



AUSTRALIAN  
CALLERS  
FEDERATION

SECRETARY  
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10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## IMPORTANT ONEMUSIC LICENCE INFORMATION

### All State ACF Coordinators

#### Hello all

The information below is important and it is requested that you communicate it to all callers in your state, whether they are members of your state organisation or not.

The ACF and associated groups have operated a music licence for several decades under the auspices of APRA at a cost of up to \$65.00 pa per member. Over the years little has changed with the exception of slight price increases. This licence was negotiated taking into account the uniqueness of our music uses and the use of labels and artists not covered under the licencing body.

In 2017 the ACF along with many other organisations were informed that changes were in the wind and that a new business to be known as OneMusic would come into operation and issue all licenses previously known as APRA, AMCOS or PPCA. Since 2017 the ACF Executive have been negotiating for a new licence agreement to meet our needs. Initially the licence offered indicated that the annual cost per caller would increase to almost \$200.00 pa. Since this time a lot of written negotiation has been undertaken and late last year a video conference with the CEO of OneMusic, the Manager of OneMusic, Howard Cockburn, ACF Chairman and myself as ACF Secretary was held during which we pointed out the uniqueness of our activity and that we really didn't fall into the normal music licence arrangement. We had the opportunity to point out that much of our music used was under labels that fell outside One Music licences and as such we should have a different arrangement for our licence. The result of the negotiations was that we were offered a licence under the Community Groups licence which it was felt was better aligned with our organisation. The annual cost for this is \$91.62 inc GST. **This licence allows us to use all square dance label music and, as confirmed in a recent communication, any music that is represented by OneMusic Australia is covered under the agreement.**

The new licence will come into effect as from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 and the ACF will transition all current members and groups under the old APRA arrangement to the new OneMusic licence as from this date, unless advised otherwise by any individual who does not wish to hold this licence.

Over the period of the Pandemic we have been allowed some rebates which the ACF Board have considered and as such the following will be the fees as from the renewal period in 2021. The ACF will pay the full \$91.62 in February for all members to cover the period 1/2/2021 – 31/1/2022. This will allow the rebates to be effectively used for each member and for the financial implications of increases to be gradual over a period of 5 years renewal periods.

As from the 2021 renewal period the following will be ACF OneMusic fees, pending any large OneMusic increases which may necessitate an adjustment.

\$75 for 2021-2022  
\$80 for 2022 – 2023  
\$85 for 2023 -2024  
\$90 for 2024 - 2025  
\$95 for 2025 – 2026

The topic of large events and special licence requirements were also discussed during the video conference. It was pointed out the entertainment at these events is delivered by members who already have the required licence for music use. This was accepted as historically the way we have operated and no further action has been forthcoming on this as it seemed acceptable to OneMusic.

So in summary:

Nothing has really changed to the licence arrangements we have held under the APRA licence. The fee has been increased but will be gradually passed on to members over a period of five years.

I trust this will alleviate any concerns your members may have had and they can remain assured that they can continue using the music they have used in the past under the new licence arrangements as from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021.

Best wishes to all and I hope you all get to calling and entertaining at your clubs very soon.

Yours sincerely

**AUSTRALIAN CALLERS FEDERATION**



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Greg Fawell  
Secretary