

Heart of Florida Chorus - Prospective Member to Full Member Plan

This plan outlines the steps to be taken for a prospective member to become a full member of the **Heart of Florida Chorus**.

I. FIRST through Third Visit

a. Voice Placement by the **Director or designated representative**. The **Director or designee will give you a voice placement trial to determine your voice range, then assign you to section most suitable to your voice.**

b. You will be assigned a riser buddy and receive a Guest Song Book. This riser buddy will assist you during the rehearsal with finding music and answering your questions.

c. Work with Riser Buddy. Your riser buddy will remain with you through the entire membership process. His predominate focus is to promote correct notes, in-tune singing and assisting you with any issues.

The following is what is eventually expected from a full member:

1. You must be able to sing in tune.
2. You should be able to hear those around you and blend your voice with theirs as our organization emphasizes ensemble singing.
3. You need to be able to eventually hold your own – that is you will need to be able to sing your own part when surrounded by those who don't. In a barbershop ensemble, there are many times when you are singing while standing by someone who isn't your part.
4. You will probably want to begin a normal warm-up routine at home before you practice. This will be good for your voice and depending on what you choose to do for warm-ups, you can specifically work on many different skills at once (i.e., flexibility, range, breath control, dynamic [volume] control, etc.).
5. In order to keep your level consistent and/or improve, you will want to make sure you have a plan for practicing the songs at home, either with the help of learning tracks or not. It's just like exercising the body – if you do it on a regular basis, you will reap the benefits, and if you don't, you'll definitely see the decline.

II. During your third visit you will be asked if you wish to join the chapter/chorus.

a. If you are ready and willing to continue your quest to become a member of the **Heart of Florida Chorus, you will be given the sheet music and sound track (in his part) to “*Hello Mary Lou.*”**

b. This is to be learned at home and when you feel that you can sing your part in a quartet, request an audition. You should be ready between 3 to 6 weeks after receiving the material.

III. AUDITION.

a. When you are confident enough to perform your part in a quartet, 3 other quartet members will be selected for you to sing with before the Music Committee and the Director. No sheet music will be used during this audition. Auditions are not made to scare prospective member but to encourage him.

b. After the audition, the reviewers will hold a brief meeting and you will be notified of 3 possible outcomes.

1. You have passed the audition and are welcomed into the **Heart of Florida Chorus.**

2. You did not pass the audition but you have good potential to pass. You will be critiqued on what to work on and schedule another audition in no more than 2 weeks.

IV. MEMBERSHIP.

1. Upon acceptance into the chapter/chorus, you must be prepared to join the Barbershop Harmony Society, Sunshine District and Heart of Florida Chorus by filling out the membership application and pay your yearly dues. Please consult with the **Secretary for actual dues and the process for joining.**

2. You will receive full access to the **Heart of Florida Chorus web site for access to all sheet music and sound tracks for the current Library.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MEMBERSHIP, SECTION LEADERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MUSIC AND LEARNING TRACKS, GO TO WWW.HEARTOFFLORIDACHORUS.ORG