

Using PPL: how to claim for your performances

Hello everyone.

This is the PDF accompanying the two short videos on my website at www.beaschirmer.com (click the 'resources' tab). It's a quick guide to show you how to find and claim for your recordings on the myopl.ppluk.com site.

PPL's site has been improved considerably over the last year or so, but it's still a challenge to actually find the tracks you have been on.

Usually when you do a recording in a symphony orchestra the personnel list gets passed on automatically to PPL and your claim should get accepted automatically. HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT ALWAYS THE CASE. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU STILL CLAIM FOR EACH TRACK INDIVIDUALLY. Incidentally, when doing sessions you usually sign a session sheet. Again, this SHOULD get registered automatically and your claim accepted, but again, this is not always the case.

It's very important that you join PPL; the December 2015 payment was considerably bigger than previous payments, and the beauty of these royalty payments is that they run on every year, depending on AirPlay. It's not just a one-off payment, though payments will vary as those of you who already claim know.

First, let's log in to myppl. You need your email and password. If you haven't registered with PPL yet, follow the link at the bottom of the log in page.

On the next page click on 'claim a performance'.

You are now presented with the 'search repertoire' page.

This is where the tricky bit starts: finding the relevant recordings.

I am explaining the following from the position of a Halle Orchestra member:

- I have claimed for virtually ALL Halle recordings since I started working with the Halle round about 1990.
- There are a few Halle recordings that are NOT on my list, because I didn't do them.
- previous to 1990 PPL used to be PAMRA. Registration of tracks used to be by signing a piece of paper that they sent out. In the changeover to PPL virtually their whole database was lost. They then sent a list with 'The Halle's most played track' which you can download below the videos.

On with the registration business:

The main challenge is finding the right search terms to use. If you type in **Halle Orchestra** (without the ') you see about 10 different permutations of the search on the drop-down menu.

In answer to your question: yes, you need to search the ALL. And not just these, but any permutations of 'Halle', 'Elder', 'Nagano' etc. Yes, it's an absolute shambles!

Below this video you also find a download with the different search terms I found.

Please, if you find any more search terms during your registration, do pass them on, so we compile a more complete list.

Further on with the process:

- choose one of the search terms
- find & select your tracks (there's a 'select all' option above the 'select' column)
- click 'move to claims basket'
- now repeat this process with ALL search terms, for the recordings you have been on.

The whole process took me about 2 hours. It's worth it in the long term, now that they've started paying out more than £15 a shot.

Once you've moved all your tracks (that was the hard bit) to your claims basket go there for the next step. Incidentally, you can do this in stages. The tracks in your claims basket stay there for a while, though I don't know how long.

Now go to your claims basket.

- 'select all' at the top
- in 'contribution category' put 'non-featured performer'
- in 'role' put your instrument (you might have to use the 'find' button)
- in 'country of performance' put 'United Kingdom'
- now you have to 'apply' both instrument and country entry separately. The information needs to appear next to the tracks below to register, otherwise you'll get an 'incomplete' warning next to that track.
- click to accept terms and conditions
- click 'submit completed claims'
- a pop up appears to inform you that verification of you playing on a track might be required. This usually only happens if you've worked with a pop group or similar. Click on it to double check anyway. All your Halle tracks should be auto-accepted.
- you're done.
- click on 'view closed claims' from the 'claims' drop down menu at the top of the page. All your submitted tracks should be listed here. There might be quite a few pages.
- any claims that have accidentally submitted more than once will either show up as unprocessed in you claims basket or will have been filtered out automatically.

Now wait for your next payment from PPL. I would be very interested in hearing if you have been successful in securing payment.

www.beaschirmer.com