

2022 Regional Competition FAQs

Can regions choose to adapt guidelines to allow for social distancing, like providing four (4) quartet microphones instead of one (1)? Yes. Any changes that the region makes must be approved by the Panel Chair. The Panel Chair will be able to note if that change could affect the quality of the performance (sound will be different for quartets performing with four mics versus one mic). Any change must be uniform for all competitors of that live contest, and must be disclosed to competitors prior to contest.

Can competitors adopt safety measures during contest (i.e., singing in masks, social distancing, spacing on risers?) Yes. Any competitor may choose to adopt additional safety measures beyond what the region has instituted. The judges are willing and able to adjudicate under any circumstance.

Will Sweet Adelines make COVID vaccinations mandatory to attend a live, in-person regional event? Sweet Adelines strongly encourages all members to become vaccinated and encourages regions to require proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test three days prior to arrival at the competition site. However, each region's RMT and competition leadership has the final decision for their region. Any local laws or regulations regarding vaccination requirements take precedence over SA International's recommendation. Read the full [IBOD COVID-19 Health and Safety Statement](#) here.

Not everyone has the same access to video recording equipment and expertise. How will these contests be equal? Regional Competition venues, lighting, crew, and sound all differ slightly from region to region, so in actuality competition settings have always varied. Challenges and obstacles like expenses, access to skilled leaders and coaches, and restrictions on ability to rehearse due to unforeseen weather conditions have always existed. Some regions use theaters which are specifically designed to amplify sound while others use hotel ballrooms with built stages. The judges are highly proficient at adjudicating in a variety of situations and degrees of quality, including judging from video recordings. The judging community is trained using video performances and prepare for judging each competition season with videos. The level viewing used to prepare the official panel prior to live judging is done via video recordings.

Judges know that the 2022 contest is somewhat unique because there may be additional recording and lighting quality differences. We are preparing with that in mind. We honor and appreciate each competitor that prepares and participates in the contest in any way that they feel is appropriate for them. There is no penalty for these differences. As always, our desire is to provide education that will be valuable for the competitor in their musical journey.

What is the minimum required number of chorus members to sing onstage, in either a live performance or by video? The minimum number of required chorus members to compete in the International Division (for scores), in either a live performance or video submission, is twelve (12) singing members, not including the director. There is no minimum number of singers for Open Division or Evaluation Only, but it is suggested that all four voice parts are represented.

How can choruses be ready for regional competitions if we have not been able to meet? The primary focus of 2022 is to begin moving forward — taking the [first steps](#) into our future. Our goal is that we start down the path of returning to live performances and competition. The greatest value of competition in Sweet Adelines has always been the growth gained by working together toward a goal, the educational commentary provided and the joy of performing for our regional family. The feedback provided by the judges provides an educational pathway for each ensemble in their journey towards their personal goals.

What about the 3-year competition requirement? Will video submissions count? At the March 2020 IBOD Meeting, the decision was made to institute a presidential waiver for the 3-year competition requirement for a chorus to re-charter. Under this waiver, a chorus would have to compete in-person during either 2022 regionals or 2023 regionals, which would restart their 3-year competition requirement.

Because of COVID-19, a further presidential waiver has been granted that allows that any chorus that participates in 2022 regionals, in either a live contest setting or by video, in any division, will have fulfilled their competition requirement and would not have to compete at a live contest again until 2025. Any chorus that does not participate in 2022 regionals will need to compete at a live contest in 2023.

Will the entry fee for choruses and quartets be the same? Yes. Chorus entry fees are \$150 USD for Regular Entry (up to 60 days prior to contest) and \$250 USD for Late Entry (60-45 days prior to contest). Quartet entry fees are \$100 USD for Regular Entry (up to 60 days prior to contest) and \$200 USD for Late Entry (60-45 Days prior to contest). No Entries are permitted after 45 days prior to contest.

Road to Phoenix:

Our chorus received an invitation to compete in the 2020 International Competition in Louisville. Are we still invited to compete in Phoenix in 2022? All current internationally bound competitors still maintain their invitation to compete in Phoenix, and will be contacted by IHQ regarding their standing in the 2022 International Convention.