

Cowichan Camerata String Orchestra

Information & Policy Statement

(Updated January 2020)

This orchestra began in autumn 2006 as an opportunity for string players of varying abilities to gather and produce beautiful music for the community. Commitment to practice and attend rehearsals consistently is expected in order to achieve best possible performances at end of term concerts. For interested potential new members we are now asking that they have a meeting with the musical director accompanied by a board member for evaluation purposes to determine readiness to play with the orchestra and whether lessons may be recommended before joining.

Orchestra dues are \$65/adult & \$50/child & youth (< 19 years of age) per semester. The first semester fees (and any outstanding dues from the previous season) must be paid to the treasurer by September 30th in order for musicians to continue to be part of the orchestra. Likewise, the second semester fees must be paid by January 31st. Dues provide necessary funds with which to pay our conductor and to cover operating and other orchestra costs such as the purchasing of new music and putting on concerts.

We aim to hold end of term concerts in late November/December and April/May. In addition we schedule some open rehearsals at care facilities and occasionally perform at other community events. Regular rehearsals are held on Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. at a venue in the Duncan area to be announced. A commitment to **arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of rehearsals (30 minutes before concert performances)** is required in order to set up chairs, music stands, have instruments ready, etc.

The prices for our concert tickets are currently \$15/adults, \$5/youth (ages 13-18), 12 & under free. Because our orchestra fees do not sufficiently cover all expenses, we depend on members to sell concert tickets and to participate in any chosen fund raisers to augment our income.

Section principals are to be notified of rehearsal or performance absences. The conductor reserves the right to inform certain members if they have not attended enough rehearsals to be able to perform at a concert. Some sections hold mid-week rehearsals which are highly recommended but not required.

Ongoing operations of the orchestra are handled by an elected or appointed board of directors. Please consider serving on the board of directors for a two-year term. Our website www.cowichancamerata.org and Facebook page **Cowichan Camerata String Orchestra** are periodically updated with information including upcoming concerts and other news. We trust that playing in this orchestra will be fun and rewarding for all members. New members are welcome. Please sign below indicating that you agree to abide by the orchestra policies outlined above and then return the signed document to any board member.

_____ (print member name). Cell Phone #: _____.

_____ (signature of member/guardian). Date: _____.

Email: _____ Home Phone #: _____.