

# Rehearsal Tip Sheet

This document should help with planning for your rehearsal



# Things to think about



You are one step closer to your big day and the rehearsal is a chance to get all those nerves out of the way by working through how the ceremony will work. Practice makes perfect and will also put you at ease.

This also gives you a good chance to introduce your wedding party and key people who hold various roles to the venue so don't forget to invite them along. (see next page of who these people are)

This information sheet will prompt you with key things you should organise or think about prior to your rehearsal so that you can make good use of the hour that you are at the venue.

# People to Organise

We recommend that the the following people must attend the rehearsal



- **Celebrant** - They will typically run the rehearsal for you and show you where you will stand, take you through the flow of the ceremony etc.
- **MC** - They are a key person in the 'set up' of the ceremony by moving guests into position and, notifying the ushers and couple to get into position.
- **Allocated Music Person** - This gives them a chance to know when to push play for the music.
- **Bridal Party** - Especially the bridal party that will walk down the aisle so they can practice the spacing along with the music (ie Bridesmaids). Groomsman are not as required to be there as they are asked to typically 'stand at the front' and that is their job done.



Others that might be handy to invite:



- **Ushers** - so that they are familiar with the venue and where they will be standing
- **Photographer/Videographer** - This gives your vendor an opportunity to see the venue and understand how the ceremony will run so they are prepared with certain shots

# On Arrival at the Rehearsal



## STEP ONE:

Drop your 'items' to the venue before the rehearsal starts and check in with Justin or Tracey

## STEP TWO:

Show your party around the venue so they become familiar

## STEP THREE:

Head to the Ceremony location to begin your rehearsal. This will be where the celebrant can guide you through this process

## STEP FOUR:

If your MC has attended the rehearsal please have them come and see Justin Button (0274 798 107) prior to their departure so they can get their MC Briefing. It is our preference to do this at rehearsal rather than on the day as it is less stress for the MC.

## STEP FIVE:

As the hour finishes you do not need to 'check out' but just quietly exit the venue with your guests

# Ceremony Start



As you rehearse we recommend you practice the following for the start of the ceremony:

1. Two Ushers stand in position at the entrance path from the carpark
2. MC stands down in the Garden Bar (Weather Permitting), greeting the guests and keeping an eye on the time.
3. 10 minutes before the ceremony start time the MC notifies the Ushers that the guests will be moving to the ceremony site in a few minutes. At this point one of the ushers should move to the ceremony site and greet guests as they take a seat (if in forest, Usher can hand out cushions as guests enter)
4. Once Usher is in place at the ceremony site the MC lets guests know to move to the ceremony site. Please note the Forest Ceremony does take longer to move the guests into position so please be aware of that.
5. Once guests are in position, MC should contact the remaining usher at the entrance to do a final sweep of the carpark and send any late guests directly to the site. Then the final Usher now moves to the ceremony site.
6. MC lets Groom know that the Guests are in position and they can now take position at the front of the isle along with the groomsman (May not apply for all ceremonies)
7. MC lets Bride and Bridesmaids know to start to travel to the 'start' position before the isle walk (ie, in the forest by the round about or next to the bar down in the garden)
8. Once Bridal Party in position, MC lets the allocated music person and the celebrant know that the Ceremony can begin.

# Ceremony Exit



If you have chosen the Forest Ceremony spot, it is important to practice how you exit the ceremony and where to go next. Couple of ideas are listed below for the various ceremony locations:

## **Option A (Petal Throw Set Up)**

1. Walk down the isle and up to the 'round about' with just the two of you, or your bridal party and wait there.
2. Your guests exit down to the bottom by the chapel so you can do the 'petal throw' (if that is in your plan) and then the group photo. Please note that we do not allow for petals to be thrown in the forest ceremony location.
3. The Bridal Party then exits the bush walk for the petal throw and the photo

## **Option B (No Petal Throw)**

1. Walk down the isle and straight down to the bottom
2. Have your guests follow you out ready for the group photo

*PLEASE NOTE: if you have chosen the pond or the chapel there is not as much planning required to move the guests from the ceremony to the next step.*

# Final Tips



- Rehearsal is for an hour. Please do not go over this time allocation as it is likely we have other rehearsal or weddings on that day. You may be charged if you go over your time allocation.
- If you have moved any furniture or items during your rehearsal please be respectful and move them back. It is highly likely we have set up for a wedding and we don't want to set things up again. (I.e chairs being moved, we then have to figure out where those chairs were based on the up-coming weddings)
- We do not set up the music for the rehearsal so suggest you bring a portable speaker to practice the timing of the walk
- Think about which side each of you will be standing on. You don't need to follow tradition if you photograph better on one side :)
- Use your bouquet to lay on the registry table so that when you sign the legal documents, you can get a nice photo of the bouquet (saves someone else holding it also). As you complete the walk down the aisle, hand bouquet to Maid of Honor and have them place the bouquet on table.
- During the signing of the legal documents, the Bridal Party could hand out petals for the petal throw as that gives them something to do while the document is being signed. (only if ceremony is down on the grass/not applicable in forest)