

Information for New BSO Players

Welcome to the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra!

Rehearsals

Rehearsals are held on Tuesday nights at the Long Gully Community Centre, 23-29 Havilah Rd. Long Gully. Please be seated ready to play at 7.30pm sharp. At the mid evening break, supper is provided by the members on a rostered basis. Rehearsals conclude at 9:30pm, although this may extend to 9:45pm in the month prior to a performance.

Bring along a music stand, pencil and eraser. A black folder is available to carry and protect the music.

A Players' Commitment sheet is (sometimes) located on the front table at rehearsals. Please fill it in to indicate the rehearsals and performances for which you expect to be available. If you are unexpectedly unable to attend a rehearsal, notify the Conductor via text or email. Please ensure you have these contact details. Depending on the instrument you play, your absence may impact on the choice of music to be rehearsed. It's also good etiquette to notify your section leader of your absence, so check his/her preferred method of communication.

The orchestra does not rehearse on the Tuesday following a concert performance, and usually goes into recess from early December until late January. Return dates are confirmed by email.

If you have any technical questions about the music, or other queries, please consult with your section leader.

Concerts

Concert performances are usually given 3 times a year, although extra performances may be scheduled for a variety of reasons. The orchestra traditionally performs on the Sunday prior to Easter (Palm Sunday) and other concerts are scheduled by the Music Director and Committee.

Posters and flyers are printed in the lead up to each concert. Please make every effort to promote the concert and encourage your family, friends and school or work mates to attend.

Orchestra members are to wear smart black clothing for performances – no jeans or t-shirts please. Skirts and dresses should cover the knees when seated in accordance with professional standards.

Often following a concert, the audience is invited to join the orchestra for afternoon tea. Orchestra members are asked to "bring a plate" on these occasions.

Refer to the separate Performance Protocol document for concert etiquette.

Membership Subscriptions

The annual subscription rate is set at the Annual General Meeting in Feb/March. Currently, the amount is \$100 per year for full members, and \$50 for students/concessions. This amount is payable to the Treasurer a week after the AGM by cheque, cash or direct bank transfer. It must be accompanied by a completed membership application form. It is essential that all players are registered members before performing, to satisfy insurance requirements. If pro rata payments are necessary or payment by instalment, please contact the treasurer.

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