that it would be detrimental to the outcome of the performance, Deb may decide that it is best that a member not perform at that time.

Members who choose not to participate in the Qualification Process will not be permitted to perform on stage in the competition with Pride of Kentucky Chorus.

We have all said many times that we want to sing our best and be informed when we need to correct something. "Please tell me if it's me"...right? This is a clear, but private way to let each member know that. It also comes with the expectation that each member will do their part and make every effort to fix what is in their control. It's about holding each other accountable so that as a whole we can perform at our very best.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to let Debbie as the Director or Carey, as the Music Chair know.