



Handbell Musicians OF AMERICA

Area 5

Area 5 has updated our guidelines in response to COVID-19, with the understanding that changes may be necessary at any time leading up to an event. Come prepared with a properly fitted mask readily available for any situation. Our goal remains to balance the needs and knowledge that each person has of their own situation with the overall communal health. It is our intent to follow the relevant government guidelines in effect at the time of any scheduled event.

VACCINATIONS: Vaccinations (including the most recently available boosters) are **strongly recommended** but, at this time, proof of vaccination will not be required for attendance.

MASKS: As our art requires close accommodations, social distancing, as defined by the CDC, cannot be maintained. Therefore, masks are **strongly recommended** but in accordance with current CDC guidelines, will not be required on the ringing floor.

Note: There may be reasons for a clinician to require masks in their class. If so, it will be clearly stated. Please ensure that you have a properly fitted mask, if you want to attend that class.

You should not attend the event if you have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

If you have been exposed to a person with COVID-19, you should follow all local and state guidelines specific to your circumstances for treatment and quarantine. If a quarantine period extends past the start of our event, we ask that you do not attend. If you cannot find someone to attend the event in your place, Area 5 will refund the Area 5 registration portion of the event fees. Area 5 will not be held responsible for charges incurred by registrants when cancelling hotel reservations or other travel arrangements.

DISCLAIMER By attending/participating at this Area 5 event, you acknowledge and fully understand the nature and extent of the risk related to the COVID-19 virus and other contagious diseases and agree to attend this event at your own risk. You expressly acknowledge that COVID-19 is highly contagious, and infection can result in death, the risk of infection and transmission are higher in indoor facilities, there are no safety precautions that totally eliminate the risk of contracting COVID-19, and individuals with various underlying medical conditions may experience more severe outcomes. Participants will not hold HMA Area 5 liable in the event of illness. This document may be amended at any time leading up to an Area 5 event, based on information from local and state authorities, Centers for Disease Control and World Health Organization. Updates will be posted on the Area 5 website.