



SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL is a highly respected worldwide organization of women singers committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education, competition and performance.

April 17, 2018

Dear Regional Leaders,

Based on feedback from regional leadership regarding choruses struggling to retain the magic number of 15 in order to recharter, and that a smaller number would help the organization retain more choruses in the long run, the Regional Leadership Committee/International Leadership Specialists made a recommendation to the International Board of Directors to consider reducing that number to **re-charter** from 15 to 12 singers, plus the Director. The RLC/ILS is very pleased to let you be the first to know that the IBOD agreed with the recommendations and they will go into effect on May 1, 2018. This should allow some choruses to avoid going into Revitalization this year, as well as offer those who are currently in Revitalization and have between 12 and 15 the choice of regaining their charter or staying in Revitalization until the time is complete. At the end of that time, if they have 12 or more members, they can regain their charter.

The recommendations were as follows:

RECOMMENDATION #1: That effective May 1, 2018, a chapter may re-charter with as few as 12 members, plus a director. Public performance requires all four singing parts.

RECOMMENDATION #2: That effective May 1, 2018, chapters with fewer than 12 members are required to enter Revitalization Status, with annual re-charter fees and competition rules waived. Public performance requires all four singing parts.

RECOMMENDATION #3: That effective May 1, 2018, a chapter currently in Revitalization status, and having more than 12 members, plus a director, can choose to complete Revitalization status for up to two years, dependent on the original start date of Revitalization status, or choose to regain full chartered chapter status, which includes annual re-charter fees and competing once every three years.

The RLC/ILS is strongly recommending that any chorus whose numbers dip below 15, even if they do not go into Revitalization, be given extra help and support to retain those numbers and build their membership back up. This can be in the form of visits, coaching, mentorship, Skype coaching, access to educational materials, financial help to attend workshops, etc.

This change will not affect the initial chartering policy, which is that a chorus must have 15 plus a Director in order to charter as a new chorus.

We hope that this new policy will be beneficial for choruses who are in the situation of having between 12 and 15 singing members and Regional Leaders who work with them.

If you have any questions about this new policy, please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you for all you do for our choruses, no matter their size. We know your support is invaluable.

In harmony,

Paula Davis, International President
Marcia Pinvidic, EDC Chair
Cammi MacKinlay, RLC Chair/ILS Moderator