

Decatur Central Choir Rules and Expectations

Bring this form signed in every category to Boot Camp. If you will not be at Boot Camp...bring it to the first day of school.

Strikes

Students found breaking rules can be assessed "strikes." Guidelines for receiving a strike will be outlined below. Any student accruing THREE strikes will be dismissed from the group with no refunds given.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Behavior

Each student is expected to uphold the highest standards of behavior, both in and out of school. Students whose actions disparage DCHS or its Show Choirs may be asked to discontinue their participation. Every member is expected to exhibit professional kindness, consistently positive attitudes, and vigorous participation. The lack of any of these components by members is detrimental to the cohesion of the group and the success of the group's performances. Any member who, in the estimation of the Choir Director, is falling short of acceptable levels in any areas will be made aware through private conversation. The choir director will make every effort to assist such a student in finding ways to remedy these deficits and will give feedback on his or her progress. If, after suitable time, the member is still unable to display a high-level of achievement in these areas, his/her participation will be discontinued. **The decision to remove a student is at the discretion of the choir director.** The choir program will enforce the rules set by the high school and school district. All rules are given in the student handbook. Any infraction to the rules will have strikes assessed at the discretion of the director. Any student who receives disciplinary actions from the school should notify their director immediately.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Attendance

Students are required to be at all rehearsals and performances. Rehearsals this year for the co-curricular choirs are all provided on the choir calendar. **Transportation for rehearsals is the student's responsibility.** Once we finalize the calendars, **IT IS YOUR CHILD'S RESPONSIBILITY TO GIVE THEIR CALENDAR TO ALL COACHES, WORKPLACES AND ANYONE ELSE WHO REQUIRES THEIR TIME.** If a planned conflict arises (wedding, surgery, athletic event, etc.), it should be submitted in writing to the director at least 2 WEEKS PRIOR to the absence. At that time, the director will assess if it will or will not be an excused absence. Most "once in a lifetime" events will be excused: your grandparents' 75th wedding anniversary, a family vacation scheduled before you joined a show choir. However, as an example, a younger siblings' birthday party, hair appointment or something to that effect will not. If **WRITTEN NOTIFICATION** is not received **2 WEEKS PRIOR** to the rehearsal or performance or excused by the director, it counts as ONE strike. An emergency, (sudden illness, death in the family, etc.) should be phoned to the director at the earliest possible chance. If a phone call is not received by the time the rehearsal or performance begins, it counts as ONE strike. If you were absent from school due to illness and are too ill to attend rehearsal, your director should still be notified. If you are suspended from school and are not allowed to attend a rehearsal or performance, this will count as one strike.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

School Attendance

Attendance at school is mandatory for participation in all extracurricular rehearsals. Students must attend at least four of eight class periods in order to be cleared to rehearse with us in the evenings. If a student does not attend school for any reason and therefore cannot attend rehearsal, that student must still send written notification to be excused from rehearsal.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Tardiness

Tardies will not be tolerated. Schedules are given well in advance and are very clear. However, life happens cars don't start, traffic jams happen, people forget to pick you up, etc. If you know, or even think you MIGHT be tardy, your director should be notified by phone IMMEDIATELY. If you are tardy without proper notification, you will be assessed ONE strike for missing the rehearsal.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Grades

Students must be enrolled full-time and have a passing grade in six (6) courses. Failure to maintain this record for any grading period will result in denial of participation. Student eligibility will be checked every 4.5 weeks. Students must be passing a minimum of six (6) classes to be eligible to perform in a contest performance. If a student is not eligible at the 4.5-week point, he or she can continue to practice, but cannot compete or perform in a contest or performance. Manage your time wisely!

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Performance Etiquette

Students and parents will be expected to carry themselves in a professional manner both on and off the stage. Students and parents will cheer for other DCHS groups, losses will be handled with grace while wins are celebrated without belittling the other groups at the competition. Negative comments about other schools WILL NOT be shared at the competition. Negative comments about DCHS CHOIRS WILL NOT be tolerated at ANY time.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Parental Expectations

Parents represent DC Choirs, DCHS, and Decatur Township as a whole when we are at competitions. Parents are expected to behave in a manner that represents Decatur Central choirs in a positive light. Parents will be friendly, polite, courteous, and kind to all DC Students, parents, host site volunteers, and non-DC people at all competitions. Parents will be supportive of all DC students and all other choirs at all times. Parents will not engage in arguments with anyone at competitions. Parents will refrain from using foul language at competitions. If a parent has an issue at a contest, address these concerns only with Mr. Archer unless instructed by the director to do otherwise. Failure to meet parental expectations can result in expulsion from a competition and/or your child not being allowed to perform.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Drugs, Alcohol & Weapons

Any student found in possession of any illegal drugs, alcohol or weapons during a choir or school function will be dismissed immediately with no refund of out-of-pocket money given. Students found using any illegal drugs, alcohol or weapons outside of a choir or school function may also have their membership terminated at the discretion of the director.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Social Media

Behavioral expectations of parents and students at contests also apply to social media. As a representative of our organization, students and parents will only engage in social media in a manner which represents DC Choirs in a positive light. Parents and students will refrain from trash talking or any negative comments about any other students, choirs, competitions, or schools. Parents and students will refrain from criticizing DC students, parents, teachers, directors, or administrators in regard to anything choir related. Parents and students will refrain from posting anything which is critical of judges’ scores or results from a contest. All DC students and choirs are encouraged to participate in positive conversations on social media concerning choirs. Please let people know that we are excited to attend their competition, enjoy their choir’s performance, or congratulate winning choirs. There is a fine line between demonstrations of pride in your group and bragging and boasting. Please be very careful to self-monitor all social media discussions to make sure that you are always representing DC Choirs in a positive light. Failure to meet social media expectations can result in punishment for students including strikes, removal from numbers, and expulsion from the group. Failure to meet these expectations for parents can result in students being removed from performances.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Cost

If chosen to join one of these two selective groups, you and your student will be responsible for a participation assessment. This money is used to cover most of the expenses of the organization (music, outfits, props, choreographers, clinicians, and contest entry fees). **The 2021-2022 participation assessments are \$250 for Expressions and \$355 for Goldenaires.** While these amounts are substantial, they are a fantastic deal for our students when compared to the amount charged at other area schools. (Several Indianapolis-area schools charge more than \$2000 per student)

There are many fundraising activities available throughout the year that will allow your student to earn money toward his or her assessment. Many students pay very little out-of-pocket because they take full advantage of the various fundraising opportunities provided. ***It is easily possible to fundraise all of the assessment and MORE!*** If you fundraise more than the listed assessment, your money will roll over to the next year. If your student is a senior this money will be used for scholarship funds!

An initial down payment of \$40 is due on July 15th. The remaining balance is divided into monthly payments **\$45 per month for Goldenaires and \$30 per month for Expressions.** Beginning in August you will receive an electronic invoice each month recording the amount due (if any), the amount of your last payment, and any fundraising that has happened that month. Checks should be made payable to DCHS Show Choir.

Payment Due Date	Expressions \$250	Goldenaires \$355
July 15	\$40 down payment	\$40 down payment
August 15-January 15	\$30/month	\$45/month
February 15	\$30 (or Final Balance)	\$45 (or Final Balance)

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Failure to Pay Costs

Please be aware of the following conditions:

- a. *Costumes will only be distributed to students who do not have a past-due assessment balance.*
- b. *No student with a past-due assessment balance will be permitted to perform in a public performance.*
- c. *Students with a past-due assessment balance will not be permitted to participate in trips.*
- d. *A late fee of \$10 will be added to any monthly assessment payment not received by the 15th of the month.*
- e. *Only students not carrying past-due account balances will be able to re-audition for 2022-2023*
- f. *All payments, including the initial \$40 down payment, are nonrefundable*

This assessment, if left unpaid, will stay with your child through his or her high school career. ***DCHS has the right to hold your child's diploma and withhold privileges (such as Prom and parking passes) until all financial obligations are met.*** Any student enrolled in a show choir class as of October 1st, will be responsible for the entirety of the year's assessment.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Fundraising

Performance Trips

The DCHS Show Choirs sometimes travel for special long-distance performance opportunities. All Show Choir trips that would result in additional costs to families must be approved by a majority vote of the DCHS Show Choir Boosters, and every family is eligible to vote for or against a proposed trip. The additional costs related to an approved trip become the responsibility of each family and must be paid prior to the trip. It is expected that – whenever possible – all Show Choir students participate in all trips. Fundraising can be used to offset trip costs.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Sports Physical

All members of Expressions and Goldenaires are required to have a physical done prior to the start of the school year. A new physical is required for each school year, and this can be done with your own doctor or you can have one done at the school (if they offer a sports physicals night before school starts).

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

DCHS Show Choir Boosters

The DCHS Show Choirs have a very active Booster organization that aids in all of the activities of the choirs. Without their assistance, the DCHS Show Choir could not function. Having a child in the Show Choir Program at DCHS automatically enrolls you in the membership of this vitally important organization. **The Boosters meet on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the High School. Every family should have a representative at each Booster meeting.** This allows us to disseminate information to everyone efficiently (including activity schedules, fundraising opportunities, volunteer needs, and other items), and it allows parents the opportunity to ask questions and stay involved in the activities of their children.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____