



Video Transcript 2021 Regional Competition Cancellation

Hello, Sweet Adelines.

So often over the last year, we have been faced with new challenges. I have been in constant admiration of the creative ways you have met those challenges and the hopeful attitude you have maintained throughout. Once again, I am here to share some news that, while not unexpected, is not what anyone would wish. With so much uncertainty still surrounding the pandemic and its attendant precautions and travel restrictions, the International Board of Directors has made the difficult decision to **cancel the in person regional competition for 2021.**

Though the 2021 live regional competition is cancelled, some regions may choose to continue with in person conventions, following the health and safety guidance of local authorities, or conduct a virtual regional event similar to what was done in 2020. Your regional leaders will share information about their plans as soon as they are finalized. They are working so diligently for you, and I know you will show your appreciation by supporting them in that work.

On the international level, should conditions allow, we hope to offer a virtual quartet competition with a July 2021 deadline and a virtual chorus contest late in 2021. In this manner, we hope to allow for some competition while keeping everyone safe. We will, of course, keep you updated on the status of these potential competitions through the Sweet Adelines International website and social media as well as email.

Of course, we all hope we will be able to gather in person at some point in 2021. No matter what happens, however, we are excited about the possibilities for education, connection, and fun. As we know, Sweet Adelines always find a way.

To support you during this time, the International Board has compiled a working group to develop ideas, along with the Education Direction Committee, for dynamic, fun, and inspiring virtual education events and opportunities for Sweet Adelines members around the world to connect. **Watch for exciting announcements and details during the upcoming 75th Anniversary Virtual Convention, October 15-17.**

As a Sweet Adeline, as a Director, and as your President, I deeply empathize with your longing to gather in song once again. There truly is nothing like being enveloped in overtones with your chorus or quartet. While we wait for the day that we are able to sing together again, we will continue to work on our individual voices and strengthen our bonds through continued communication so when we do meet, the sound will be glorious and the joy of reuniting in person will be incredible.

Along with you, I eagerly await that day.

Stay Sweet Adelines Strong.