



2020-2021 COVID-19 Procedures Addendum

These unprecedented times have called for unprecedented procedures for the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras. While we are excited to eventually return to our usual Saturday rehearsal routine, we are implementing some new, temporary policies for the safety of members, families, board, staff, and community. **The policies outlined in this addendum supersede policies in the Member Handbook and are subject to change.**

Access to McFarland High School for Rehearsals

We will be generally following the lead of the McFarland School District and the public health guidelines for Dane County in terms of facilities usage.

Rehearsal Schedule

Winds and Brass Outdoor Rehearsal Schedule

SUNDAY - WINDS / BRASS (Outdoor)				
September 5 - October 24				
Group	Time	Place	Coach	Break Time
Youth D	8-10am	Tent 1	Tom	8:45 AM
Concert Winds	10:15-12:15pm	Tent 1	Christine	11:00 AM
Phil C	10:45-12:45pm	Tent 2	Matt O.	11:30 AM
Youth B	12:30-2:30pm	Tent 1	JJ	1:15 PM
SUNDAY - WINDS / BRASS (Outside)				
September 6 - October 25				
Group	Time	Place	Coach	Break Time
Honors WW	9:15-10:45am	Tent 1	Kyle	-
Youth A	11-1pm	Tent 1	Kyle	11:45 AM
Youth C	11:45-1:45	Tent 2	Dafydd	12:30 PM
Phil A	1:15-3:15pm	Tent 1	Michelle	2:00 PM
Phil B	2-4pm	Tent 2	Lindsay F.	2:45 PM
Concert Brass	3:30-5:30pm	Tent 1	Sarah G.	4:15 PM

String/Percussion/Harp Schedules available [here](#). Fall in-person rehearsals begin Saturday, October 17 and Sunday, October 18.



Before coming to rehearsal

All members, families, and staff will self-monitor for symptoms of illness prior to rehearsal arrival.

These symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

-Members who have any symptoms of fever OR respiratory illness will not be allowed to attend at least one rehearsal or until symptoms have improved.

-If a member begins to show symptoms during a rehearsal, the Executive Director, Music Director, or Director of Operations retains discretion to determine whether that person's symptoms necessitate being sent home.

-Members living in a household where a family member(s) or another close contact tested positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed to rehearse for at least one weekend.

BECAUSE WE ARE ASKING YOU TO NOT ATTEND A REHEARSAL IF YOU ARE SHOWING SYMPTOMS, ABSENCES DUE TO THE ABOVE WILL NOT COUNT AGAINST THE MEMBERS ALLOWABLE NUMBER OF ABSENCES FOR THAT CONCERT CYCLE.

WYSO In-Person Rehearsal Procedures

While WYSO has always been a social outlet for members, families, and staff, we are taking precautions this year to limit contact between these groups. For this reason, we will not be selling food during breaks. Additionally, we are asking families to remain outside of the building during rehearsals. Only volunteers will be allowed inside. If you are volunteering, please do not bring additional family members with you.

For Winds/Brass

-Wind/Brass players will be rehearsing outdoors, under a tent set up on the McFarland High School parking lot during the months of September and October. Please dress



appropriately for the weather. Hats will be allowed at outdoor rehearsals to protect from the sun.

-As staff, volunteers, or members enter the tent, a staff member or volunteer will take a forehead temperature with a non-contact thermometer. If someone has a temperature that is above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, the temperature will be taken again to ensure it was not an error. If it is still outside a normal range, the staff, volunteer, or member will be sent home. **THIS IS NOT A DIAGNOSIS OF COVID-19, BUT SIMPLY A PRECAUTION TAKEN IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY.**

-When rehearsing outdoors, please bring a chair in addition to your music stand. There will be several "X's" marked on the ground. You will be sent a seating chart prior to rehearsal indicating where you should sit.

-Once your chair is set up, take your instrument out and keep the case next to your chair.

-While in rehearsal, your bell cover needs to remain over your bell the entire time. If you have a bag for your instrument, leave it on your instrument the entire time and try not to take your hands out except during breaks or to make notes on your music.

-When taking your instrument out of its bag, stand somewhere away from the tent and others. This ensures any aerosols that come out of the bag upon opening will not be in close contact with anyone else. Sanitize your hands after removing them from the instrument bag.

-If you need to use the restroom, you will need to enter the high school with a mask. A staff member or volunteer will let you into the building. Please avoid contact with any other members while in the building.

-When emptying accumulated moisture, brass players should open the water key and gently breathe air through it. Drain the moisture onto the pee pad or other absorbent surface.

-After rehearsal, members will pack up as expediently as possible. As part of packing up, all woodwind instruments will need to be swabbed, and all brass spit pads packed away carefully into a plastic bag for washing or disposal. Members will be expected to exit the tent after packing up and make their way to their vehicle to go home.

For Strings/Harp/Percussion

-Members will enter the high school by the pool entrance located in the back of McFarland High School. Entrances will be staggered to avoid too many people being in close proximity.

-All members, volunteers, and staff inside of the building will be required to wear a mask. If you do not have one, you will be provided with one.



-Per a directive from the McFarland School District, only staff, volunteers, and members will be allowed to enter the building. As staff, volunteers, or members enter, a staff member or volunteer will take a forehead temperature with a non-contact thermometer. If someone has a temperature that is above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, the temperature will be taken again to ensure it was not an error. If it is still outside a normal range, the staff, volunteer, or member will be sent home. **THIS IS NOT A DIAGNOSIS OF COVID-19, BUT SIMPLY A PRECAUTION TAKEN IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY.**

-Once inside, members will be escorted by their coach to their rehearsal space. They are asked to walk on the right side of hallways and maintain six feet of space whenever possible. They should go directly to their rehearsal room with their coach. If they need to use the restroom, they may do so after they leave their possessions in the rehearsal room.

-During rehearsal members will remain in their seats, masked, and maintain a socially distanced position relative to the other members of the group.

-After rehearsal, members will pack up as expediently as possible. Shared percussion instruments will need to be wiped down with sanitizing wipes. After packing up, they will exit the room as a group and make their way toward the building exit. Staff will then wipe down and sanitize chairs, shared equipment, and commonly touched surfaces in the room. Rehearsals will be at minimum 30 minutes apart to allow the air exchangers to move in fresh air.

Rehearsal Safety Measures for All Members

WYSO staff are closely monitoring research and suggestions by national organizations regarding safe practices for in-person music rehearsals.

-At this time, members will be seated at least 6 feet apart from each other and required to wear a mask while rehearsing. Woodwind and brass players will be distanced further than 6 feet apart and required to wear a mask when not playing or to use a split mask. Percussionists will share minimal equipment and be expected to wear latex free nitrile gloves.

-Members, staff and volunteers are encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as frequently as possible or use hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer will be easily accessible in rehearsal rooms and tents.

Members, staff, and volunteers should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer:

- At the beginning of rehearsals
- Before and after using shared equipment (e.g., chairs, stands, instruments, etc.)
- After using the restroom
- After touching mask
- Before and after breaks
- After sneezing, coughing, or blowing nose
- Prior to leaving rehearsal



In the case of a COVID-19 diagnosis

If a member or staff attends a rehearsal and is later diagnosed as positive for COVID-19, it is extremely important to report this to the Executive Director and Director of Operations. We assure you that all efforts will be made to protect the privacy of the infected member.

Out of precaution, any orchestra and/or chamber ensemble with a member or staff who tests positive for COVID-19 will be notified and will not rehearse the following weekend. During this hiatus, we encourage families to monitor their child for symptoms or consider testing for COVID-19. A decision will be made between administrative and artistic staff to determine if it is safe for the group return after one missed rehearsal.

Attendance Addendum for the 2020-2021 Season

Due to the unexpected nature of COVID-19, WYSO will allow certain exceptions to the attendance policy due to COVID-19 and its impact.

If a member stays or is sent home because they have COVID-19 symptoms or are diagnosed with COVID-19, these absences will not count against the allowable number of absences for the current concert cycle. In the case WYSO provides an option for online participation, a member will be expected to participate if they are physically well enough.

SAT/ACT testing rescheduled as a result of Spring 2020 cancellations because of COVID-19 will not count against the allowable number of absences for the Fall 2020 concert cycle. Winter 2021 and Spring 2021 concert cycle testing will count as an absence at this time. WYSO will revisit this policy if COVID-19 cancels fall testing.

In the case a member must miss in-person or online rehearsals for an extended period of time, the conductor and Executive Director will discuss if the member is prepared enough to participate in any upcoming performances whether live, streamed or recorded. Even if the absences do not count toward the allowable absences, the conductor and Executive Director can use their discretion to determine if a member is prepared enough to best contribute to the ensemble's performance.

Please direct any questions regarding attendance to wyso@wysomusic.org or call (608) 733-6283 ex. 7.

Items required for rehearsal

To reduce the use of shared items, we are requiring the following items for rehearsals.

All members

- Masks
- Personal hand sanitizer/wipes (recommended)
- Water/snacks
- Music stand



- Pencils
- Music and folder
- Instrument(s)
- Clothespins (as needed for outdoor rehearsals/performances)

Strings

- Mutes
- Replacement strings
- Rock stop (cello/bass)
- Shoulder rest (violin/viola)
- Rosin

Woodwinds

- Cleaning cloths/swabs
- Reeds
- Cork grease
- Key oil
- Bell cover
- Instrument stand (recommended)
- Mouthpiece disinfectant (recommended)

Brass

- Slide grease
- Valve oil
- Bell cover
- Mouthpiece disinfectant (recommended)
- Instrument stand (recommended)
- Mouthpiece brush (recommended for at home care)
- Cleaning snakes (recommended for at home care)

Percussion

- Latex free nitrile gloves
- 3 pairs of Snare Drum sticks (concert, jazz & marching)
 - *Suggested Brands: Firth, Pro Mark, Regal Tip, and Cooperman
- 2 pairs Timpani Mallets (Firth T4-hard and Balter T2-medium hard)
- 1 Master Key Chromatic Pitch Pipe (F-F or C-C)
 - **Advanced students should also own an A440 Tuning Fork
- 1 pair Balter 22 Medium Hard Cord Mallets
- 1 pair Balter 23 Medium Cord Mallets
- 1 pair Balter 24 Soft Cord Mallets
- 1 pair Balter 105 Xylophone Mallets
- 1 pair Balter 10 Orchestra Bell Mallets
- 1 Large Mallet Bag
 - *Suggested Brands: Balter MBMB, Yamaha YM150, or Leigh Howard Stevens MalletTech Bag
- 2 Black Cloths or Black Towels



-1 6" Triangle with Clip & Beaters

*Suggested Brands: Alan Abel, Yamaha, Grover & Black Swamp

If you already own another brand than Balter, that is fine. Be certain the hardness described is honored. Consult your private percussion instructor as needed.

Harps

-Replacement Strings

-Tuning wrench/keys

-Instrument cleaning supplies

Wind and Brass Bell Covers

In the interest of providing as safe of an environment as possible for wind and brass players, we are requiring bell covers or instrument bags for all who fall into this category. Additionally, bell covers and instrument bags need to be sanitized in hot water between each rehearsal. Covers can be purchased from Stanbury, McCormick's or elsewhere.

WYSO has a limited supply of bell covers for purchase. Please contact our Music Librarian/Operations Assistant at greer@wysomusic.org to inquire about purchasing.

Note: For flute players who cannot find an instrument bag, the option to perform with a mouthpiece guard/shield is also acceptable. Brands such as Win-D-Fender Flute Wind Guard or Flute Air Shield are recommended.

Instrument Usage/Checkout

Members will be allowed to use WYSO instruments this year with the following limitations:

-Use of any instrument will be limited ONLY to the member who has checked it out. It should not be lent out to another member without first being checked back in with the Operations Assistant, Joe Greer.

-Checked out instruments are to be used ONLY for WYSO functions.

-All instruments checked back in will undergo a five-day isolation period in which it will remain in a room with no human contact. After the five days have passed, Joe will sanitize the instrument according to the National Association for Music Education recommendations (or the most recent recommendations) and make it ready for the next member's use.

-Members must remember to bring their own instrument to rehearsals. In an attempt to prevent as many spread vectors for COVID-19 as possible, members will not be able to borrow an instrument for the day.



Music Handout

For this year ALL music will be sent to members via email. Please print out and bring your copy to rehearsals. While at rehearsal, touch only your copies. Joe will have a very limited amount of copies on hand in case a member needs a replacement.

Concerts

Concerts will not have a live audience until public health allows a return to large gatherings. As recommendations from Dane County Public Health unfold, we may be able to host a live audience further into the season. Because of this, we will not be selling concert tickets for at least the fall cycle.

Endangered Instrument Workshops

Endangered instrument workshops are suspended for this year.

In State Tours

As a precautionary measure, all in-state tours are suspended for this year.

AS THE YEAR AND PERCEIVED THREAT LEVEL OF COVID-19 WILL CHANGE IN REAL TIME, WYSO RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ALTER AND AMEND THIS ADDENDUM AS NEEDED