



St James Players

Members Guidelines

“There is no drama in theatre” – Questions or problems which need to be addressed with the producer or director, must be done so before or after rehearsal.

Be on time – That means being ready to go at the designated start time – not turning up 15 minutes late. If you are going to be late — let the director know so that they can re-plan.

Attend every rehearsal – Barring illness, you will be expected to attend each rehearsal for which you are scheduled. “Theatre is the most difficult team sport there is!” It takes the efforts of all to produce a great show. If you are ill then please let the director know and make sure you catch up on what you have missed during that rehearsal.

Pay attention – If you have down time during rehearsal, please respectfully watch your cast mates’ rehearsals. It is great to practice being a wonderful audience as well as a wonderful performer, and to show your support for others as well. If you do need to have a quick chat with another group member then please do it in the back – but don’t miss your cue or any briefing by the director.

Be respectful – Be respectful of your cast mates and the production team. Disrespect of any kind is not acceptable.

Mobile phones/iPods or other electronic devices – Everybody’s time is extremely valuable - please give your full attention during rehearsal and don’t take your mobile device onstage unless you are using it for looking at your script.

Be Comfortable – Wear comfortable and **appropriate** clothing and shoes to all rehearsals. No slippers, socks, flip flops or other items that could cause injury.

Be available for all show dates – as well as the technical and dress rehearsals. This may sound obvious, but you *must* confirm this before accepting a role, and stick to this commitment.

Before accepting a role, you must advise the director about any known dates when you will not be available for rehearsal. We can usually work around peoples’ holidays, but only if the director knows up-front.

Be clear what your role entails before you accept it – however large or small your part is you need to be prepared to do what is involved – such as slapstick, kiss someone, mime, wear crazy clothing or make up, dance, sing. If you are still keen but might need extra

support because of a particular problem or issue then do have a private word with the director.

Learn your lines! Everyone has a different approach to learning lines, and some people find it easier than others. Do not be intimidated by this – we were all terrified the first time we had to learn lines for a show! But equally, you *must* know your lines, and by the date the director sets. It is not enough to learn your lines in time for opening night – not knowing your lines during the final weeks of rehearsal affects the rest of the cast, as well as you. You should not rely on the prompt to get you through the show. Don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it.

Actors don't just act. You will be expected to give at least some assistance in other ways during the rehearsal period – helping to set up the stage at the start of the evening, and tidying away afterwards. Your help will also be needed with set-building on the occasional extra evening and distributing flyers to help drum up an audience. Do not assume that there are other people who will do this for you – we all have to chip in! Do not worry about not having any experience with set-building – there are always simple jobs like painting, and other people will help you out.

If everyone delivers on these commitments, then the show will be a great success, and just as important – entertaining for all.

Have fun – adhering to these guidelines, ensures a positive and enjoyable time for your cast and crew. We want everyone's experience in drama to be an extremely fun and memorable time.