

Actor's Equity Association Rules

Section 58

ACTOR'S EQUITY ASSOCIATION RULES

SECTION 58

SAFE AND SANITARY CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The Producer agrees to provide the Actor with safe and sanitary places of employment.

A. Audition and Rehearsal Spaces

(See also Rule 49(D) AUDITIONS, Safe and Sanitary Conditions and Rule 49(E)(5), Equal Employment Opportunity Provisions.)

The Producer agrees not to audition or rehearse in any space that has not been previously inspected and approved by a Representative of Actors' Equity.

- (1) Audition Space criteria shall include a safe, secure waiting area that is separate from the audition area and large enough to accommodate seats for a number of performers.
- (2) Audition and Rehearsal Spaces shall include:
 - (a) Heat and air conditioning as necessary.
 - (b) One private toilet for each sex.
 - (c) Adequate wash basins with adequate hot and cold water.
 - (d) Proper ventilation.
 - (e) Touch-tone pay phone. (Non-touch-tone telephones already in place on November 2, 1997 will be grandfathered under this rule).
 - (f) For Chorus auditions, Producer shall use best efforts to provide separate changing facilities (not lavatories) for dancers when both male and female dancers are called to dance.
 - (g) For dance auditions and rehearsals: sprung dance floor.

- (h) Water fountain or bottled water with clean cups.

B. Performance Spaces

- (1) Minimum sanitary shall be:
 - (a) One dressing room for men.
 - (b) One dressing room for women.
 - (c) One private toilet for each sex.
 - (d) Adequate wash basins with adequate hot and cold water, not custodial sinks.
 - (e) In any production which has dancers, requires nudity or the use of body make-up, showers separate from other sanitary facilities must be provided. All theatres built after 1970 or renovated after November 2, 1997, must have showers and all showers must have hot and cold running water.
 - (f) 30 inches of dressing table space with mirrors near for each Actor.
 - (g) All dressing rooms will be air-conditioned. (See(C)(1) below.)
 - (h) Bottled water or a water cooler with a purifier shall be required backstage and in the rehearsal area. The Producer agrees to provide clean cups.
 - (i) A pay touch-tone telephone (excepting telephones installed as of November 2, 1997) shall be provided backstage for Actors' usage.
 - (j) Use of fluorescent lights for make-up purposes is prohibited unless the fluorescent lighting is specifically warranted by the manufacturer to be for theatrical make-up purposes.
 - (k) All Stage Managers' booths shall be air-conditioned as necessary, or heated when necessary and where conditions allow for separate heating. Heating of Stage Managers' booths may be accomplished by means of a space heater, provided that there is room and the space heater would not present a safety hazard.

- (l) The facilities listed above in (a) through (j) must be separate from audience facilities and easily accessible to the cast at all time.
- (2) It is the intention of the Parties that modifications to the provisions of Rule 58(B) may only be for theatres which were built prior to December 17, 1970, which theatres must have the following minimum sanitary facilities:
- (a) One dressing room for women.
 - (b) One dressing room for men.
 - (c) One toilet.
 - (d) Wash basins with hot and cold running water.
 - (e) 30 inches of dressing table space for each Actor.
 - (f) Producer shall ensure that the dressing rooms are equipped with a working air conditioner, if feasible, or a working fan.
 - (g) Where possible, the Stage Manager's Booth must be well ventilated and equipped with a working air conditioner, if feasible, or a working fan.
 - (h) The facilities list above in (a) through (e) must be separate from audience facilities and easily accessible to the cast at all times.

Disputes over the implementation of this Section (B) shall be resolved by a Joint Equity-League Committee, which committee shall have the power to restrict the use of such theatre (i.e., dramatic productions only, size of cast, etc.)

(C) Dressing Rooms

- (1) All dressing rooms must be properly heated in cold weather and shall be properly ventilated in warm weather. Each dressing room must be equipped with at least one fan, in a theatre governed under Rule 58(B)(2), or with an air conditioning system, air cooling system, or some similar type of mechanical device as per 58(B)(1), maintained in good working condition, to insure proper ventilation and the circulation of air.

- (2) Should the Producer fail to take steps to provide adequate mechanical devices within 48 hours of notification from Equity, the Actor, Equity consenting, shall not be required to remain at the theatre. Producer shall use best efforts to supply these devices immediately upon notification from Equity.
- (3) Ventilation of dressing rooms shall meet the standards set by the municipal health codes.
- (4) All dressing rooms shall have adequate lights, mirrors at least one foot by two feet in dimension, shelves and wardrobe hooks for Actors' make-up and dressing equipment, and clothing racks or their equivalent with hangers for the Actors' personal clothes. Floors shall be washed or vacuumed at least once each week, and dressing rooms and wash rooms cleaned at least once each working day. (See Rule 58(B)(1)(f) and 58(B)(2)(e).)
- (5) Should an Actor with disabilities be employed, reasonable accommodations shall be provided. Additionally, should a Stage Manager with disabilities be engaged, and the Stage Manager's booth is not accessible, Producer shall use best efforts to make an alternative space available.
- (6) All dressing rooms shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition and painted and maintained as necessary. Peeling paint and loose plaster shall be repaired upon written notification by Equity at the Producer's earliest opportunity.
- (7) Producer agrees to provide cool drinking water and clean cups backstage.
- (8) The Producer shall provide a cot backstage for any Actor who may become ill during a rehearsal or performance. When there are both male and female Actors in the cast and the only area for cots is in the dressing rooms, Producer shall provide one cot for the male Actors and one cot for the female Actors.
- (9) First Aid kits, stocked with adequate supplies, shall be available and easily accessible at all times to dressing rooms and rehearsal areas.
- (10) Each Actor shall use best efforts to keep Actor's own dressing room clean.

D. Floors, Condition of

- (1) Actors shall not be required to rehearse, audition or perform dances on concrete or marble floors or any other surfaces which Equity shall reasonably deem to be injurious or unsafe, or on wood or any other substance laid directly over such similar surfaces which does not provide air space of at least one and five-eighths inches between the concrete, or marble, or similar supporting surface and the dancing surface.
- (2) Where a portable stage is used, platforms must be securely fastened and the stage completely covered by a single deck of such material as wood or masonite. The edges of all decks must be clearly visible or, if not, guard rails fastened in order to preclude the possibility of injury. Pits not in use shall be completely covered by a non-flexible material adequately supported to prevent accident or injury.

E. Smoke and Fog Effects

Producer may not use any stage smoke or fog not approved by Equity and the League of Off-Broadway Theatres and Producers.

F. Raked Stage

Prior to the construction of any raked stage where the incline will be greater than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch per foot, the Producer shall promptly notify Equity of such plans and provide such information as Equity may reasonably request. It is understood that when a Producer is utilizing a set from a prior production, said notice may not be possible and the Producer agrees to notify Equity as soon as a determination is made that such set will be utilized.

- G. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Rules or the individual Contracts of Employment, Equity in its sole discretion shall determine whether the aforementioned Safe and Sanitary Conditions are being properly maintained.

- H. Producer shall post such notices as are required by the regulations of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.