Band Agreement Worksheet

Fill this in together, with every member present. Topics follow the free Arts Law band partnership checklist.

Band name	Date agreed	Review date

Members

Name	Instrument or role	Partner or paid player?	Phone or email
		[ ] Partner [ ] Paid player	
		[ ] Partner [ ] Paid player	
		[ ] Partner [ ] Paid player	
		[ ] Partner [ ] Paid player	
		[ ] Partner [ ] Paid player	

The name

Question	Our answer
Who owns the name? (all equally, the founder, other)	
Can a member who leaves use it? Can a member use it for solo work?	
Registered? [ ] Business name with ASIC [ ] Trade mark with IP Australia [ ] Not yet	

Songs and recordings

Question	Our answer
Songwriting: who counts as a writer? Do we keep a split sheet for every song?	
Do non writing members get a share of songwriting income? (Complex: get advice.)	
Who owns recordings and videos, and where does that income go first?	

Split sheet reminder: register real writer splits with APRA, not agreed income splits. Arts Law warns the second breaks APRA rules.

Gear register: band property or on loan?

Item	Paid for by	Owned by band or on loan from	Value	If someone leaves

Band Agreement Worksheet (continued)

Money, decisions, members leaving and joining, disputes and signatures.

Money

Question	Our answer
Band bank account? Who can approve payments?	
Spending limit before everyone must agree: $	
Gig money: [ ] equal after expenses [ ] kitty first: ____% [ ] set fee per player	
When are members paid? Who keeps the records?	

Decisions

Decision	Everyone	Majority	Leader or other
Band name and new members	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Contracts, releases, touring	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Spending over the limit	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Setlists, gigs to accept, day to day	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Side projects	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

What happens when a band member leaves

Question	Our answer
Notice period (weeks) and gigs already booked	
Their share of recording income: keep, stop at a date, or stays with band?	
Band gear and kitty: kept, sold, or bought out? How is it valued?	
Debts up to their leaving date: who pays?	
Can the band ask a member to leave? How, and on what grounds?	
How does a new member join, and do they sign this?	

Unless you agree otherwise, Arts Law says a leaving member keeps their rights and income in songs they wrote and can keep performing the band's songs.

Disputes

If we cannot agree: [ ] meeting first [ ] independent mediator [ ] trusted outside person Other: _____

Signatures

Member	Signature	Date

This worksheet is not a deed or a legal contract. Arts Law says a band partnership agreement is more likely to be binding as a deed with witnessed signatures. When you release music, tour, sign a contract or register a trade mark, use the Arts Law Band Partnership Deed or see a lawyer.