

Scarborough Symphony Orchestra Recruitment and Performance Standard Policy.

To meet the educational aims of our constitution, of increasing musical education and experience, and to keep our audience and long-standing players engaged and willing to participate, we need to be able to play a wider range of music, including more demanding 20th and 21st century works. To do this we are looking to improve further the standard of our personal and ensemble playing.

Recruitment

We welcome applications to join the orchestra from players of at least Grade 7 standard.

All applications should be submitted to the Secretary for consideration before attendance.

Where there are no vacancies in a section we are happy to put applicants on a waiting list for a permanent place, or to fill in when there is a temporary absence.

In the strings section, when we have exceeded the capacity that our performing space allows, we may take more players for rehearsals although this does not necessarily mean playing in a performance.

While we don't have solo auditions, all potential new members should have an orchestral audition. This would entail attendance at one or two rehearsals to play beside a more experienced player to allow us to make sure new players are of a suitable standard before being accepted for orchestra membership.

Performance Standard

Scarborough Symphony Orchestra is an amateur orchestra that aims to provide four high quality public performances in an annual season of concerts.

Works chosen for performance are all from professional orchestra repertoire, and are sometimes new works, or ones that are not often performed.

Visiting soloists have frequently confirmed that the Scarborough Symphony orchestra has developed the reputation as one of the best amateur orchestras in the country. In order to maintain this reputation members are responsible for preparing well for each public performance.

All members are expected to:

1. Attend rehearsals every week.
2. Sign out parts and practise at home.
3. Ensure that all bowing, tempi and expression markings are added (in pencil).
4. Let section leaders know if they are having difficulty with any part so that help might be offered.
5. Listen to and study works in advance of the rehearsal period. Parts are often downloadable well before the orchestra receives the hire copies.

Nowadays it is often possible to take advantage of YouTube or similar apps to rehearse individual parts alongside a professional orchestra's recording. Please ask for help if needed.

The musical director or section leaders reserve the right to ask unprepared members not to perform in a concert.