

# Birmingham Festival Choral Society

## Concert Dress

### Women

BFCS blue blouse.

Long plain black skirt, i.e. hem to be touching the top of your shoes. OR

Plain black trousers (not jeans).

*A decision on which style will be made for each concert.*

Black shoes. Black hosiery. No jewellery (to avoid distracting reflections)

Note. Each woman is loaned a blue concert blouse for her own use, at a cost of £15.

### Men

Dinner Jacket with black bow tie and plain white shirt. OR

Plain black shirt, with or without plain black tie.

*A decision on which style will be made for each concert.*

Black shoes. Black socks. Black belt with non-shiny buckle. No jewellery! (see above).

Note. Each man is loaned a BFCS-style black shirt and BFCS-style tie for his own use, at a cost of £15. Any man wearing a shirt and/or tie other than the standard BFCS issue will not be able to sing in the concert.

## Concert Etiquette

### 1. **Before you leave home.**

Check dress code for that concert!

### 2. **Offstage, before entering.**

Check that you are standing between your designated partners in the queue.

Hold music folder, spine up, in your right hand, BFCS badge showing, arm extended at the side.

### 3. **After entering.**

When you reach your seat, sit down quietly. Do not talk!

Smile and convey enjoyment to the audience.

Join the audience and clap the entrance of the Soloists and MD.

Stand on cue OR the moment the MD steps on to the podium.

### 4. **When singing.**

Hold your folder up so that you can see the MD with a glance, not needing to lift your head.

Watch the MD as often as possible while singing.

Even if you have finished singing, remain perfectly still, and especially don't turn over pages, until each number ends. Relax when the MD lowers his baton.

Whenever seated, be alert, and watch for the signal to stand.

Do not follow the score when soloists are singing or orchestra is playing.

### 5. **Interval exit.**

Hold folder in right hand as before.

### 6. **End of concert.**

Do not clap when standing.

Sit when MD and Soloists leave the platform.

Your chance to clap is when they return onstage.

Only stand again when directed by the MD, with folder in right hand as before. (If you turn to place it on your seat it will look so messy)

Remain standing after MD's final exit and await signal to file off.