



MUSICIANS' UNION AND THE ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ORCHESTRAS' CODE OF PRACTICE FOR OUTDOOR / LARGE VENUE CONCERTS



1. Directions/Map: A site plan shall be provided by the promoter/engager, giving entrance and fast-track coded exit sign(s) to assist performers in finding the location of the engagement. There should be separate fast-track exit(s) or priority exit(s) for performers in order for them to leave the venue before the audience.

2. Parking Facilities: Parking for performers shall be separate from public car parking and as close to the stage as practicable.

3. Access to Stage: There shall be at least 2 Access points for performers to approach the stage. At all times access from the car park to the stage area and from ground level to the stage itself should be safe and well lit with non-slip surfaces and hand rails on all ramps/steps.

4. Changing/Warm-up facilities:

Shall be:

- Weather proof
- Well lit and secure enough to be able to leave instruments and personal clothing

And shall have:

- Sufficient chairs, tables and clothes rails and with floor covering.
- Separate changing facilities for both male and female performers

Insurance for the protection of instruments and performers on site is the responsibility of the promoter/engager

5. Toilets: There shall be separate male and Female toilets with at least one toilet/wash station with running hot and cold water per ten men/women for the exclusive use of performers/crew *to be kept in a clean and orderly condition.*

6. Refreshments: Catering facilities for the Provision of drinks and hot/cold food shall be available for performers. Drinking water to be available at all times.

7. On-stage Lighting: Shall be adequate and Tested before the rehearsal to ensure that the performer is not blinded and can see the music.

8. Lighting Levels: Lighting levels for music stands to be adequate (700 Lux)

9. Seating and Music Stands: Shall be suitable for performing and sited to provide adequate space for performers. ***NB plastic stackable seats are not suitable***

10 Drops: Shall be protected by railings or battens to prevent performers falling from the platform.

11. Electrical Supply: All electrical supplies shall be safe with all cabling protected and secured.

12. Weather Protection: Protection from the sun, wind and rain for all performers shall be provided both at rehearsals and at the concert.

13. Pyrotechnics: Must be situated at a safe distance from performers so as not to exceed safe or tolerable noise levels.

14. Noise reduction: Where possible a 3 metre gap should be allowed between the front of the orchestra and PA equipment. Acoustic shields shall be available if required. Measures to reduce excessive noise levels to be used as and when necessary.

15. Fire Safety: Fire extinguishers must be readily available and appropriate.

16. First Aid: First aid facilities and competent First Aider(s) must be available.

17. Recording: There shall be clear notices in the programme and announcements over the public address system reminding the audience that it is an offence under the 1988 Copyright Designs and Patents Act to record the performance or audio or video recorders unless proper consents have been obtained in advance.

18. Audiences at Rehearsals: Audiences are not permitted during rehearsals. Where it is impossible to prohibit members of the public from attending a rehearsal, i.e. as a result of right of way or other public access at the venue, then they should be kept at a distance of not less than 150 metres from the front of the stage or a screen provided.

19. A Risk Assessment: shall be carried out of all areas of concern to performers.

