

ONE Band F.A.Q.s

Old North End Neighborhood Band Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the sheet music so dense and hard to read?

I don't think this is so hard to read! What is the problem?

Traditional music is played from memory. The sheet music reminds you of the parts but it is not intended to be sight read at speed. Rather than print pages and pages of easy-to-read charts we decided to put all the info on single pages. Let me know if you need a different version.

Which Part Do I Play?

Whatever works for you. Some parts are easy, some are virtually unplayable on certain instruments. Take chances and stretch your abilities, but use good judgment.

Do I Improvise?

Yes, traditional and jazz musicians improvise the accompaniment and decide how to support the melody. By experimenting and listening you learn how to do this well. We also play improvised solos and improvise ornaments and variations on the melody.

Can I invite my friend to join?

Yes, absolutely. Even just to hang out.

How can I quit?

Budgeting your time is a valuable skill. Members can take time off from practices, sessions and performances if they have other commitments. We welcome folks back any time. It might seem like an awkward conversation but it is important to let the band know if you are just taking time off or leaving for good.

What are "Sessions?"

Sessions are informal musical gatherings where musicians play for their own amusement but don't mind if others listen. The audience can eat, dance or just hang out and talk respectfully. If everyone is staring at you silently it is a "Performance," not a "session."

Should I go to a performance if I don't know all of the music?

Certainly! You are welcome to join us and play the music you know and participate in other ways for the tunes you don't know. We enjoy having you there.

Do I have to pay?

We ask for a \$5-\$10 donation at all sessions and rehearsals. If you are currently a student of Brian's then you don't have to pay. Also you can do work study to pay for your participation. Ask Brian for ways you can help out and get work/study credit. Performances are free to members.

Can I suggest a song or tune?

Yes, but Brian will decide if it will work for the band. He might ask you to do some research to prove the song has a connection to Burlington.



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