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Triangle Brass Bands SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Health and Safety Plan

Version 1.0

Approved on 08/30/2020 by the Triangle Brass Bands Board of Directors*

*Policies and plans can be changed and updated as more relevant research is available.

Guiding principles:

The Triangle Brass Bands are committed to providing a safe environment for *students, adult members and staff* (henceforth referred to as 'Members') during the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, on September 1st, 2020 we will begin a process of screening all members for possible symptoms or exposure to infections that could potentially be transmitted to others in the rehearsal environment, taking safety precautions at and during in-person rehearsals, and putting an alert system in place if and when a member has tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) virus.

This policy is in addition to our requirement to fully comply with current state and local public health regulations and orders. When more stringent, Public Health Regulations and Order will take precedent over this policy.



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Prior to Rehearsal

Pick-up/Drop-off

Members, other than designated setup staff, shall not arrive to the rehearsal space earlier than 10 minutes prior to rehearsal or be left waiting for longer than 10 minutes to be picked up.

COVID-19 Screening

Every member will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms, including a temperature, and exposure.

Shared Equipment

All members will bring their own stand, instrument equipment, chair, and anything else needed for rehearsal. During rehearsal no items will be shared between members and staff.

If a piece of equipment must be shared it will be disinfected with an EPA approved SARS-CoV-2 disinfectant between members.¹

Face Covering Checks

Face coverings will be checked for compliance regarding type and positioning.

COVID-19 Screening Guidelines for In-person Rehearsals

1. Members are not to come to rehearsal if they feel ill or have a fever. If members have a concern for infection with COVID-19 or other reportable/communicable disease that could be transmitted in the rehearsal environment, they should contact their primary healthcare provider and receive guidance about necessary clearance prior to return to rehearsals.
2. General guidelines for attending in person activities:
 - a. Any member with any respiratory illness shall be fever-free without anti-pyretics (fever reducers, for 3 days) and have no COVID-19 associated symptoms prior to return to rehearsal. Fever is defined as temperature equal to or greater than **100.4 F**.
 - b. Member must not have had exposure to a known COVID-19 positive person within the past 14 days.
 - c. Any member with rhinorrhea (runny nose), sore throat, cough, or shortness of breath shall not attend in person events.
 - d. Any member attending in person rehearsals shall take their temperature at home prior to attending rehearsal. No member may attend rehearsal if temperature is equal to or greater than **100.4 F**. If a member does not have access to a thermometer at home, they may attend rehearsal and have their temperature taken as part of the screening process.
3. Responsibility:



- a. In the youth bands, the artistic director is responsible for ensuring screening occurs each day for each member upon entry into the rehearsal space and prior to the start of rehearsal.
 - i. The artistic director may delegate the actual screening activity to another staff member or assigned parent monitor but must review the log and ensure that proper disposition occurred if a member screened as “positive” for symptoms, or exposure, or had a measurable fever (equal to or greater than **100.4 degrees F**).
- b. In the adult band, Bobby Warren is responsible for ensuring screening occurs each day for each member upon entry into the rehearsal space and prior to the start of rehearsal.
- 4. The screening log will be completed for every member (parent must be present for screening of students)
- 5. **Touchless** screening consists of four components:
 - a. Symptom questions: Do you have rhinorrhea, cough, sore throat, or shortness of breath?
 - b. Exposure questions: Have you been exposed to a person known to be positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
 - c. **Fever assessment: Temperature measurement will be completed by screener via a touch-free thermometer, with appropriate technique and hand hygiene before and after.**
 - i. Exact values will not be recorded; <100.4 or >100.4 F
 - d. Proper hand hygiene by the screened member
 - i. Hand sanitizer with at least 70% ethanol or soap and water for 20 seconds
 - e. Positive screen: Yes to ‘a’, ‘b’, or a fever >100.4 F.
- 6. If a member screens positive, they will be asked to leave the rehearsal space and will be directed to call their primary care provider for next steps. The artistic director, or delegate, for youth bands, and Bobby Warren, adult band, will be responsible for reporting “positive” screens to the board of directors within the calendar day.
- 7. Screening tool will be completed as in the following examples:

Screening Log

Date	Time	Name	Temp (< or > 100.4 F)	Symptoms?	Exposure?	Initials of Screener
10/1/2020	7:00pm	Jane Doe	< 100.4F	No	No	BGW
10/1/2020	7:01pm	John Doe	> 100.4F	No	No	BGW

Screening logs will be scanned, sent to Bobby Warren and saved for potential contact tracing needs.



Face Masks/Cloth Face Coverings

Face masks or face coverings must be worn by all members at all times, other than when playing, at rehearsal site. Appropriate use of face masks or coverings is critical in minimizing risks to others.²

Masks or cloth face coverings are not a substitute for social distancing.

Coughing/Sneezing Hygiene: During rehearsal when cloth face coverings are removed, members will always cover their mouth and nose with the inside of their elbow should they need to cough or sneeze.

Impermissible face coverings:

1. Bandanas and neck gaiters.
 - a. Current research suggests these may be more harmful than not wearing a mask at all.³
2. Face coverings with any form of valve (import or export)
3. Coverings that don't completely cover both the member's nose and mouth.
4. Face coverings that allow for mouthpiece entry are permitted during rehearsal but not during when entering/exiting rehearsal.

Rehearsals

In-person rehearsals shall be limited to 20 including members, staff and volunteers and will only be held outdoors or in open air venues.

Once screened, members will remove their horn and needed equipment from cases, placing cases at least 6 feet from others, and proceed to their designated rehearsal space where they will remain until the end of rehearsal. Once arriving at individual rehearsal spaces, face coverings will stay on until the beginning of rehearsal. Once the artistic director, or delegate, is ready to begin, they will instruct all members to remove their mask. The director, percussion and all other staff will continue to wear face coverings. Face coverings that allow for mouthpiece entry are permitted during rehearsal but not during when entering/exiting rehearsal.

Individual Rehearsal Space Requirements

1. Each member will be allotted a 6 by 6-foot space; the center marked by the artistic director or other staff member (Fig 1).
 - a. Note staggering of lines of players (Fig 1).
2. The director will remain at least 12 feet from the front line of members (Fig 1).
3. Bell front horns will be placed in the front row and bell-up horns will be placed in a 2nd row.

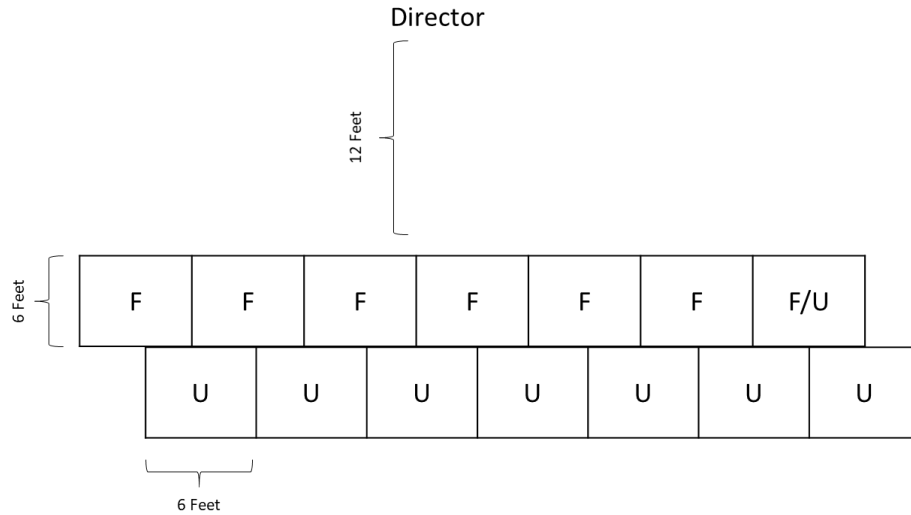


Figure 1. Ensemble setup and spacing

Miscellaneous Rehearsal Restrictions

1. Percussion members must not share mallets or sticks without properly disinfecting them with an EPA approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2.¹
2. Members must not share music stands.
3. Water bottles must not be shared, and members will bring their own, marked with their name, if desired.
 - a. Water fountains will not be utilized.

Breaks

1. Due to shortened rehearsal times breaks will not be given.

Ending Rehearsal

Members:

1. Before leaving their assigned rehearsal space, members must re-don their face covering.
2. Members will then be released in two waves, front and back lines, to return to their cases while maintaining 6 feet of distance between individuals.
3. Once instruments are stowed, members will leave the rehearsal site and complete proper hand hygiene on the way out.

Staff:

1. Any “positive” screens and potential exposure incidents will be reported via a nightly check in with Bobby Warren who will then escalate to the board of directors as necessary.



Alerting Members and Parents

Significant Potential Exposure Events

Members and parents, if applicable, will be notified the same day if a potential exposure event is deemed significant by Bobby Warren and the artistic director or the board of directors. Details of the event will be sent to all members and parents, however, only aggregate numbers will be reported, not identifying information. If applicable, the parents of individuals involved in the event will receive a separate personal email to ensure parents are properly notified.

Positive COVID-19 test results

The Triangle Brass Bands request that if a member tests positive for COVID-19 the artistic director is notified as soon as reasonably possible. Once notified, all members will be notified within 24 hours by email. Only aggregate numbers will be reported, no identifying information.

If a member tests positive for COVID-19, in-person rehearsals will be cancelled for 14 days from the last rehearsal and all members will notified.

Members, and parents of members that are minors, shall provide the artistic director with their designated e-mail address for any notifications prior to attending any in person event.

References

1. Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19). United States Environmental Protection Agency. 8/24/2020.
2. Masks. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>. Published 2020.
3. Fischer EP, Fischer MC, Grass D, Henrion I, Warren WS, Westman E. Low-cost measurement of facemask efficacy for filtering expelled droplets during speech. *Sci Adv*. 2020. doi:10.1126/sciadv.abd3083