

Cowichan Valley Concert Band

Sept 12, 2023

*Happiness
is,*

*Welcome to the beginning of 2023-2024 season of the
Cowichan Valley Concert Band*

*Making **Startup**
Music!*

I hope you all had a great summer with family and friends enjoying the beautiful weather we have had. I know we are all anxious to get back to playing and we are scheduled to start rehearsals **Thursday, September 14 from 7:30 –9:45 pm**, in the band room of Cowichan High School, on James St., Duncan, (as usual).

As we all know that being a part of such a great organization fills many needs in all of our lives. We know playing music, which is a passion of ours, is the biggest reason to be a part of the band, but there is also the sense of camaraderie. Making friends, talking and laughing together is good for all involved. My goal as president is to bring us all together, to get to know each other and hopefully bring a sense of family for all of those involved. With this in mind, I have extended our contract hours to allow us to enjoy a 15 minute break together, half way through rehearsal. This not only gives our chops a break, but will give us a chance to get to really know each other. This time could even give us time to brain storm new ideas for the band. I really don't know many of you, and I feel bad. We are always rushing in, playing, then rushing out. Our new contract will have the doors open at 7:15 so we can start at 7:30 and we have until 9:45 to vacate, so we can play up until 9:30. I know Ron has a drive each week to Victoria, but this additional 15 minutes will not really affect his set times. My hope is that this will bring us all closer, and will encourage new members to want to be a part of our band family.

It is still recommended that each member bring their own music stand to rehearsal.

*Musical
puns are
my Forte!*

Membership

Our first rehearsal will start at 7:30 and we will hold a registration period for the first hour. I am attaching the new registration form for you to print, fill out and return with annual dues. Forms will be handed out to any new members attending on Thursday. We will hold our annual general meeting at this rehearsal. We will then play for the second half!

Dues;

As our annual fees have stayed the same for many, many years the executive has made a decision to increase the fee to \$100/year for adults and \$25 for students will stay the same. These can be paid by cash or cheque and it would be appreciated that these are handed in with the registration form attached. These dues are to cover general operation costs of the band like church rentals, insurance, purchasing new music and any other expenses.

If for any reason any member is unable to pay the dues, it may be discussed with an executive member and an exemption will be assessed.

Executive;

If anyone would like to join the executive and bring some new ideas to the band, you are all welcome to join as a director at large. We will be discussing new executive and positions at the AGM.

We are planning a more intensive membership drive this year, and Don has volunteered to take on this task. He was able to get a great article in the paper for us which hopefully brings some new members. If anyone has any ideas, please contact Don or myself anytime. Let's build our family!

Performances

As you all know, we have changed our performances to be Christmas and Spring. We will probably do the annual Christmas party at the Forestry museum, but I will confirm when I know.

2023/24 season concert dates have been set so everyone can make any necessary plans to be available for each performance.

Christmas Concert

Dress rehearsal: Nov 23, 2023

Concert: Nov 24, 2023

Light up Duncan Performance

Dec. 1, 2023 Times to be confirmed

Spring Concert

Dress rehearsal: April 25, 2024

Concert April 26, 2024

Canada Day Maple Bay

Additional performances may be added, but these will be announced at a later date.

Sincerely,

Laura B