

Protocols for Tucson Arizona Boys Chorus rehearsals – Spring 2021

- All wear masks in the building as well as outside. Masks are a barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when coughing, sneezing, talking, or singing. This is source control. Masks should cover both mouth and nose and be secure at the top.
- TABC will rely on social distancing and intermittent mask use while singing. Boys will predominantly wear masks. “Intermittent” is to allow individuals or sections to sing without the encumbrance. For instance, when working with the altos the sopranos continue to wear their masks. However, the vocal sound can still be created with the masks. It is difficult for development of vocal pedagogical technique and a blended choral sound.
- Rehearsals will be conducted outdoors at the Roping Ramada or on the front porch.
- Chairs will be set-up with six feet social distancing. There will be assigned seating.
- If there is inclement weather or when multiple choirs are rehearsing at the same time, rehearsals will be moved into rehearsal rooms maintaining six feet social distancing. We will monitor the heat outside and always have the option to move indoors.
- The A/C units have HEPA filters (high-efficiency particulate absorbing). HEPA filters, as defined by the US Department of Energy (DOE), remove at least 99.97% of airborne particles 0.3 micrometers in diameter. HEPA filters are critical in the prevention of the spread of airborne bacterial and viral organisms and, therefore, infection. HEPA filtration works by mechanical means unlike the ionic and ozone filtration. So, the chances of potential pulmonary side-effects like asthma and allergies is much lower. Achilles Air Conditioning Systems services our units. New HEPA filters have recently been installed.
- Temperatures will be taken upon arrival with a no touch forehead thermometer.
- If a boy has a fever, not feeling well or has any symptoms, he must stay home.
- If a boy is infected or has been exposed to COVID19 and has been to a TABC session, contact Dr. Ackerley immediately. In the unlikely event that an infection situation occurs, TABC will directly contact parents by both email and phone call and will suspend rehearsals for a two-week quarantine period.
- Hand sanitizer bottles will be available throughout the building and at the ramada with encouragement of use.
- When arriving, boys go directly to their seats to maintain social distancing.

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- Music folders will be pre distributed putting them on designated seats.
- Boys can bring their own filled water bottle with their name prominent. The drinking fountain in the lobby will be off limits. Boys should not share water bottles under any circumstance.
- There will be roping practice on designated days. Boys must have their own rope with their name clearly marked. Ropes are available to purchase at the TABC office for \$10. There will no longer be a borrow box and boys will be informed not to share ropes. If a boy does not bring his personal rope, he will be a spectator sitting in his chair off to the side.
- As a part of our leadership training, it is expected that boys will always have their own personal mask, rodeo rope on roping days and water bottles if they choose. We call it “an exercise in responsibility.”
- Boys may use the restroom facility but only one at a time.
- Hand washing will be emphasized. Regular handwashing is one of the best ways to remove germs, avoid getting sick, and prevent the spread of germs.
- Areas will be wiped down with Clorox disinfectant wipes after each rehearsal.
- For drop off and pick-up, enter from Pima Street, drive around the back or south side of building to drop off boys. Boys go directly to their seat. Parents exit parking lot on McKinley.
- The TABC office will be open during rehearsals from 4-6pm for any necessary transactions. We ask those coming to the office to maintain social distancing and wear masks.
- During this interim period, we ask all families to minimize gathering in the lobby. If it is a necessity to wait in the lobby, please maintain social distancing and wear masks. Siblings need adult chaperones to monitor their lobby activity and social distancing.
- All families sign a release form indicating their knowledge of the established precautions to help mitigate possible infections.

I understand the risks of the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”) and that the Tucson Arizona Boys Chorus has established protocols based on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) guidelines to mitigate infections. I have read the protocols and agree to follow the procedures.

SIGNATURE

DATE