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COVID-Safe Plan 2021

21 November 2021

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out the Grainger Wind Symphony's COVID-Safe Plan.

Context

The Grainger Wind Symphony (GWS) is a community music group comprising musicians who share a passion for creating quality wind-band music. Since March 2020, GWS, like many other community organisations, has been obliged to limit rehearsal and performance opportunities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Committee of the GWS is committed to resuming rehearsals and performances when it is safe to do so and in accordance with current Government advice.

Presenting approximately six concerts a year, GWS strives to bring its audiences a greater appreciation and enjoyment of the works of Australian composers and wind symphony music generally. GWS also has a strong commitment to music education and the development of young musicians.

The group is based at Blackburn High School in the City of Whitehorse and performs in a variety of venues, mainly in the Melbourne CBD or in suitable venues where invited. Venues recently used include St Peter's Anglican Church, Box Hill; Music Auditorium, Monash University Clayton; Cato Hall, Wesley College Glen Waverley; and St Stephen's Anglican Church, Richmond. Rehearsals are on a Wednesday night at Blackburn High School with usually five rehearsals for each concert. On occasion, we have rehearsed at Box Hill City Band Hall.

GWS is aware that different venues will have their own policies around COVID-19 and our policy below will be adapted in response to our stakeholders. GWS will also adapt elements of our COVID-Safe Plan in line with changing government policies.

Government Policy Developments

GWS will be guided in drafting and implementing its COVID-Safe Plan by developments in government policies made in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. The unpredictability of the virus may result in sharp shifts in government policy impacting on the ability of GWS to perform and rehearse. As such, GWS will respond to any relevant changes in government policy.

Victoria is following the Roadmap to Deliver the National Plan.¹

- GWS has updated its COVID-safe plan in response to Victoria reaching Phase D of the Roadmap: 90% fully vaccinated (12+) years on 18 November 2021.
- GWS will continue to follow government guidelines including those relating to face masks, vaccination status, sanitising, using QR codes to check in to venues, appointing COVID-Safe check-in Marshals and observing density quotients if in place at the time of our rehearsal or concert.

The GWS will consult with our key stakeholders and follow policies implemented by hirers rehearsal spaces (including Government Department of Education and Training Victoria policies).

Rehearsals & Performances

Grainger Wind Symphony Expectations and Rules in the Conduct of Rehearsal and Performances

GWS expects players and other attendees at GWS rehearsals and performances to follow the guidelines and rules outlined below to ensure the safety of our community.

If unwell

1. Players and other participants should not attend rehearsals if they are unwell, awaiting a COVID-19 test, are a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case, or otherwise told to self-isolate.
2. If players are unable to attend for any reason, players should as soon as possible inform their section manager or personnel manager of their unavailability, so that a replacement player can be found.
3. If a player or other participant discovers they are required to self-isolate due to COVID-19 after a rehearsal, they must notify GWS as soon as practicable.

Physical distancing

4. Players should remain at least 1.5m apart from each other as much as possible, according to government guidelines.

Face coverings

As of 18 November 2021, masks are required indoors only in limited settings including retail, health care, aged-care and justice facilities, at primary schools and on public transport/taxis/rideshare. We recommend wearing a properly fitted mask if you are unable to physically distance (1.5m), if you have any symptoms, or if you are with people who may be vulnerable to COVID-19.

5. Nevertheless, if policy changes, such that there is a requirement for masks to be worn indoors, players and other participants should wear a mask unless they are sitting at their

¹ <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/victorias-roadmap>

music stand with their wind or brass instruments. Percussionists and string players should keep their masks on during rehearsals and performances.

6. If there is a requirement, players should wear masks when arriving and leaving the room.

Follow good hygiene practices

To protect against the spread of viruses, players are expected to follow good hygiene practices.

7. GWS will provide communal hand sanitiser and disinfectant wipes at the door of the venue.
8. Players and other participants should bring:
 - a. hand sanitiser and disinfectant wipes to wipe down shared equipment, such as stands, chairs and shared instruments (such as percussion instruments and piano).
 - b. their own instruments (excepting for percussion).
 - c. a cloth to go under their instruments to collect any condensation and body fluids.
9. Players should leave their sheet music in the folders at the rehearsal; however, players may take a photo of the music for personal use.

Record of Attendance

There needs to be a clear record of attendance.

10. Grainger will take a manual record of attendance. For rehearsals and concerts, players and other participants must register their attendance using the QR code system on entry, as required by the government rules.
11. For concerts, audience members and players must register their attendance at the door as required by government authorities.
12. Registration in our player management system registration (GWS CRM) will be mandatory for playing.

Vaccination Status

Under current government guidelines GWS is required to ensure that all attendees at rehearsals and performances over the age of 12 years and two months are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before they enter the rehearsal or performance venue.

13. GWS requires all attendees check in to rehearsals or performances using the Victorian QR Code Service in the Service Victoria App, or have their details recorded by the COVID Marshals if they do not have access to the app.
14. GWS COVID Marshals will be located at the door and attendees must show the marshals their COVID-19 digital certificate as a condition of entry. Attendees may also demonstrate their eligibility to enter using a COVID-19 digital certificate through the Medicare app or in a smart phone wallet, or through producing a printed copy of a COVID-19 digital certificate or an immunisation history statement.² COVID Marshals may, with the agreement of the

² <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/checking-customers-vaccination-status>

attendee, keep a permanent note that the digital certificate has been shown to a Marshal.

Ventilation

15. Doors and windows may be opened to improve ventilation if practicable during rehearsals and performances.
16. Players and attendees are encouraged to leave the rehearsal room during scheduled playing breaks and use outdoor spaces when socialising.

Tracy Tulloch
President
Grainger Wind Symphony

21/11/2021