

UPDATED MASK POLICY, MDSC 2022

After notes from some potential members and discussion with the board, here is the updated mask policy for the Mount Desert Summer Chorale for 2022. We are basing this on what experts deem safest.

- FOLLOWING CDC GUIDELINES (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>), we will base mask wearing rules on current transmission rates.

HIGH: Masks required

MEDIUM: Masks strongly recommended

LOW: Masks encouraged but optional

- WE WILL CHECK THE CDC COUNTY MAP (https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list_select_state=Maine&data-type=CommunityLevels&null=CommunityLevels&list_select_county=23009) each Monday. I'll send an email each Monday letting you know what the mask requirements will be for that week's rehearsal.
- We recommend N95 or KN95 masks for a couple of reasons:
 - they protect the wearer as well as others
 - their design makes them more comfortable for singing, because they are away from the nose and mouth.

We will have some masks available at rehearsals in case you forget.

If we were holding rehearsals now, masks would be required. I hope that by the end of June the situation will have improved in Hancock County, as transmission rates are low in most of the rest of the country. I am encouraged by the fact that the recent COVID cases I know of are quite mild. I really think this thing has crested and is finally becoming more endemic, like the flu. Vaccination is still your best protection from a serious case of COVID.