

This is an executive summary. There's considerably more material than this, and supporting documents to help chapters chart their course.

## **Overall**

Aspects of EIH are very broad: Political, technical, membership, finance

Ultimate BHS goal, per their published timeline, to be achieved by 2038, which happens to be the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the Society: "Diversity of Barbershop Harmony Society reflects the diversity of society". Note the use of "Society" vs "society". *This is not just about admitting women; it's about BHS being representative of the diversity in our culture and society today.*

Original vision statement was about becoming the premier men's singing organization. Been there, done that; it's time to move on.

This is not the first time the Society has undergone a large change; our history shows repeated evolutions and this is merely another one, though obviously large.

This makes official what has already been already happening under the table in numerous chapters.

BHS has interviewed 255 chapters about this by the end of 2018. (About 670 chapters total.)

- 5% of chapters are immediately converting to mixed-only
- 20% of chapters will expand and start additional choruses
- 65% of chapters are staying all-male
- 10% of chapters in a wait-and-see state

## **Technical / Legal / Organizational**

Judging system still figuring things out, targeting 2021 for International competitions. However, districts can already do whatever they want here in terms of their own competitions. (And given what Rockford Metro told everyone in the room, looks like the district needs to be ready for this in Fall 2019.)

Chapter vs Chorus: It is no longer true that the chapter and the chorus are the same entity. The chapter is the administrative entity, the location. The chorus is the performing entity, and this distinction is now encoded into the Members' Center. [...which means: *We absolutely need to ensure that all competing members in SLC need to be listed with the chorus, not just the chapter.*]

Chorus By-Laws: Statement was made that chapters are supposed to submit their by-laws to the Society every year. This caught everyone by surprise as we have all historically operated with by-laws inflicted on us by the Society. (Mike Isely's comment).

Nobody has really figured out yet how to systematically deal with the arrangement aspects.

A big effort is starting this year by the Society to look at the BHS music library and make adjustments / improvements / additions for a wider range of voice parts in order to accommodate mixed groups.

## **Our Future**

It is extremely important that the entire chapter be on board with this as it ties to the very heart of our organization. This *cannot* be just a Board decision.

Note that there are a lot of significant details to be worked out when (*if!*) we initiate another chorus, including but not limited to:

- Rehearsal sharing, space / time
- Director impacts
- Competition impacts
- Music library scope expansion