Republic of Latvia

Order of the Minister for Culture No. 2.5-1-75

Adopted 26 May 2020

**Regarding the Procedures by which Social Distancing and Epidemiological Safety Measures shall be Ensured in Activities and Rehearsal Processes of Amateur Art Collectives**

*Issued pursuant to*

*Paragraph 9.11 of Cabinet Regulation No. 241 of 29 April 2003, By-law of the Ministry of Culture*

1. In accordance with Sub-paragraphs 4.5.25 and 4.5.5 of Cabinet Order No. 103 of 12 March 2020, Regarding the Declaration of Emergency Situation:

1.1. From 1 June 2020, founder of an amateur art collective (hereinafter – the founder) shall ensure the activities and rehearsal process (hereinafter – the session) of the amateur art collective (choir, dance collective, brass band, *kokle* ensemble, vocal ensemble, amateur theatre, folk group, ethnographic ensemble, folk music group (traditional band), folk applied art and craft studio or hobby group and other amateur art collective in accordance with the provisions specified by the founder) indoors and outdoors by meeting the following conditions:

1.1.1. the presence of persons with signs of respiratory infection (fever, cough, shortness of breath) is precluded. The founder has the right to prohibit persons with signs of respiratory infection from participating in the session and to invite them to leave the place of session, recommending them to go home and contact their general practitioner;

1.1.2. the presence of persons to whom self-isolation, home quarantine or strict isolation has been determined according to Sub-paragraph 4.12 of Cabinet Order No. 103 of 12 March 2020, Regarding the Declaration of Emergency Situation, is precluded. A person, upon arriving to the session, shall attest in writing that he or she is not subject to the conditions of self-isolation, quarantine or isolation;

1.1.3. during the session, the persons not involved in the course of rehearsal are precluded from the place where the session is happening;

1.1.4. the need to involve persons of risk groups in the session is being evaluated;

1.1.5. the course of the session is planned for a total of up to three hours, including breaks;

1.1.6. provision of shared place for drinks or snacks to the participants of the session is precluded.

1.2. For each session, the founder shall create a list of the persons participating in the session, including shall compile the contact information of persons in conformity with the principles determined for personal data processing, and shall store such lists for at least three weeks after the session.

1.3. The founder shall organise the place where the session is happening so that the amateur art collectives or participants of individual sessions would not simultaneously be at the place where the session is happening and also in other premises.

1.4. The founder shall ensure the control of the flow of the participants of the session at the place where the session is happening both outdoors and indoors to prevent the crowding of participants and to ensure the maintaining of two-metre distance, including:

1.4.1. to the extent possible, shall use several entrances and exits to organise flows of various participants in the session;

1.4.2. shall eliminate any obstacles that could restrict entrances or exits and impede the flow of participants;

1.4.3. shall, in visible places of the premises, place clearly legible instructions for the need to be socially responsible and to maintain a two-metre distance, to evaluate one’s health condition and to not attend the session if there are signs of respiratory infection (fever, cough, shortness of breath), and also if the person has an obligation to be in self-isolation, home quarantine or strict isolation;

1.4.4. shall ensure the maintenance of a two-metre distance between participants during the session, except for the cases referred to in Paragraph 1.5.2 of this Order, and also during breaks.

1.5. The founder determines the maximum permissible number of participants in the session, but it shall not exceed 25 members per one session, ensuring the presence of the following the premise of the session:

1.5.1. not more than one member of an amateur art collective per 4 m2 of the area of the premise, if the maintenance of two-meter distance between the participants of the session is ensured and the crowding of participants at the entrance, exit and other premises is precluded, except in the cases specified in Paragraph 1.5.2 of this Order;

1.5.2. not more than one member of a dance group, choir, vocal ensemble, folk group or ethnographic ensemble (dancer or singer) per 9 m2 of the area of the premise, if maintenance of three-meter distance between the participants of the session is ensured and the crowding of participants at the entrance, exit and other premises is precluded.

1.6. If the rehearsal process requires the presence of two participants without maintaining the distance specified in Paragraph 1.5 of this Order, the founder shall ensure that there is no direct physical contact between these persons and that the staying closer than specified in Paragraph 1.5 of this Order does not exceed 15 minutes, except for the cases where such persons live in one household.

1.7. The founder shall ensure that the participants of the session have the possibility to maintain hand hygiene (washing hands with soap under running water and hygienic means for hand drying or using hand sanitisers (70 % ethanol solution or another effective hand sanitiser)).

1.8. The founder shall place available and clearly legible information with the reminder to fulfil the requirements of hygiene at the place where the session is happening, including in bathrooms:

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| • Wash your hands often and thoroughly with water and soap, especially after visiting public spaces, before eating, before touching your face, after using the bathroom.  • If hands cannot be washed, sanitise your hands using hand sanitisers containing alcohol.  • Remember that touch screen devices, such as telephone surfaces, can be contaminated with viruses and bacteria, therefore it is necessary to clean them regularly with disinfectants containing alcohol.  • Don’t touch your face (eyes, nose, and mouth) with unwashed hands. |

1.9. The founder shall ensure that the participants in the session use only those devices, musical instruments and other equipment which is transferred for their use, and ensure their transfer from one person to another by disinfecting them in advance by appropriate means.

1.10. The founder shall minimise, to the extent possible, the use of shared surfaces, technical devices and objects. The founder shall ensure the possibility to sanitise hands before their use or to perform regular disinfection of such devices and objects (at least after each use) by using appropriate disinfectants.

1.11. The founder shall clean the premises (the principle also applies to leased premises) after each session, particularly thoroughly and regularly cleaning all shared surfaces that are touched by a large number of participants (for example, door handles, table surfaces, armrests, handrails, bathroom surfaces) by using appropriate disinfectants (the recommended disinfectants are 70 % ethanol solution or 0.5 % sodium hypochlorite solution). More detailed information on the cleaning of premises is available on the website of the Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

1.12. The founder shall, to the extent possible, perform regular ventilation of premises by opening the windows or using effective mechanical ventilation.

1.13. The founder shall evaluate the usefulness of the use of face masks and other personal protective equipment for the service staff, complying with conditions for the proper use and disposal thereof, and also the necessity to determine compliance with other additional safety measures. More detailed information on the use of face masks and other personal protective equipment is available on the website of the Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

2. The Order shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the official gazette *Latvijas Vēstnesis*.

3. This Order shall be published in the official gazette *Latvijas Vēstnesis*.

Minister for Culture N. Puntulis