

## COVID-19 Health and Safety Considerations and Expectations

The safety and well-being of our members attending Sweet Adelines events continues to be top priority. The International Board of Directors (IBOD) recognizes that knowledge about COVID-19 (how it is transmitted, treated, or possibly prevented) continues to change. In alignment with our evolving understanding of how we can best serve our members, the IBOD strongly recommends that all members become fully vaccinated as a means of supporting individual and community health.

The way our worldwide organization is structured, regions and choruses have autonomy in determining how they wish to manage and organize events and gatherings. This allows regions and choruses not only to align with the cultural and social norms particular to their location, but also to meet their local governmental laws, regulations and requirements. The international organization does not mandate any specific COVID protocols or rules regarding events at the regional or chorus level.

As we begin to prepare to possibly hold in-person events, the board expects that all regions and choruses will follow the recommendations of the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control for holding COVID-safe events. The board strongly recommends adherence to all public health guidelines including, but not limited to, masking, distancing, cleaning/sanitization, and ventilation.

The board also recommends that for any in-person events, regions consider requiring proof of full COVID vaccination and/or a negative PCR test within 72 hours of the event as long as such a requirement is not in violation of any state or municipal laws, ordinances or regulations. If a region does not or cannot require proof of full COVID vaccination, the board recommends that the region consider requiring proof of a negative PCR test within 72 hours of the in-person event. Exemptions for medical, religious or other grounds would not be needed, as the negative PCR test would be a suitable alternative to proof of vaccination. Any local laws or regulations regarding vaccination requirements take precedence over this recommendation.

As conditions continue to change, Sweet Adelines International will adjust accordingly. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in helping us all get back to singing together safely.