**14-March-2017**

**Drawn up by Jacqui Binetsky – Concert Manager**

**Central Coast Chorale – Uniform Policy**

All choristers who are singing as part of the Central Coast Chorale will be required to adhere to our Uniform Policy as listed below, commencing with our Gala Concert to be held in August, 2017.

The Concert Manager will also outline concert uniform requirements in the lead-up to each concert, prior to, and at the last weekday rehearsal before the performance, and outlined in the weekly Newsletter for at least one week before performance day.

There may be times when the uniform as outlined below will be changed – ie. In cases of extremely hot weather; for a particular concert, a slightly different outfit may be required – this will be at the discretion of the Committee as each occasion presents itself, and will be announced to the choir prior to, and at the last weekday rehearsal before the performance, and outlined in the weekly Newsletter for at least one week before performance day.

Chorister who are non-compliant with the Uniform Policy on the day of a concert will be given the option to change or modify their dress to comply, or may not be permitted to perform on stage with the Chorale.

**CENTRAL COAST CHORALE UNIFORM POLICY**

**All:**

* Hair is to be clean and tidy.
* Uniform to be worn as per the policy outlines below.
* Ladies – scarves and brooches to be worn as provided/advised.
* Men – Ties (long or bow); scarves to be worn as provided, if required.
* Dress should look neat and tidy and in good repair.
* Shoes should be clean and polished.
* Music should be in a black folder, unless otherwise advised.

**Ladies:**

If you are unsure that what you intend to wear fits with the Policy, bring in your outfit at the last rehearsal in our general rehearsal room and check with the Concert Manager/Committee Member(s).

Ladies General:

No large or sparkly hair ornaments to be worn, eg. coloured ribbons, flowers, slides etc.

If you need to wear a headscarf or hair ribbon, this must be black.

Concert Blacks:

Black blouse/shirt/long line jacket or buttoned jacket –

* Sleeves - 3/4 length to long sleeved
* Neckline - round, vee, boat-neck or shirt-neck
* Fabric to be plain – no shiny, glittery, lace, velvet, sheer, embossed or embroidered fabrics. May be tucked in, or worn loose. No plunging necklines.

Black skirt or pants –

* Ankle to floor-length black skirt only (no shorter skirts with thick tights or boots), or ankle to floor-length pants (no jeans, leggings or jeggings) in plain fabric – see as above for the blouse

Black closed-toe shoes and stockings/stockingettes/socks. No skin-coloured tights and no bare legs.

Chorale distributed scarves/brooches, as required.

Discreet jewellery – ie. nothing too large or sparkly – earrings, necklace, rings, bracelets and watches are all permitted, as long as they are not large and/or eye-catching from the audience’s point of view.

Elegant Blacks:

For specific concerts “elegant blacks” may be requested - choristers will be advised in plenty of time before the particular concert, and choristers may wear their usual Concert Blacks if they so wish as above OR:

Black blouse/shirt/long-line jacket or buttoned jacket – round, vee, boat-neck or shirt-neck style of top

* Fabric and style may be more evening/cocktail wear. Discreet fabric adornments are permitted – eg. beading. May be tucked in, or worn loose. Sleeve length to be advised, but usually 3/4 to long sleeves.

Black skirt or pants –

* Ankle to floor-length black skirt (no shorter skirts with thick tights or boots), or ankle to floor-length pants (no jeans)

Black closed-toe shoes and stockings/stockingettes/socks. No skin-coloured tights and no bare legs.

Chorale distributed scarves/brooches, as required.

Jewellery may be a bit more dressy – earrings, necklace, rings, bracelets and watches are all permitted, as long as they are not too large and/or too eye-catching from the audience’s point of view.

Christmas at the Town Hall:

White shirt/blouse – may be tucked in or worn loose; long sleeves, unless otherwise advised

Black skirt or pants

* Ankle to floor-length black skirt (no shorter skirts with thick tights or boots), or pants (no jeans) in plain fabric

Black closed-toe shoes and stockings/stockingettes/socks. No skin-coloured tights and no bare legs.

Jewellery may be a little more festive – ie. coloured stones, but not twinkling lights. Again, nothing that will distract the audience’s attention.

**Soloists:**

If a Chorale member is singing one or two solo items, but standing among the choir for the majority of works and singing with the Chorale, they are required to wear the same uniform and adhere to the Uniform Policy as for the rest of the choir.

A colourful shawl, scarf, or change of top (worn under the concert black jacket) is permitted for the solo item, then back to the concert blacks for the remainder of the concert.

If a Chorale member is singing as a soloist in one of our larger concerts eg. a major work with orchestra, where the soloists are sitting apart from or standing at the front of the Choir, the soloists may wear evening/cocktail dress and appropriate jewellery.

Elegant black may also be worn by soloists selected from the Chorale, if they so choose.

If the concert is a mix of both – eg. short works for one half, where singing with and standing among the Chorale, then standing/sitting apart from the choir for the major work; Concert Uniform as above for the Chorale programme, and soloist clothes for the other. Sufficient time will be given to change during the interval.

**Men –**

Concert dress:

* Black dress shirt – long sleeves, collar, with top button only undone (the button below the collar

 button). Black buttons on the shirt. Plain fabric.

* Long, black dress trousers.
* Black shoes and socks.
* Discreet watches, rings and earrings are permitted.
* Chorale distributed long or bow tie, and/or scarf as required and provided.

Elegant dress:

* White dress shirt - long sleeves, collar, with top button only undone (the button below the collar

 button). White buttons on the shirt.

* Long, black dress trousers and possibly a black jacket.
* Black shoes and socks.
* Discreet watches, rings and earrings are permitted.
* Chorale distributed long or bow tie, and/or scarf as required and provided.

Christmas at the Town Hall:

* White long sleeved shirt, with top button undone as for concert blacks.
* Long, black dress trousers.
* Black shoes and socks.
* Discreet watches, rings and earrings are permitted.

**Soloists:**

If a Chorale member is singing one or two solo items, but standing among the choir for the majority of works and singing with the Chorale, they are required to wear the same uniform and adhere to the Uniform Policy as for the rest of the choir.

The addition of a coloured tie or scarf, or a jacket is permitted for your solo item, then back to the concert blacks for the remainder of the concert.

If a Chorale member is singing as a soloist in one of our larger concerts eg. a major work with orchestra, where the soloists are sitting apart from the Choir or standing at the front of the choir, the soloists may wear a dress suit, bow tie and buttonhole, if desired.

If the concert is a mix of both – eg. short works for one half, where singing with and standing among the Chorale, then standing/sitting apart from the choir for the major work; Concert Uniform as above for the Chorale programme, and soloist clothes for the other. Sufficient time will be given to change during the interval.