



Columbus East Color Guard Handbook 2018-2019

WWW.COLUMBUSEASTGUARD.COM

Columbus.East.Guard@gmail.com

Color Guard is a year long activity. It is broken down into 2 seasons:

MARCHING BAND SEASON: (May thru November)

Columbus East color guard is a performance group that accompanies the marching band during the competitive band season by being the “visual music”. We spin flags, rifles, sabers, and dance to interpret the music and drill formations on the football field during competitions and half time at football games. Members must sign up for the "Brigade" class when registering for classes.

In addition, registration into the Brigade class is mandatory.

42214 DANCE PERFORMANCE I – BRIGADE (4146) Open to grades 9-12 1 semester, 1 credit per semester Approximate Fee: \$30.00 Meets requirements of: AHD, THD, CORE 40 Prerequisite: Participation in marching band Students continue exploration of elements of technique in Ballet and Jazz. They will continue to demonstrate understanding of style and terminology using simple to complex dance patterns. Students in this course implement various types of guard props including flags, wooden rifles and sabers. Course work includes summer marching band camp and contests + The nature of this course allows for successive semesters of instruction.

WINTER GUARD SEASON: (November thru April)

The second half of the school year we participate in an activity called “Winter Guard” which takes all the skills we begin to learn over the fall and takes it to the next level.

Winter Guard is for the color guard only and doesn't involve the band, which makes it twice as fun for the girls to shine in their own spotlight. The winter guard season is the pinnacle of our year giving the girls the opportunity to compete on a global level as opposed to just the national level during band season. We perform indoors to recorded music. Members must sign up for the "Winter Guard" class when registering for classes.

If you are not a member of the Fall Guard, then you can not participate in Winter Guard. However, being in Fall Guard doesn't mean you have to be in Winter Guard. Some exceptions may be made at the staff/directors discretion, but only during rare circumstances.

Also, registration in the Winter Guard Class is mandatory.

42211 DANCE PERFORMANCE I - WINTER GUARD (4146) Open to grades 9-12 1 semester, 1 credit per semester Approximate Fee: \$30.00 Meets requirements of: AHD, THD, CORE 40 Prerequisite: Audition required Students continue exploration of elements of technique in Ballet and Jazz. They will continue to demonstrate understanding of style and terminology using simple to complex dance patterns. Students in this course implement various types of guard props including flags, wooden rifles and sabers. Students participate in various competitions during the winter guard season. + The nature of this course allows for successive semesters of instruction.

Members of the color guard will not only be taught all of the physical skills of color guard, they will also learn valuable lessons that they can take with them for the rest of their lives. Some of these lessons include: self-esteem, discipline, team building, responsibility, hard work, self-confidence, and having fun by applying these things for the common goal of being "GREAT" at something!!!

Below are some expected guidelines for being a member of the color guard. If you have any questions beyond this information please feel free to contact me at any time.

COMMUNICATION

All members or parents, must have a FaceBook account. Communication comes from 2 FaceBook Groups. One is a public group that all of our fans and followers can join to get the latest information, see videos, or find the latest contest results. Just search for Columbus East Color Guard. It is the group, not the person. If you need help, let me know. There is also a link on our website www.columbuseastcolorguard.com.

The second one is a private group that ONLY parents and members can join. After making the group, you will be friended by the director, captain or another member and they will request you be added to the private group. We chat, discuss, and have fun in this chat room, but we do keep it professional. It's also a great place to ask questions and get immediate answers.

A lot of information will also be available on the website, www.columbuseastguard.com. There you will find the conflict form to fill out if rehearsals must be missed.

FEES

All fees paid to student accounts and all fundraiser money earned are non refundable. Including uniform fees, band camp fees, shoes, gloves, and any equipment that members purchase themselves. In addition, if a member quits after uniforms have been ordered, that member is responsible for the cost of the uniform. Money raised through fundraisers, or paid directly to accounts is non transferable or refundable.

REHEARSALS

1. We ask that the members arrive at rehearsal 10-15 minutes early. This allows the members enough time to prepare for rehearsal, get equipment, clear rehearsal areas, rehearse any parts they need extra work on, etc... Please plan your rides accordingly.

2. If a member knows they will have conflicts with a certain rehearsal or competition ahead of time they are asked to have their parents fill out a conflict form at www.columbuseastguard.com ... well BEFORE the day that will be missed. The only excused day of conflict forms will be for sickness where you are not at school that day.

3. If a member has a last minute problem(i.e.illness,family emergency, etc...) that would prevent attendance at rehearsal, they are asked to fill out a conflict form ASAP and either call, FaceBook Message, or text Mr West @ 317.997.7778

4. Attendance at EVERY rehearsal is crucial to our success. Please try to plan around rehearsals, including family vacations, parties, etc...all of us have to be here, just like you do. Excuses will not be tolerated, and lying is never a fashionable trait to have.

5. If a student is injured or sick, they are encouraged to come to rehearsal even if they cannot physically participate at 100% -unless they are contagious/running a fever. They can then hear and watch what is going on at rehearsal so they don't fall too far behind. Students must be in the last 2 mods of school to attend any extra curricular activity.

6. IF a student must miss a rehearsal they are required to learn and rehearse all missed information BEFORE the next rehearsal. They need to contact a veteran member of the color guard or make plans with a Staff Member. This is their responsibility, showing up unprepared is a waste of time for staff, students, and rehearsal time.

7. During weeks of major competitions, such as a prelims, WGI, Finals, Semi State, it is unacceptable to miss any rehearsal for ANY reason that week.

8. There is NO gum chewing at rehearsals. PERIOD

Vacations

Everyone loves vacations, we all need them. Everyone is required to be at Band Camp in July. and during fall break, we still rehearse because our final competition is usually during fall break.

It is necessary to take vacations BEFORE Band Camp, or after our finals competitions. Also, during Spring Break, is the Winter Guard finals season. Please check the schedule at www.columbuseastguard.com or www.columbuseastbandboosters.org for the calendar of events and plan accordingly. If you can not find the information you are needing, please ask.

Grades

Students need to keep up their grades while participating in any extra curricular activity. Most students find that because they have to manage their time so well that their grades are higher during the seasons then in the off-season.

A student must be in GOOD STANDING according to the student handbook:

A student is considered "in good standing" if:

i) The student has passed six subjects the previous grading period. Semester grades take precedence.

- ii) The student also must not be currently suspended, expelled, or on a behavior contract by the Deans Office.
- iii) The student must not be in violation of the BCSC SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY for ATHLETIC, EXTRA-CURRICULAR, AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.
- iv) The student's conduct does not create a disruption in the discipline, good order, moral, or educational environment of Columbus East High School as defined by the school administration.
- v) The student's conduct does not reflect discredit upon Columbus East High School.

School work, big tests, papers due, etc...are not excuses to miss rehearsal. Please manage your time wisely and plan ahead. All the band students are in the same position here and find a way to balance all of their responsibilities. When rehearsals don't start until 5pm, that's a great time to stay after school and work on homework/study/projects.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory. Missing rehearsal just puts us behind, especially you, because now you have to find time to learn what you missed and we all know that rarely will happen before the next rehearsal. Work isn't a reason to miss. Rehearsal Schedules are out months in advance. Work around our schedule, it's not a surprise.

Attendance - Fall Guard

The schedule is made MONTHS in advance. Please consult this when making vacation plans, or doctor appointments or getting a job. We can be flexible with vacations, but within reason.

You must not miss more than 3 rehearsals from May to Band Camp in July. Those with more than 2 absences will have an alternate position for the second song of the show.

Band Camp is NOT optional. For any position, you MUST be at Band Camp, all week, no exceptions. Make dentist appointments and doctor appointments another week. No one should leave band camp for any reason.

To ensure a spot in the third song of the show, you must not miss more than 2 rehearsals from the end of Band Camp to the end of August.

At the end of August, no more than 2 rehearsals should be missed. More than 2 could result in you not being asked to participate in Winter Guard, or an invitation back for the next fall.

Attendance - Winter Guard

To ensure a spot in any section of the winter guard show, you must be at all rehearsals when we learn drill. If you are not there, you will not be in that part of the show. No more than 1 rehearsal a month is acceptable to be missed and all weekend camps/rehearsals/competitions and Drill

Learning rehearsals are mandatory and may not be missed. If you do have to miss a rehearsal it is your responsibility to make up anything that you missed.

Attendance - Games/Contests/Performances

Performances are not optional. They are why we do this activity. Whether it's a game or a contest or any other type of performance. They are on the calendar well in advance so you can plan accordingly. If special circumstances come up and you need to miss a performance, it is at the directors sole discretion to allow it. Missing a performance may result in not performing at the next show/game or some other appropriate punishment. If you don't perform, you are still required to be at the performance in uniform. Missing performances also affects your grade in the Brigade Class.

Work is not an acceptable excuse for missing anything. This is a class and by law, employers must let you off for class.

Other Stuff

1. Attitudes and negativity can affect everyone. A poor attitude or constant negativity can lead to not being asked back for the next season.

2. Stealing, lying, vandalism, and disrespecting any staff member will not be tolerated. If you are caught stealing from anyone, you will be dismissed from the group and banned from ever participating in any color guard activity.

There is NO gum chewing at rehearsals.

Practicing on your own is CRUCIAL to our success as a team.

ATTIRE

1. All hair is to be pulled up OFF of your face and neck, no dangling hair. Use headbands, pins, or whatever means needed to make it happen. We need to see your faces in order to get the highest level of performance out of you. It is also cooler for you in the hot summer sun.

2. Members must wear form-fitting clothing that they can move comfortably in ...no jeans. Dance attire is recommended. Well fitting clothing is necessary. We don't want to be distracted by you adjusting your clothing constantly. Please follow all school dress codes.

3. Buy a GOOD pair of athletic shoes— Gym shoes with arch support (not flat bottomed) or dance shoes ONLY; no flip-flops, high tops, or sandals. We are practicing on a black asphalt parking lot most of the time, proper shoes help prevent injuries.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We all use social media for our personal needs. It's a great tool for businesses and organizations. It's key to communication and sharing our lives, private and public. However, representing the Columbus East Color Guard in a professional, legal, and appropriate way is MANDATORY. Posting illegal actions will result in disciplinary action through the school or even law enforcement. Any behavior that puts the school or band and guard in a negative situation will not be tolerated and result in dismissal from the group.

If you are absent from school or not attending rehearsal, do not post any social media (ie snapchat, instagram, Facebook, Twitter) showing your evening activities. Especially if you're missing rehearsal. People know people, and you may not know people know you. Plus we always find out. And remember, lying is never an attractive quality.

EQUIPMENT

1. All equipment is property of Columbus East High School, if it is lost or stolen members will be responsible for replacing it. Your name will be on your equipment, you are responsible for it. If someone takes your equipment, you are to replace it.
2. Each student is responsible for the color guard equipment they use in practice and performance. Please make sure your name is on EVERYTHING.
3. Do NOT leave equipment unattended to. Do NOT let band members play with your equipment. You aren't allowed to play with their instruments.
4. "Losing" a piece of equipment is unacceptable!!! You will be responsible for replacing the equipment if it is lost.
5. Do not SIT ON, STAND ON, THROW onto the ground or ABUSE equipment at any time.

Be Responsible!!

Things to bring to EVERY summer/winter rehearsal:

1. Water, water, water is needed for breaks, or Gatorade etc...stay away from caffeinated or carbonated drinks, they will speed up dehydration. Bring a large cooler jug to refill your water bottle with and avoid running all the way into the school. If you have a carpenters pouch, you can keep your water bottle in it and drink WHEN YOU WANT TO between runs and refill on breaks. Last year, some of us didn't get this concept.
2. Members need a "drill book" 3 X 5 notebook, to write drill coordinates down in. This year, the guard will not be marking drill with spray paint. This isn't necessary until we start to learn drill.
3. Carpenter apron with Pencils or pens for drill book.

4. Sunscreen for summer rehearsals.
5. Depending on rehearsal times...lunch/dinner or snack foods or if you get hungry easily, bring a snack.
6. ALL EQUIPMENT!!!
7. A positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

Fundraisers

This activity requires everyone to do their fairshare. This means fundraisers also. Each guard member pays \$650 for the year. This is quit a bit less than some schools who require \$1500 a season, thats \$3000 A YEAR! There are deadlines to paying certain portions or having enough money in your account to cover a payment

It is extremely important that you make your payments or fundraise to hit these payments. More will come from the boosters on this, but without money, we can't buy uniforms, pay staff, or have an amazing show.

In addition, being a member of the Varsity Guard, may incur other fees due to the extended season in WGI if we decide to go that route. Further information will be provided on this.

Guard participation is MANDATORY in all fundraisers. This can get expensive, and helping the boosters helps you. We will also have Winter Guard Only fundraisers. Everyone must participate in those too. Failure to keep up with your fair share payments and participation in fundraisers, could result in your dismissal from the guard or future membership.

There are scholarships available based on financial need. Please see Mr West or a member of the Booster Board for questions.

Captains/Section Leaders

Captains are the leading authority when staff or directors are not available. They must be treated with respect just like the staff. They are a crucial part of making sure everyone is on the same page with equipment work, drill or dance. They are in charge of maintaining attendance at all rehearsals and performances. They lead stretching and warmups when no staff is available and make sure rehearsals are ready to begin. They also maintain the Skills Board in the Guard Room and encourage members to get checked off on skills.

Captains are chosen by audition, essay, and attitude. You must complete 2 consecutive seasons in order to be considered for captain.

Audition: You must create a 2:00 minute performance of the music you choose. Use equipment you are comfortable with and that can show your skills. Use your design skills to create a performance in the 4 Winter Guard captions; Equipment, Movement, General Effect, and Design Analysis. These captions can be found in the WGI Manual on the Team Dropbox, or the Google Drive.

Essay: Please write a 2 page essay about "Why We Need a Captain, and It Should Be Me".

Attitude: This one is based on previous seasons.

Section Leaders are chosen by staff and directors at a later time, usually around band camp. There is no required membership time frame to be a section leader. They also deserve the respect that members give staff. A section leader must demonstrate proficiency of their equipment in their section (flag, rifle, sabre, dance) and be a resource for their section and set the example.

Finally...Your job is to be at all rehearsals. Perform to the best of your ability. Learn what is being taught to you. Pay attention, work hard and be responsible. So...all we ask is that you...

DO YOUR JOB.

Acknowledgement of Color Guard Handbook 2018-2019

I, _____ (student) and
 We/I, _____ (parent(s)/guardian),
 do hereby acknowledge that we have received and read
 the Columbus East Color Guard Handbook for 2018-2019
 and understand it is a privilege, not a right, to be a
 member. We also understand that it is a year long activity
 and agree to meet the financial and time obligations to
 ensure the success of the organization. I understand that
 attendance is mandatory and that all appointments, such
 as doctor, dentist, etc..., should be planned around
 rehearsal time and that the rehearsal calendar can be
 found at www.columbuseastguard.com and
www.columbuseastbandboosters.org
 Our commitment is just as important as the commitment of
 our student/guard member.

Signed:

Student _____ Date ___/___/___

Parent/Guardian _____ Date ___/___/___