

Expectations for *Members and Parents*

General

- Dues/donations are \$50 per boy per semester (Fall: September-January; Spring: February-June). We have scholarships available for those who are unable to pay their membership dues. Please make a request, in writing, to any board member.
- Concert attire is black dress shoes, black dress socks, black dress pants, and a long-sleeved white, button-down collar shirt. (We provide bow ties and cummerbunds at concerts.) This is needed by mid-October (for a publicity photo) and early April. (Individual photos may be available for purchase as well.) A short-sleeved blue polo shirt with the SBC logo, costing \$15, is also required for less formal occasions and may be worn only for official SBC events.
- Music remains the property of SBC and must be returned at the final concert of the semester.
- Auditions are held at the beginning of each semester, to evaluate the boys' voice and interest.
- Parents must read all e-mails and memos and respond promptly as necessary.

Rehearsals

- Usually 6:00-7:30pm Thursdays at First Reformed Church in Sioux Center. Boys must be in the choir room by 6:00pm, and may not arrive earlier than 5:45pm. Boys must be picked up by 7:35pm. Shoes or boots must be removed at the door if there is *any* precipitation on the ground. In case of bad weather, please listen to KDCR 88.5FM or KSOU 93.9FM. A note *may* also be sent to you through e-mail.
- Boys are expected to attend every rehearsal, or perhaps miss one if absolutely necessary. The secretary must be contacted in advance of any absence (including illness). Attendance is taken at each rehearsal.
- Depending upon how many boys are in the choir, all parents are expected to be hall monitors once or twice per semester. Duties: To ensure adult supervision of the area of the church that the boys are in, from 15 minutes before the rehearsal (to assure the safe and orderly arrival of the boys), stay in the vicinity of the rehearsal during rehearsal (and especially monitor things during breaks), and remain there until the last boy is picked up. There is a break at about 6:50, and the breaks are sometimes in shifts, like sopranos first, then altos, so different groups can be worked with. During that time, there needs to be supervision both inside the church (e.g., the bathrooms have sometimes been abused) and outside the church. Also, in case of any emergency, there can be someone else around besides the director to help out.
- All boys must practice at home at least four days per week for 20 minutes. Homework includes memorizing words, using the music. Parents are expected to check memorization of the words.

Concerts

- Concerts are held in churches or retirement centers in the last month of each semester. Some churches hold free-will offerings for SBC. These concerts are valuable practice for the choir, and are required for all boys. The secretary must be contacted in advance of any absence (including illness). Attendance is taken at all concerts.
- The final concert of the semester is a formal concert with a free-will offering and represents the culmination of months of work.
- Parents wishing to have SBC members sing at other functions may do so with the following guidelines: small group (up to four), no SBC attire, no mention of SBC.
- In May there is an all-day Saturday choral festival as well as participation in Orange City's Friday Tulip Festival Parade.

Tour

- A four- or five-day tour is organized around the second week of June.
- Fees have been about \$150 per person. Actual costs for tour have been about \$200 to \$300 per person, the difference being covered by fund-raising and corporate sponsorships. Boys who participate in the fund-raiser held in February, March, or April can earn a FREE tour or pay lower tour fees.
- Board members receive first consideration as chaperones, followed by parents of the youngest boys (contact a board member early). Chaperones pay discounted tour fees. If space permits, others may join the tour bus and lodging for a higher fee. Families are welcome to follow the tour and can be included in group rates for any entrance fees.

Agreement

We, the undersigned, understand and agree to the expectations listed above.

parent or legal guardian

SBC member

date