



# Membership Handbook & Agreement

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of VENTO Winds is to create and foster opportunities for dedicated and accomplished musicians from Northeast Wisconsin to experience and perform wind band repertoire of the highest quality and integrity. We will provide a rich environment for musicians and listeners, opportunities for artistic growth through creative expression, excellence in performance, community collaboration, and educational outreach.

## MEMBERSHIP TO VENTO WINDS

Membership to VENTO Winds requires an audition and is determined by the Music Director and Section Leader. The Music Director may make a recommendation for an interested musician to be exempt from an audition that will be determined by the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

## OPEN AUDITIONS AND VACANCIES

Open Auditions are held annually, usually in late summer, and ANY musician from Northeast Wisconsin who is interested and committed to rehearsing and performing with VENTO Winds is eligible for an Open Audition.

Open Auditions for woodwind instruments will occur during odd years (2017, 2019, 2021...) and Open Auditions for brass and percussion instruments will occur during even years (2018, 2020, 2022...).

Musicians should contact VENTO Winds ([ventowindswi@gmail.com](mailto:ventowindswi@gmail.com)) or log onto [ventowinds.org/auditions](http://ventowinds.org/auditions) for full information about Open Auditions and becoming a member of VENTO Winds.

Vacancies within specific sections will be posted on the VENTO Winds website ([ventowinds.org](http://ventowinds.org)).

Musicians interested in being placed on the Substitute Roster should contact VENTO Winds ([ventowindswi@gmail.com](mailto:ventowindswi@gmail.com)) for more information.

## ROSTER PLACEMENT AND SECTION LEADERS

Musicians who earn membership to VENTO Winds will receive a Roster Placement that is based on that musician's audition and determined by the Music Director and Section Leader.

Musicians who do not earn membership to VENTO Winds are still eligible to be added to the Substitute Roster, unless otherwise requested by the musician.

Section Leaders are selected by the Music Director and approved by the Board of Directors.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

Musicians who earn membership to VENTO Winds agree to all Responsibilities of Membership set forth in this Membership Handbook & Agreement.

## PREPAREDNESS

Members need to indicate their commitment to VENTO Winds EIGHT weeks prior to the beginning of the concert season. VENTO Winds and/or the Membership Officer, Jan Parker, will make initial contact to all members via email requesting their commitment to VENTO Winds for the upcoming season. This will allow the Membership Officer sufficient time to notify members on the Substitute Roster and/or fill vacancies within VENTO Winds.

## MUSIC AND PART ASSIGNMENTS

Members will be notified via email of the date and location when folders and music will become available. Members are required to obtain all rehearsal materials and music prior to the first rehearsal of each concert cycle. Members are expected to be prepared for the first and every rehearsal. Members are required to return folders and music to the Section Leader at the end of each concert.

Part assignments will be determined by the Music Director and/or Section Leader, based on the Audition and Roster Placement of each member.

## ATTENDANCE

Members are expected to attend and be punctual to ALL rehearsals and performances.

All absences are to be reported to the Membership Officer, Jan Parker. In the case of legitimate and unavoidable conflict with a rehearsal, members should contact Jan Parker ([janparker87@gmail.com](mailto:janparker87@gmail.com)) and VENTO Winds ([ventowindswi@gmail.com](mailto:ventowindswi@gmail.com)) before the beginning of the season. In emergency situations, members should contact Jan Parker and VENTO Winds as soon as possible to provide a reason for the absence.

An absence from a rehearsal or concert without proper notification, may result in termination of membership from VENTO Winds that will be determined by the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Any member of VENTO Winds who anticipates s/he will be unable to perform at two consecutive performances is recommended to fill out a "[Leave of Absence](#)" form that will be determined by the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled or risk Termination of Membership from VENTO Winds.

## CONCERT ATTIRE

Members are required to wear Concert Black (all black) for all concerts, unless otherwise required by the Music Director.

## TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

In the case that a member fails to fulfill the Responsibilities of Membership, the Music Director and/or Section Leader may recommend termination of membership from VENTO Winds that will be determined by the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

## NON-DISCRIMINATION

In the course of fulfilling its mission, VENTO Winds shall operate without regard to race, color, religion, religious views or affiliation, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, political views or affiliation, or other factor unrelated to the support of the mission.

## MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

I understand and agree to the policies set forth in the Membership Handbook & Agreement. I understand the Responsibilities of Membership, including policies of Preparedness, Music and Part Assignments, Attendance, Leave of Absence, Concert Attire, and Termination of Membership. I understand I can ask the Membership Officer for clarification of the policies.

NAME (PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_