

# Director FAQs

This week is an opportunity to network with other directors. Feel free to ask other directors for help in finding effective answers to any of these questions!

## 1. Potential Burnout

- a. How do you keep your own enthusiasm up week after week and year after year?
- b. How can you tell if you're approaching burnout? What are the danger signs?
- c. What can be done to refresh victims of burnout?
- d. Discuss the pros and cons of taking a "leave" from your chorus.
- e. Where can I go for inspiration!

## 2. Finding Arrangements.

- a. How can I find arrangements to fit the level of my chorus?
- b. Which arrangers create material for my level chorus?
- c. Can I call an arranger and discuss the arrangements before I buy it? What questions do I need to ask?

## 3. Contracts and Salaries

- a. How necessary is a director contract?
  - What must be included?
  - How about multiple years contracts?
  - What if I want to break the contract? How binding is it?
- b. How much can I expect in salary?
  - Is salary related to contest scores?
  - Should it be based on number of members in the chorus?
  - Is a flat salary better, or should it be by the hours or events required?

## 4. Competition in Perspective

- a. What do I do with the score sheets once I get them?
- b. Where can I go to get help in interpreting the score sheet?
- c. How can I find the time to work on new repertoire when I need to try to perfect the contest material?
- d. Help me with how to handle disappointing scores when we've worked so hard. What do I say to the chorus and still keep them enthused about going back to contest?

## 5. Qualifying Tapes

- a. How can I get my chorus to meet taping deadlines?
- b. What criteria can a tape really be judged fairly on?
- c. What about using 'one-on-ones' instead of taping?
- d. What good is a taping program when we know singers will still make mistakes?

## 6. Alternate Events to Contest

- a. Share activity/event ideas other than competition.

- b. What about chorus trips? How do you handle those that can't go?
- c. How do you set up "Shows on the Road", or shows with other choruses, logistically and financially.

**7. Delegating**

- a. Help me trust enough to delegate part of this big job to other singers.
- b. What can be delegated and what should not?
- c. What do I do if the talent is just not available?
- d. What do I do with too many talented people who each need a job?

**8. Management Team Issues**

- a. What do I do if the chorus wants to be under team management and I'm really not interested?
- b. How do I handle a team that won't support my music plan?
  - Costumes?
  - Coaches?
  - Arrangements?
  - Shows?
- c. How do I handle the conflicts between the music staff and the management team/board?

**9. Coaching**

- a. How do I find the coach that's best for my chorus?
- b. Is it best to use a variety of coaches to cover different skills or stick to one for consistency?
- c. Why do coaching fees vary so much? Do I have to get an expensive one to get quality coaching?
- d. Where can I get advice in choosing a coach?