

CONVENTION STEERING COMMITTEE – INITIAL MEMBER 2022 COMMUNICATION

Dear Region 9 Members,

As announced prior to year-end, we are presently planning to hold an in-person convention and contest the weekend of April 28-30, 2022. To that end, we wanted to provide some preliminary details for consideration and planning.

While the Convention Steering Committee prepares for the event, we are hopeful that the pandemic will be less of a concern by the time we get to convention, however, we must plan responsibly and make our best efforts with what we know today. As stated by Sweet Adelines International, all members are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated for Covid-19. However, in the state of Florida, we cannot mandate a vaccine, but it is legal to provide the option of attendees either providing proof of vaccination or a negative test result.

To that end, we will require all contest participants and attendees to provide either proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test dated within 3 days of arrival at the event (Covid Credentials). A wrist band will be issued to signify the person has been cleared. The wrist band must be worn to gain access to all convention and contest areas.

Masks and social distancing will be required in the convention area, performers are not required to wear masks while on stage. We are following the event guidance from the Florida Department of Health to ensure we have the very latest information as we work towards the event. To that end, plans may be modified accordingly.

Safety is everyone's responsibility. This additional attendance protocol will require more coordination than our usual policies. Choruses will help coordinate information gathering for their members and associates leading up to the event. Spectators and non-competing members not certified with a chapter will be required to provide the same covid credentials upon arrival to obtain a wrist band and, purchase tickets if not on the member-paid list.

For those individuals who wish to provide a negative PCR test result in lieu of a vaccination card, the test must be date within 72 hours of arrival/distribution of wrist band. Wrist bands will only be available on-site.

The competition event will be in our main ballroom at the Hilton. This will mean a shorter pattern and no busing! We will live stream the contests and, we will have a Thursday night event as well as Saturday night show and awards event.

As we move closer to the event, should the Covid 19 situation warrant any modifications to the protocols we have outlined, we will notify you immediately. We look forward to a successful and safe event.

In harmony,

R9 RCSC

The Regional Convention Steering Committee:

Fran Russ, R9 RMT Team Coordinator
Cat Alexis, Chair of the Regional Convention
Judy Guest, Official Panel Liaison

Barb Lewis, R9 Events Coordinator
Kim Higdon, Competition Coordinator
Lizzie Green, R9 Communications Coordinator