

Remember to read the rest of the Band Agreement article from the Establishing Your Band series on *Musician's Notebook* here:

<http://www.musiciansnotebook.com/establishing-your-band-5/>

- Band formation
  - Name of the band
    - Who owns the name?
  - Who founded the band?
  - Purpose of the band
    - Is the band a business or a hobby?
    - Categories of compulsory meetings
      - Creative business: the business of preparing the band to perform and record its repertoire.
      - Band business: the administration of the band's business affairs
- Goals of the band
  - Build repertoire
  - Perform
  - Record
  - Market & promote
  - Ambitions
- Leadership
  - Who leads the band?
  - What are the duties of the band leader?
  - What are the authorities of the band leader?
  - What are the bounds of the band leader's authority?
  - Who is the deputy leader (will there be one)?
  - What is involved in a change of leadership?
- Exit Policy
  - What is involved in leaving the band? How does one go about it?
  - Who should be notified?
  - Policies under contract (some possibilities):
    - Do not put contracted performances in jeopardy--legal action results if this happens.
    - Help recruit and teach a replacement
    - Form a press statement in conjunction with the band
    - Policies of final payments
- Removal Policies
  - How is a band member removed from the band? Who decides?
  - Consider the same policies under contract as above.
- Rehearsals
  - Frequency of rehearsals
  - Attendance requirements
  - Consequences of consistent non-attendance
- Revenues
  - How will the following be split:

- Performance revenue
  - Licensing revenue
  - Royalties
- How will it be disseminated?
- Property of Songs
  - Who owns the songs? The band or the songwriters?
  - When a member presents a song for consideration, how does the band agree whether to use it or not?
  - What constitutes a complete song for:
    - Recording purposes
    - Performance purposes
  - Only the songwriter(s) should be able to sign over (time-limited) rights to record companies and/or publishers
- Behavior
  - The code of behavior really differs from band to band. For instance, we amended our Band Agreement to cover racist and sexist slurs after one band member consistently made them against our lead singer at the time.
- Spokespersons and Band Communications
  - Who can speak on behalf of the band? When? When can't they?
  - What about privacy and private lives?
  - What about problems in the band?

Thanks for downloading the Band Agreement Outline, and I hope we'll be seeing you again at [Musician's Notebook](#).

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