



Shepparton Theatre Arts Group Incorporated (STAG)

Membership - Your Rights and Responsibilities

You have indicated an interest in becoming a member of STAG and being involved in STAG productions and activities. This document will give you some background to STAG and information about your rights and responsibilities as a member.

STAG's Statement of Purpose

- To encourage and promote live theatre in Shepparton.
- To present musicals, plays and revues.
- To organize seminars and workshops on subjects related to any aspect or aspects of the performing arts.

Short history

STAG was formed following the amalgamation of the Shepparton Light Music Company and the Shepparton Dramatic Society on 5 March 1975. For the period of its existence STAG has delivered a variety of musicals, plays and revues and provided a platform for those interested in theatre to perform in or be part of live theatre productions. In doing so STAG has provided audiences from Shepparton and beyond with an opportunity to experience live theatre produced and performed by locals.

How you can be involved

STAG provides members with an opportunity to be involved in live theatre on stage, back stage, in production or in administration. Please let us know where your interests lie and how you would like to be involved.

Your rights as a member of STAG Incorporated

As STAG is an incorporated association under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 1912 (the Act), STAG members have rights spelt out in the Act and in STAG's Rules (the Rules). These rights include:

- to receive notice of general meetings and of proposed special resolutions
- to submit items of business for consideration at a general meeting
- to attend and be heard at general meetings
- to vote at general meetings
- to have access to the minutes of general meetings and other documents of the association
- to stand for a position on the Committee

Your responsibilities as a member of STAG

STAG can take disciplinary action against a member if it is determined that the member:

- has failed to comply with the Rules, or
- refuses to support STAG's purposes, or
- has engaged in conduct prejudicial to STAG.

The disciplinary action can include suspension or expulsion.

What STAG expects of you as a member

The committee of STAG has prepared a Code of Conduct for members. A copy is attached. Following the Code of Conduct will help ensure that STAG continues to provide a safe, welcoming and positive environment for all members.

The Committee welcomes you to a theatre company with a rich and successful past and an exciting future. The Committee looks forward to your involvement.



THE STAG CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION:

The STAG Code of Conduct defines how members, performers, production staff, volunteers and parents shall conduct themselves while involved in STAG productions and activities. By following the STAG Code of Conduct:

- STAG's good reputation will be maintained
- An open, welcoming, rewarding and safe environment will be provided for all participants in STAG productions and activities.

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Membership:

Any person wishing to participate in any STAG production or activity must be a financial member of STAG.

2. Treatment of participants and members:

STAG members shall treat other members, patrons and others involved in STAG activities:

- with courtesy and respect,
- with due sensitivity to the needs of people with different backgrounds and cultures, and
- in a way which will promote harmonious and productive relationships and a collaborative teamwork approach.

3. Auditions:

A STAG member shall be appointed by the STAG committee to oversee auditions to ensure they are conducted fairly and without discrimination or intimidation.

4. Rehearsals:

Rehearsals shall be conducted at designated venues and shall be open to members of the STAG committee. The attendance of any other visitors at rehearsals is subject to the Director's discretion and all visitors are required to comply with the Director's instructions.

5. Compliance with Discrimination Act and Sexual Discrimination Act:

All auditions, rehearsals, performances and STAG activities shall comply with the Equal Opportunity Act (Vic) and other Victorian and Commonwealth anti discrimination legislation.

6. Alcohol:

Consumption of or being under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs during rehearsals, performances, set construction, bump in and bump out is prohibited and will result in immediate suspension from the STAG activity and may be subject to the Disciplinary Action provisions contained in the STAG Rules.

7. Smoking:

Smoking is prohibited in or in the vicinity of any performance or rehearsal venue during STAG activities.

8. Photographing of STAG Members and use of images:

Participants in STAG productions may be photographed for identification purposes during auditions and for promotion of STAG activities. The photographs may be used in news reports or on the STAG website or Facebook page.

A member may object to the publication of his or her image by notifying the production manager or the secretary of STAG in writing.



9. Notification of Criminal Convictions or Charges

All applicants for membership of STAG or current members of STAG are required to notify the secretary of STAG of any prior convictions or findings of guilt for any criminal offence and of any current or pending criminal charges. An applicant's suitability for STAG membership will be determined by the STAG committee. The existence of or the failure to disclose a member's criminal history or current criminal charges may be deemed Conduct Prejudicial to the Association (STAG Rules 19 (c)) and subject to the Disciplinary Action provisions of the STAG Rules.

10. Children's participation in STAG productions or activities:

A child (being a person under the age of 18 years) shall not be permitted to be involved in any STAG production if the content is deemed by the STAG committee to be suitable for mature audiences only.

If a child is to participate in a STAG production:

- the child's parent, legal guardian or other adult with the child's parent's or legal guardian's written authorization ("an authorized person"), must accompany the child to information sessions and sign the child into audition times; and
- the child's parent or legal guardian shall provide a signed notification of any allergies, health or medical issues relating to the child and relevant to the child's participation.

The STAG committee shall nominate two STAG members, one of whom shall be present at all rehearsals or performances in which a child or children are participating, to supervise and oversee the rehearsals or performances to protect the child's or children's interests. The STAG members so nominated shall each hold a Department of Justice "Working with Children Check".

Rehearsal venues and performances shall be open to parents or guardians of children participating.

A child shall not leave a rehearsal or performance venue unless accompanied by the child's parent, legal guardian or authorized person or otherwise only in accordance with the written authority of the child's parent(s), legal guardian or authorized person.

11. Breaches of code of conduct:

Subject to the discretion of the STAG committee a breach of this Code of Conduct may result in the member being dealt with in accordance with the Disciplinary Action provisions of the STAG Rules.

12. Complaints and Grievance Procedures:

Members are referred to the STAG Rules dealing with Disciplinary Action (Division 2) and Grievance Procedure (Division 3).