

Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers (Inc)
STANDING ORDER No. 4
REGULATIONS for CHORUSES

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NOTE: These Regulations take effect on 1st October 2001.

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1. An Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers Inc. (AAMBS) registered chorus is defined as any chorus which

- (a) maintains registration with AAMBS; **and**
- (b) is composed wholly of financial members of AAMBS who are also financial members of a club registered with AAMBS; **and**
- (c) is composed of at least 8 singers, **and**
- (d) is not a professional chorus within AAMBS' definition; **and**
- (e) is not under suspension of its AAMBS standing.

2. REGISTRATION

2.1. Registration of a chorus is required to be renewed with AAMBS 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 AAMBS financial year, each year.

2.2. Registration will be effected by AAMBS upon receipt of an acceptable application together with any applicable fees, and shall remain in force until:

- (a) confirmed advice is received of the disbanding of the chorus; **or**
- (b) AAMBS determines that such registration shall be suspended or revoked; **or**
- (c) an application and payment for renewal of registration has not been received within a period of grace to be determined by AAMBS.

Note: Chorus registration is performed by its club. Club registration forms (on which choruses may be registered) may be obtained from the Secretary, AAMBS Inc.

3. CHORUS NAMES

3.1. Approval of chorus names is the responsibility of AAMBS. Names are approved under the following guidelines:

- (a) A name which is currently a registered club, chorus or quartet name cannot be used.
- (b) A name must be in good taste, containing no offensive innuendoes.
- (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.
- (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.
- (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 AAMBS, through the registration, is for the use of the name. A chorus name may not be registered for the sole purpose of tying up a particular name.

3.3. Acceptance of money or other consideration for the release of a name is not acceptable.

4. PRIVILEGES

4.1. An AAMBS chorus may:

- (a) make use of the AAMBS name, initials or emblem;
- (b) engage in AAMBS competitions;
- (c) claim AAMBS' protection of its name;
- (d) be party to AAMBS Public Liability Insurance cover;
- (e) be party to the AAMBS Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA) licence, and
- (f) be party to any other insurance, performance or copyright protection that AAMBS Inc may effect from time to time.

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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' singers.
- 5.2. While AAMBS membership is open to professional and amateur musicians alike a professional chorus cannot qualify as an AAMBS chorus.
- 5.3. The amateur/professional status of a chorus shall be determined solely by AAMBS Inc.

6. NAME RETENTION

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

7. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE

- 7.1. In order to be eligible to compete in any AAMBS competition, a chorus:-
- (a) must be registered with AAMBS, or be formally invited by AAMBS to join the competition; **and**
 - (b) must be the only chorus entered into the competition by its parent club; **and**
 - (c) must not contain any singer who is not a financial Full member or Life member of AAMBS Inc. except where invited under Clause 7.1(a).
 - (d) if directed on stage, must be so directed by a member of AAMBS Inc. except where invited under Clause 7.1(a).
- (Note that only males may be Full or Life members of AAMBS Inc., and that the above rules do not preclude a chorus having a non-singing female director on stage during a competition.)