



# NORTH COUNTY WINDS

## SAN DIEGO MUSIC CONSORTIUM

### Member Guidelines & Privacy Policy

The North County Winds (NCW) community band is a component of the San Diego Music Consortium, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The North County Winds is a collection of professional and amateur musicians of all ages dedicated to:

- performing challenging music at the highest quality level
- supporting music education in local schools
- encouraging individuals to play music throughout all stages of their lives
- fostering friendship, camaraderie, and community
- having fun!

#### **Our Culture and Mission:**

As in all community bands, NCW seeks to maintain an all-inclusive and relaxed culture while fostering the strong commitment necessary to perform at a high level. The North County Winds strive to be the highest performing community band in the county with a serious approach to making music. As such, members are asked to follow the following guidelines and policies:

#### **Audition Process:**

- Attend a minimum of 3 consecutive rehearsals sitting next to the section leader.
- Section leader discussion with conductor regarding skill level and personality "fit" within the section.
- Conductor feedback with final approval/denial

#### **Rehearsal and Attendance Policy:**

We rehearse every Thursday night from 7 pm to 9:15 pm in the Oak Valley Middle School band room located at 16055 Winecreek Road, San Diego, CA 92127.

- The band room opens at 6:30 pm. You are expected to warm-up, tune, and secure any music needed for rehearsal, and be ready to rehearse at 7 pm.
- We have approximately 40 rehearsals per year and members are expected to attend 90% of rehearsals.
- If a member misses 3 or more rehearsals leading up to a concert, the member may not be able to perform in the concert without the director's approval.
- Dress Rehearsals are limited to only members performing in the concert.
- Members are required to inform their section leader if they need to miss a rehearsal.

#### **Rehearsal Etiquette:**

Collegiate rehearsal etiquette is the standard.

- Members are expected to be warmed up, in their seats and ready to rehearse at 7 pm.
- When the director takes the podium, talking should cease so that all can hear the director's instruction.
- Talking during pauses in the music should be kept to a minimum and at a whisper level if necessary.
- All music must be brought to every rehearsal – set lineups are e-mailed out prior to each rehearsal so members will know which pieces to prepare ahead of time.
- If the member needs music, they must communicate with their section leader in advance of the rehearsal and arrive early to obtain the music. Many pieces are now available digitally and can be downloaded/printed before rehearsal.
- Members are expected to bring a pencil to rehearsal for marking music.
- All brass and woodwind players must bring a tuner to every rehearsal.
- All members are expected to return from the mid-rehearsal break and be seated ready to play at the agreed upon time.



# NORTH COUNTY WINDS

## SAN DIEGO MUSIC CONSORTIUM

### Member Guidelines & Privacy Policy

#### **Commitment to Practice:**

Members are expected to come to rehearsal with music well practiced/prepared. Rehearsals are for ensemble work, not individual practice time. Our organization plays musical selections ranging from \*Grade 3 to Grade 5. New members are expected to be able to sight-read at a grade 3 level and be as good as or better than the average skill level of the section as determined by the section leader. All members are expected to be able to perform Grade 4 and 5 selections with the required amount of practice. Members who cannot maintain this level of expertise will be encouraged to seek other musical groups that better fit their talents.

\* See <http://www.bandworld.org/pdfs/gradingchart.pdf> or <http://www.halleonard.com> for guidance on Grade levels

#### **Commitment to Playing Smarter:**

- Music goes beyond playing the correct notes and rhythms.
- Members are required to use a tuner during warm-ups and throughout rehearsals where sections require improved intonation.
- Be aware, check and make tuning adjustments during rehearsal.
- Listen and blend within your section and the ensemble.
- Play dynamics to support the composition and venue.
- Attending sectionals outside of normal rehearsal time is highly encouraged and occurs regularly.

#### **Commitment to Perform:**

We typically perform 8-10 public events per year ranging from formal afternoon/evening concerts to informal street performances. Members should make every attempt to attend these concerts which will occur on weekends and evenings. Call times are typically 1 hour before downbeat.

- Performances are the culminating product of our rehearsals, each being designed to prepare for those performances.
- Most of our performances are on Friday nights, Saturdays and Sundays.
- Members are expected to commit to performing at events throughout the year. Events are scheduled months in advance of the performance date.
- Members are required to notify their section leader as soon as they know of any conflicts.

#### **Concert Etiquette and Dress:**

Collegiate concert etiquette is the standard.

- Cases, purses and excess equipment must be stored off-stage. A secure location will usually be arranged.
- Members must bring a black music stand (non-wire) if the venue does not provide stands.
- A stand light and clips to hold music in place due to wind are often required.
- Water is allowed on stage and is highly encouraged.
- Appropriate warmups on stage are allowed, but members are discouraged from practicing portions of the music about to be performed.
- Talking between pieces in the music should be kept to a minimum and at a whisper level if necessary.
- When standing for audience acknowledgement, please face the audience and smile.
- Formal Concert:
  - black pants or black skirt or black dress
  - black button-down shirt with collar or black blouse (no t-shirts or sweatshirts)
  - optional long black tie (no bow tie), optional black jacket (no tuxedo)
  - long black socks (no ankle socks) and black shoes (no athletic shoes)
- Casual concert dress: khaki pants, black shirt, dark shoes
- Holiday concert dress: black pants/skirts, festive shirt or blouse, black shoes



# NORTH COUNTY WINDS

## SAN DIEGO MUSIC CONSORTIUM

### Member Guidelines & Privacy Policy

#### **Concert Conflicts:**

For members with unavoidable conflicts with an upcoming concert, there are two options:

1. Communicate with your section leader about taking time off and returning to rehearsals after the performance.
2. Communicate with your section leader about doubling on a part up to the dress rehearsal(s).

#### **Dues:**

The band is supported through membership dues of \$50 paid four times per year for all members (Jan, Apr, July, Oct.) Failure to pay dues on a timely basis may be a cause for dismissal. Please contact a board member if you have a financial hardship and wish to be considered for a waiver of dues. We do not wish to turn musicians away from our group due to financial concerns.

#### **Volunteering:**

Many hands make light work. Strongly consider volunteering as part of your overall commitment. We also highly encourage non-member family member volunteers.

- Librarians
- Administrative and logistics support
- Board member
- Ticket sales on performance day
- Loading/unloading the truck before/after performances
- Social media posts
- Rent/drive the equipment truck

#### **Privacy Policy:**

By becoming a member, you are granting the San Diego Music Consortium, DBA North County Winds to collect, store and use your personal contact information for the purposes of conducting the normal and customary business functions associated with communicating with its members via telephone, e-mail, mail, and text message. These functions include but are not limited to sending out member notifications, invoicing and collecting dues, and communicating other relevant band business. The North County Winds will not distribute or sell any personal information outside the organization. I acknowledge receipt of the member's guidelines and privacy policy.