

Musician's Code of Ethics

Values

♪ Montreal New Horizons Band encourages collaboration and support amongst its members. Our team maintains a positive and constructive attitude at all times, and the same is expected from all musicians. A friendly, open and respectful working environment is essential to ensure smooth running of our activities.

♪ If for any reason, a musician disagrees with a team decision, it is the musician's responsibility to communicate (meeting, telephone or email) his or her disagreement **in private** to discuss, express a point of view and/or make proposals. Our team is happy to listen to all members' requests and find solutions to continually improve its practices.

Overall Functioning

To ensure smooth running of rehearsals, it is important that everyone be involved with:

♪ Contributing to the setup of the rehearsal room or concert hall **and** putting everything back in place after the rehearsal.

♪ Adhering to the rehearsals and intensive practice schedules, as much as possible.

♪ **Being very careful** of others' instruments and material, especially when moving around on the stage (we suggest that you place your belongings under your chair and always go behind the chairs when you need to move).

♪ Respecting the premises, i.e. emptying the valves on newspaper rather than directly on the floor, picking up waste, making sure the premises are clean when leaving the room, etc.

Rehearsals

♪ It is important to always have your scores, method book, music stand, instrument and accessories (reeds, mute, slide lubricant, etc.) with you when rehearsing.

♪ It is important to have a pencil at all times on the stand to take notes during rehearsals.

♪ It is important that when someone is speaking (whether it be the conductor, the assistant-conductor or a musician asking a question) that the whole group be attentive to avoid wasting time.

♪ It is important that musicians practice at home the elements suggested by the conductor to the best of their ability for the next rehearsal. This will ensure a constant progression for the band.

Musician's Ethics

Here are some standard conventions, common to any musical ensemble, whether amateur or professional. These conventions ensure a professional conduct in practice situations, which will then transfer over to concert situations.

♪ When the conductor signals a stop (visually or voiced), the whole orchestra must stop in a quick and reasonable fashion.

♪ When the conductor addresses the ensemble, everyone should abstain from speaking (or playing) at the same time, otherwise members sitting in the back of the room cannot hear the comments.

♪ When the musicians are playing, everyone should abstain from speaking to their neighbor (not even a whisper) because it can affect the other musicians' concentration.

♪ When the conductor points out or gestures where to start playing, the musicians must be attentive and ready to play as quickly as possible, thus avoiding having to repeat the starting point several times.

Membership

♪ Each musician must pay his/her fee or charges, according to the deadlines. If a musician fails to do so, the Montreal New Horizons Band may decide to terminate the musician's participation or charge a penalty for late payment.

♪ Each musician must complete the registration form (paper or online) and comply with the terms of payment.

Other notes of interest

♪ It is important to show consideration for the material given or loaned to the members (scores, methods and / or instrument).

♪ It is the musician's duty to print the sheet music sent by the conductor (via a link provided by email) or to make the necessary arrangement with a peer to get access to the music. The Montreal New Horizons Band is not responsible for printing the music for players.

♪ If a musician has not received the music or realizes that some parts are missing online, it is the musician's duty to **send an email to the Band** within a reasonable period of time (for example: a few days before the rehearsal and not the morning of) indicating which partitions are missing, so as to address the requests in a timely fashion.

♪ It is important to comply with the Montreal New Horizons Band dress code at official events.

♪ It is important to notify the Band by email at nhmontreal@gmail.com (or by phone / text by contacting the leader of your group) in case of extended absence.

♪ In the event of breaches of the code of ethics, the Band will apply the following disciplinary measures:
1) verbal notice; 2) written notice; 3) suspension for three rehearsals; 4) expulsion from the Band without reimbursement.