**PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL SEATING POLICY**

Members of the President’s Council (PC) will be seated in the VIP seating area at the Society’s International and Midwinter conventions based on the level of giving and seniority in the PC, which are determined by:

1. The amount of the annual gift over the 12-month period prior to a convention, and
2. The date of entry (DOE) into the President’s Council.

VIP seating will be assigned 6-8 weeks before a convention, and PC members must purchase specially marked VIP registrations through the Society to be placed in the VIP seating area.

Should a PC member drop his/her membership and later rejoin, the DOE will be adjusted to reflect the number of years active, not including inactive year(s). If the reinstating member chooses to donate what would have been due during his/her absence, the DOE will remain unchanged upon reinstatement.

All PC memberships must be current at the time of the convention to be seated in the VIP area. Members who purchase VIP registrations and subsequently lapse or drop in their membership prior to the convention will be automatically reassigned outside of the VIP area unless they renew their membership. If somebody purchases a VIP registration but is not an active President’s Council member or an official Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) VIP, they will be automatically reassigned a seat outside of the VIP area 6-8 weeks before a convention.

Following the VIP policy as prepared by the CEO of BHS, PC members will be interspersed in the VIP area with official BHS VIPs as determined by the BHS CEO and staff.

PC VIP seats will be assigned in the following order:

1. Chairmen ($25,000 or more in annual giving, maximum 10 VIP seats): Charter members first, followed by all others based on DOE
2. Directors ($10,000-$24,999 in annual giving, maximum 8 VIP seats): Charter members first, followed by all others based on DOE
3. Advisors ($5,000-$9,999 in annual giving, maximum 6 VIP seats): Charter members first, followed by all others based on DOE
4. Counselors ($2,500-$4,999 in annual giving, maximum 4 VIP seats): Charter members first, followed by all others based on DOE
5. Partners ($1,000-$2,499 in annual giving, maximum 2 VIP seats): Charter members first, followed by all others based on DOE

*The number of VIP seats per PC member cannot be adjusted — no exceptions.*
Should a PC member decide to advance his/her membership to a higher level, his/her ranking in the new level will be based on the original DOE; e.g., if a charter member in the Partner level advances to Advisor, he/she is treated as a charter member at the new level based on the original DOE. The same is true if a PC member decreases a level.

Should a member choose to request special seating preference within the VIP seating area, his/her request will be granted whenever possible using the following guidelines:

1. PC members may invite guests to sit with them but may not reassign their own seats based on their standing as a PC member entirely for a guest’s use. If a PC member does not attend a convention, he/she may not “use” his/her seats for a guest’s use.
2. PC members may request to sit with other PC members. If the total size of the party is equal to or less than the higher member’s allotted seats, the party will be seated according to the higher level. If the total size of the party is more than the higher member’s allotted seats, the parties will be combined and seated at the lower member’s level. For example:
   a. If an Advisor and a Partner request to sit together and the total party is five tickets, the whole party will be seated together at the Advisor (maximum 6 seats) member’s level.
   b. If an Advisor (maximum 6 seats) and a Partner (maximum 2 seats) request to sit together and the total party is eight tickets, the whole party will be seated together at the Partner member’s level.
3. Handicapped seating will be offered upon request according to the policies of the venue. Please note ADA seating varies from venue to venue and may be outside the VIP seating area.

New PC members who join after they have already purchased non-VIP convention registrations may exchange their registrations for VIP registrations at no additional cost by emailing donorcenter@harmonyfoundation.org.

PC members who wish to invite non-PC members as guests to their party may do so according to the guidelines above. If the guest has already purchased an event registration, he/she may exchange their registrations for VIP registrations at no additional cost by emailing donorcenter@harmonyfoundation.org. Any non-VIP registrations must be exchanged in order to be assigned a seat in the VIP seating area.

Ensembles of Excellence will be seated together with a maximum of eight seats.

The above seating policies apply to those in a convention’s seating pool by the time seats are assigned 6-8 weeks prior to a convention. Specific deadlines will be announced prior to each convention. VIP registrations purchased after a convention’s deadline will be placed in the VIP seating area in the best available seat.
PC members who also qualify as official BHS VIPs will have his/her maximum number of seats combined and seated at the higher level taking into account the guidelines for both HFI’s and BHS’s VIP seating tiers.

Any questions regarding this policy may be forwarded to donorcenter@harmonyfoundation.org.