

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT A.P.R.A. [Australian Performing Rights Association]

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APRA stands for the Australian Performing Right Association and represents millions of composers, lyricists and publishers world wide.

APRA's essential task is to licence the broadcast and performance of music and lyrics to users who are required, as a condition of such licence, to make payments in the form of licence fees. APRA distributes such fees (or profits remaining after administration) to its members and affiliates home and abroad.

This licensing and collection of fees by APRA has been sanctioned under the Copyright Act of 1968,. It has been determined that the playing of music for square dancing clubs, classes, lessons, demonstrations etc come under this act and so is enforceable.

To save all clubs, callers etc from having to negotiate separately with APRA, the ACF negotiated a licence agreement to cover all callers and cuers (round and clog). The ACF is authorised to negotiate the fees and is solely responsible for the collection of fees from callers and cuers and payment to APRA. The licence fee is substantially lower than what it would be if each caller negotiated his/her own.

Renewals are sent with membership invoices to all Association Members and individually to individual members each year APRIL/May. No pro-rata rates are applicable, and fees can be paid at any time, however changes to our schedule are sent to APRA every 3 months and if not paid by the due date, you could be without a licence for 3 months.

WHO HAS TO PAY?

The law tells us that all Callers/Cuers who conduct dances and/or classes as well as those who use tapes and records.

DOES THE ACF ENFORCE THIS?

No. We provide a service to those who feel that they need to be covered to operate "within the law".

DO YOU HAVE TO BE AN ACF MEMBER?

No. The ACF is obliged and has agreed to offer the licence to **ALL** callers and cuers.

HOW DOES THE ACF COVER COSTS?

A surcharge is levied, in the form of a rebate from APRA, for our administration costs.

WHAT ABOUT A LICENCE CARD?

NO licence card issued.

WHAT IF APPROACHED ABOUT AN APRA LICENCE?

If enquiries are made, firstly ask and record the name of the person making the inquiry, ask for some form of identification, and refer the enquiry to the blanket agreement between APRA and the ACF. If this is insufficient, the enquirer should be referred to the ACF Secretary. Forward the name and particulars of the enquirer to the ACF Secretary immediately in all cases.

MORE INFORMATION :

Part of the agreement provides for the ACF to act as agent for all "participants". One of the reasons for our reduced fee rates is to reduce the actual number of individuals making approaches to APRA. Do not approach APRA.

HOW DO I GET A LICENCE?

1. If you are a member of a callers association or dance association you should apply through that association, because like APRA, if we handle the licences in bulk our costs are reduced and we pass this saving on to you.
2. You can apply individually to the Secretary, ACF, Nev McLachlan PO Box 248, Buderim 4556 Phone (07) 5445 1238, or Fax (07) 5445 6742 or Email NevBevMcLachlan@bigpond.com. A surcharge applies to all individual applicants.

IF I CALL AND MY PARTNER CUES DO WE NEED SEPARATE LICENCES?

No. Licences can be in joint names in the case of a couple who call and/or cue jointly or separately. In these cases the licence can be obtained through any of the relevant caller/cuer organisations and need not be through both unless separate licences are desired.

WHAT ABOUT GUEST CALLERS, AMATEURS ETC.?

Guest Callers are covered under the caller/cuer who usually conducts the night.

DOES THE CALLER AND CLUB BOTH NEED A LICENCE?

It is not necessary for both the caller and club to hold a licence but if a club operates to tapes/records, or employs various callers, it is advisable to hold its own licence in cases where the caller may not have his/her own.

NO PROOF OF PARTICIPATION IS REQUIRED BY APRA.

APRA LICENCE NUMBER: 088212 7

Licence in the Name of: Australian Callers Federation (National)