

THE COMMANDMENTS

1. Thou Shalt Make Each Rehearsal Count.
2. Thou Shalt Be the Keeper of Thine Own Voice.
3. Thou Shalt Be the Keeper of Thine Own Commitment.
4. Thou Shalt Remember That This Is A Hobby.
5. Thou Shalt Have Intention.
6. Thou Shalt Keep Judgment Out of the Chorus
7. Thou Shalt Be A Part of the Unit

THOU SHALT MAKE EACH REHEARSAL COUNT

1. Attention
2. Retention
3. Fun
4. Work

THOU SHALT BE THE KEEPER OF THINE OWN VOICE

1. Decide what to work on and practice – Dare to change a bad vocal habit.
2. Practice at home and in your car.
3. Make yourself the best singer you can be – you deserve it!
4. Let other singers take care of their own voices. You are only responsible for one voice – your own.

THOU SHALT BE THE KEEPER OF THINE OWN COMMITMENT

1. Decide what you can give, what you can do and where you can help – then do it.
2. Balance your needs – ask for help, if you need it.
3. Concern yourself with only your own commitment.
4. Remember that each individual's commitment impacts the chorus. No one is asking you to do everything – but the chorus won't travel as well or as far or as quickly if we each don't pitch in some way.
5. Attend as often as possible. Unity and consistency are the keys to our success. We need to sing together as much as possible in order to polish our unity.
6. If you can't attend, call someone to see what you need to make up. Call to let us know so we won't worry.

THOU SHALT REMEMBER THAT
THIS IS A HOBBY

1. Rehearsals and improvement are supposed to be enjoyable...THIS IS A HOBBY
2. If our goals don't quite get attained, the world will continue to revolve around the sun – THIS IS A HOBBY
3. Keep perspective. Yes, our goals are important, but so are health, family, work and mental freedom. Allow yourself to breathe. THIS IS A HOBBY.
4. Your commitment to our goals will bring you enjoyment if you take care of yourself, your voice, your life....THIS IS A HOBBY

THOU SHALT HAVE INTENTION

1. If you intend to be a better singer, you will do what you can to sing better.
2. If you intend to sing A, you will.
3. If you intend to be a part of a top 10 International Chorus, you will participate in a way that will make that happen.

THOU SHALT KEEP JUDGMENT OUT OF THE CHORUS

1. Know the difference between judgment and opinion. There is no room for judgment on the risers.
2. Respect each member's right to pursue her membership as she desires.
3. Respect each member's opinion – she has a right to it.
4. Trust that the leadership is doing it's best to attend to the chorus needs, as the leadership should trust that you are doing your best in your contribution to the chorus.

THOU SHALT BE A PART OF THE UNIT

1. Remember that your group of friends becomes a clique when exclusion and secrecy exist. Ask those around you, if your group excludes others.
2. At chorus functions, sit with other people and get to know your riser mates. We are a big chorus now and don't know each other as well. Make it a point to break up your gang of friends to "include" others in your circle.
3. Keep "inside" jokes between your friends "out" of the chorus...it gives everyone the feeling of being left out. Let us all share in the fun.
4. We don't all have to love each other's company, but we have to respect each other's membership in this chorus. Keep personal criticisms or comments out of the arena. They always seem to find their way to the target and that is hurtful.