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# Knoch High Colorguard Constitution



*Color Guard*

This "Colorguard Constitution" explains the policies, rules, regulations, guidelines and requirements for the Knoch High School Colorguard. It is to be followed in accordance with the Knoch High School Student Handbook and Marching Band Constitution. This extra/co-curricular activity reflects the morals and values of the school district, and members of the team assume a role of leadership setting an example of good character, enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and dedication. This responsibility rests on every member and the actions of one reflect on the entire group. Being a member of this team is an earned privilege, NOT a right. Selected members can be removed if not abiding these documents. The Colorguard Advisor, Band Director and Athletic Director reserve the right to take necessary action in order to accommodate any unanticipated circumstances.

\*This document may be revised as needed by the Colorguard Advisor, Band Director, and/or school administration without prior notice.\*

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# Eligibility

Any Knoch High School students entering grades 8-12 in the fall are eligible to participate.

All students are required to participate in the tryout process each year to be evaluated.

**\*\*NOTE:** Prior membership does NOT guarantee a position on the team.\*\*

Due to the physical nature of Colorguard, each candidate should be in good physical condition, having the ability to participate.

All students must adhere to the rules and guidelines for extracurricular/co-curricular activities as stated in the school district's current "Knoch High School Student Handbook" and the "Knoch High School Marching Band Constitution".

## Commitments

### Attendance & Tardiness

Team members are expected to abide by the following:

- Attend all rehearsals, practices, meetings and performances in their entirety.
- Arrive promptly to all rehearsals, practices, meetings and performances.
- Be dressed and prepared to practice and perform.
- Contact the Colorguard Advisor regarding ANY absences PRIOR to absence. \*See "Excused/Unexcused/Tardy" section for further information.\*

### Practices

- Mini Camp and Summer Rehearsals are typically held in the evenings during July. Its purpose is to start early on learning basics, so band camp runs smoothly and is less stressful. It may also serve as a time to learn parade routines. Attendance is mandatory, unless otherwise stated, and demerits will apply to those not in attendance.
- Band Camp is MANDATORY and students not in attendance will receive demerits per day missed. Failure to attend band camp can hinder your ability to perform and may result in

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benching/performance suspension. Band Camp is typically the first 2 weeks of August, but is scheduled according to the beginning of the school year. Dates will be chosen by the Band Director.

- After School Practice during the school year is typically every Monday from 3:00pm - 5:00pm & Wednesday from 3:00pm - 6:00pm during football season. Following Butler Band Fest, practices will be reduced to once a week, continuing every Wednesday from 3:00pm - 6:00pm during football season.

\*As necessary, the Colorguard Advisor and/or Band Director may schedule additional rehearsals. These additional rehearsals will be announced and communicated in advance, as well as any changes that may occur during the regular schedule.\*

You are a vital member of the squad and cannot be replaced. You are expected to be at every event. If you are not medically cleared to perform due to illness or injury, but are cleared to return to gym, work or school, then you are still required to attend, watch and support your team at each rehearsal and performance. Each absence will be counted as unexcused and appropriate demerits will apply. Only a doctor's note stating you cannot even attend rehearsals or performances will lessen the demerits to excused status.

## Performances

The Knoch High Marching Band performs in many parades and festivals throughout the community during the year. These performances include, but are not limited to:

- Saxonburg Fireman's Parade (third or fourth Thursday of June)
- Kennywood's Band Nights Parade (August)
- Pie Festival (August)
- Knoch High School Homecoming Parade (Thursday immediately before homecoming)
- Butler Band Festival (Wednesday evening in late September or early October)
- Butler Veteran's Day Parade (November 11th)
- Saxonburg Light Up Night Parade (Friday immediately following Thanksgiving)
- Saxonburg Memorial Day Parade (Monday of Memorial Day Weekend)

Due to the timing of the Saxonburg Fireman's Parade, incoming first year members and graduating seniors are not required to participate in the parade. Members who participate in this parade will perform the previous season's parade music, cadence, and routines.

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## Football Games

The Marching Band attends and performs at all Knoch High Varsity football games, including all away games. Transportation is provided by the school district to all members of the Marching Band. This means that everyone rides the bus to and from the games together. Bus assignments are done at the beginning of each season, and students, chaperones and staff will ride their assigned bus for the duration of the season. In the event the football team makes the playoffs, the marching season is extended, and the Marching Band will attend and perform at each playoff game.

## Indoor Basketball

The Colorguard has the opportunity to perform at one home basketball game during halftime. Related practices are mandatory to those participating. If participating, these practices and the performance will be part of the Colorguard's season.

## Auxiliary Camp

Auxiliary Camp will be held every other season during the summer, unless otherwise stated by the Colorguard Advisor. The Colorguard will learn a custom routine to be performed during the season, and 4 - 5 other routines that may be used as part of routines or as practice content. Each member will be gaining knowledge and learning skills to use in other routines during the season, as well as gaining important confidence and team bonding. Attendance is mandatory, and the cost of the camp will vary each season.

## Other Extra/Co-Curricular Activities

Colorguard members are permitted to participate in other activities in the school district. However, the following must be met:

- The other activity does NOT hinder your attendance to ANY performances & contests.
- The other activity director/coach allows you to split your practice time equally between school activities, as per the district policy.
- Colorguard members are NOT permitted to miss more than HALF of any practice for another activity, with the exception of games and performances.

These are put into place so that each Colorguard member is prepared to perform all of their show and material required, making sure they are not overwhelmed. If a member does not feel able to do so, it is best for them and the teams involved that they choose between the activities.

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## Mandatory Meetings & Practices

If a member does NOT attend these “MANDATORY” events, they will NOT be permitted to perform at the upcoming performance. These include, but are NOT limited to:

- ALL Wednesday practices before football games
- Last practice before a parade
- ANY practice/meeting deemed “mandatory” by the Colorguard Advisor and/or Band Director

The only exceptions acceptable are due to other SCHOOL APPROVED activities in which you are ACTIVELY involved.

# Financials

## Uniform

The school provides each member with a uniform & gauntlets for all regular performances. They also provide a Santa suit with a belt, hat and boot cuffs for holiday performances. However, each Colorguard member is required to purchase the following pieces as part of their uniform:

- Synthetic Hair Scrunchie and/or Hair accessory (Females Only)
- Performance Shoes
- White Long-Sleeved Under Armor Type Mock Turtleneck
- Performance Makeup (Females only)
- Colorguard Gloves (For anyone interested in doing rifle)
- Nude Dance Tights (Females only)
- Black Leggings (For Holiday Performances)
- Plain white shoes (For Holiday Performances)

## Practice Wear

Each member is required to purchase the following for pep-rallies & special events:

- Auxiliary/Team T-Shirts (typically 2)

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## Warm-Up Suit

Each member is responsible for purchasing a Colorguard Warm-Up Suit through the Colorguard Advisor. This is required to keep each member warm throughout the colder months of the football season and at special events throughout the year.

\*As necessary, the Colorguard Advisor may require additional purchases throughout the season.\*

## Fundraising

To help alleviate some of the costs associated with participating in Colorguard and Marching Band, fundraisers will be made available to everyone on the team. The Knoch High School Marching Band Booster Organization has both mandatory and voluntary fundraisers to cover the costs of the Marching Band. The Colorguard may also hold their own mandatory and voluntary fundraisers to help cover additional costs. Because the Colorguard functions as a team, it is important for every member to participate in ALL TEAM fundraisers, and parent involvement is essential to ensure success for the team and each student.

- Monies from each TEAM fundraiser will be deposited into the Colorguard Activity Fund monitored by the Colorguard Advisor and District Staff.
- Monies from each INDIVIDUAL Marching Band fundraiser will be deposited into that student's OWN band account maintained by the Band Boosters.

## Colorguard Activity Fund

Knoch High School supplies, audits and maintains an activity account for all extra/co-curricular activities. It provides means for the Colorguard Advisor to collect funds from team members and make group purchases for services and items that will be the property of each member. It also allows the group to fundraise and purchase equipment and other team necessities.

## Team Purchases & Payments

All account purchases will be discussed with the entire team before purchasing. Receipts are REQUIRED by the School District BEFORE any funds can be issued for payment. These requests must be approved and signed by both the Colorguard Advisor and Treasurer of the Colorguard Council. Individual funds CANNOT be issued to individuals without a valid receipt as proof of costs associated with the Colorguard. Any remaining funds prior to spring tryouts will be rolled over into the next year.



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## Personal/Business Checks & Donations

ALL personal, business or donation checks for or to the Colorguard MUST be written to “KNOCH HIGH SCHOOL” with “COLORGUARD” in the memo.

The Colorguard Advisor will NOT accept any checks written otherwise, as per district policy.

\*If at any time, a lack in fundraising participation becomes evident, the Colorguard Advisor reserves the right to discontinue planning of future fundraisers, resulting in ALL team members bearing ALL financial responsibilities and obligations required to participate in Colorguard on their own behalf.\*

# Expectations

## Behavior

Team members are representatives of the team and Knoch High School. As such, they assume a role of leadership and should set an example of good character, enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and dedication. Members of the Colorguard will demonstrate respect to the authority in charge of an event, adhering to all directions given by the person in charge (advisors, captains, parents, etc.). Profanity, rudeness and/or disrespect to members of the team, advisors, Knoch teams, opposing teams, fans, etc. will NOT be tolerated and failure to abide by these expectations can and will result in demerits, suspension, or dismissal from the team.

## Preparation

Members are to arrive in a timely manner to all Colorguard functions and be prepared, having EVERYTHING needed for the practice, performance, meeting, fundraiser, etc. For ALL performances, team members are to arrive COMPLETELY dressed in FULL uniform, unless otherwise stated by the Colorguard Advisor. This includes hair, make-up finished, and bags packed ready to depart for the event. Demerits will be given for those NOT prepared for ANY and ALL events.

## Performance Appearance

- Undergarments should NOT be visible at ANY time.
- Uniforms, including performance shoes, should NOT have any makeup, dirt or mud residue on them from previous performances/use.

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- If you are doing rifle, gloves are required for both practices and performances to ensure breaking them in to suit each performer.
  - No colored nail polish. Natural looking French tips may be approved at the Colorguard Advisor's discretion.
  - No jewelry is permitted, unless specified by the Colorguard Advisor. This includes any additional studs, gauges, piercings or the like.
  - Hair color for performances must not be colored as to be deemed a distraction. If a student's hair color is deemed too vibrant, or if it detracts from the squad or band's overall uniform appearance, the Colorguard Advisor and/or Band Director may ask the student to hide or temporarily alter their hair for the performance.
  - Tattoos and other body art, temporary or permanent, may not be visible at any time.

## Appropriate Dress

ALL members are expected to dress appropriately to all Colorguard/Marching Band functions, following the KHS dress code. Demerits will be applied if members do not meet the following:

Practice:

- No camis or crop tops.
- No undergarments may be seen at any time.
- No short shorts or denim shorts.
- No cut up clothes.
- No obscene or vulgar prints.

Pre-Performance Rehearsal:

- These rehearsals require ALL members to arrive dressed and ready to perform. This means no "unzipped" uniforms or missing accessories. The Pre-Game performance will immediately follow this rehearsal.

\*If at any time the Colorguard Advisor, Band Staff, or School Administration asks you to change or not to wear a certain item, do NOT wear the item again, or you will be subject to demerits and possible suspension.\*

## District Transportation

When transportation is provided to an event by the school district, ALL students are required to ride the bus to and from the event. If a student and parent have a valid reason for NOT riding the bus with the team, a signed and dated release form MUST be given to, and approved by, the Colorguard Advisor and/or Band Director 1 week BEFORE departing Knoch High School for the said event. The parent/guardian will need to see the

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Colorguard Advisor at the end of the event before the student can be dismissed to them. This is in accordance with the School District policy.

## Communication

Contact with the Colorguard Advisor can be made by the following:

- BAND app
- Written notes
- Email
- Knochhighband.com

ALL members and their parents MUST provide valid email addresses that are checked frequently. Important information from both the Colorguard Advisor and Band Boosters will be sent out regularly via email.

When instructions are given verbally at practices and performances by the Colorguard Advisor, Band Director and/or other Band Staff, it is the responsibility of every team member to be attentive to these directions and retain the information.

## Electronic Devices

Electronic devices, such as cell phones, are not permitted to be used during practices or at performances. During practices, devices should be put away in purses or bags. During performances, devices should be left at the school or on the bus. Knoch High School, the Band Staff and Volunteers are NOT responsible for lost, damaged or stolen devices. If an emergency arises at home where a student needs to be contacted during these times, parents should first contact the Colorguard Advisor, Band Director, or Band Nurse.

Students caught using an electronic device in any inappropriate way will result in the confiscation of the device, notification of school officials and parents. This may also result in dismissal from the team and Marching Band.

## Uniforms/Equipment

The School District supplies each member with uniforms and equipment that has been bought by the Colorguard Activity Fund. ALL items are property of the Colorguard and School District. ALL items are to be returned to and inspected by the Colorguard Advisor. The following uniforms and equipment will be supplied to each Colorguard member:

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- Uniform (tunic, shorts, pants, gauntlets)
  - Wind Suit Jacket & Pants
  - Clear Raincoat
  - Marching Band Garment Bag
  - Numbered Colorguard Backpack
  - Practice Flag (Pole & Silk)
  - Performance Flags, Rifles, and Sabres (kept in auxiliary room at the discretion of a Advisor)
  - Santa Suit (jacket, belt, hat, boot cuffs)

## Uniform Care

Colorguard members are responsible to clean and care for their uniform and the pieces that are issued to them. Failure to do so will result in individual demerits. Any lost or damaged items are the sole responsibility of each member. Members will reimburse the school for these lost or damaged items.

- DO NOT spray hair products, glitter, perfume, or the like ON or near the uniform! Put on your uniform AFTER using these products, or cover the uniform with a robe or shirt.
- Uniforms can be MACHINE WASHED in COLD water. Turn the sequined Tunic and Gauntlets inside out before washing. DO NOT put them in the dryer!
- Lay wet uniform on a towel and roll the uniform in the towel to remove excess water. Hang or lay flat to dry.

## Equipment

Avoid getting flags wet. If they get wet, shake the flag to get as much water off. Hang up or lay on a towel to dry completely. DO NOT put flags in the dryer! DO NOT leave flag poles and rifles outside in the rain! If poles and rifles get wet, wipe them off generously with a DRY towel, including ends and bolts. Let them air dry.

Any broken/torn equipment is to be paid for by that Colorguard member, then that item will be repaired. Below is the cost for each item:

- \$45 - Performance Silk
- \$35 - Practice Silk
- \$35 - Flag Pole
- \$75 - Rifle
- \$145 - Sabre

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\*Failure to return ALL uniforms AND equipment will result in report cards and diplomas' being withheld until a satisfactory resolution has been established with the School District.\*

## Marching Band/Colorguard Council Representatives

The Colorguard Captain(s) will serve as the Colorguard representatives in the Marching Band council along with the other Captains and Section Leaders. The Colorguard also has its own council which consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These positions are voted on at the beginning of each season by the Colorguard members. Selection to a council position does not guarantee selection to a council position in following years.

## Team Member Promotion

If a Captain or Quartermaster does not perform his/her duties, is demoted from rank, removed from the team or resigns from their position, the Colorguard Advisor reserves the right to assign another member of the squad to serve as Quartermaster or Captain, or leave the hierarchy as is.

# Attendance

## Vacations & Weddings

Every attempt is made to inform every member of dates in advance, but on occasion conflicts do arise. If a conflict arises, such as a vacation or wedding, students have the opportunity to receive fewer demerits if they submit an absentee form signed by their parents/guardians 2 weeks prior to the absence AND speak directly with the Colorguard Advisor and Band Director. As long as this criteria is met, these conflicts will be accepted as an excused absence, and the corresponding demerits will be applied for each day missed. If not, it will be considered an unexcused absence, and the corresponding demerits will be applied for each day missed.

## Funerals

Funerals are a sensitive issue for everyone and respected by ALL faculty members at Knoch High School. The following should be met in accordance to the "Knoch High School Student Handbook":

- All missed practices, meetings and performances will be excused if, and only if, the funeral and/or related activities are for an immediate family member, unless a situation is permitted by the KHS School Administration.

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- The Colorguard Advisor and Band Director MUST be made aware of the unexpected absence and a signed absentee form from a parent/guardian must be submitted to the Colorguard Advisor at the start of the following practice, meeting or performance.

## Excused Absences

Excused absences are those absences that have received prior approval (i.e., submission of an absentee form to the Colorguard Advisor at least one week prior to the scheduled absence), are due to unforeseen circumstances, or are otherwise excused in accordance with Knoch School District policies. In the event of an immediate unforeseen circumstance, the student or a parent/guardian should notify the Colorguard Advisor and Band Director as soon as possible. An absentee form must be turned in immediately following the missed practice, meeting or performance. Examples of excused absences include:

- Death in the immediate family
- Quarantine
- Family emergency
- Urgent reasons - impassable roads, fire, flood, etc.
- Immediate illness or injury of the student
  - a. Needs a parent/guardian or doctor's note
- College visits
  - a. It is strongly encouraged that college visits be scheduled to avoid missing practices, meetings or performances.

In addition to the above excused absences, absences that occur during band camp for students that are exhibitors at the Butler Farm Show will be treated as excused, provided that the student notify the Colorguard Advisor and Band Director at least two weeks in advance of the Butler Farm Show. It is highly encouraged that these students attend band camp as much as possible during the Butler Farm Show and/or communicate with Captain(s) to catch up on what the student missed during practice those days.

## Unexcused Absences

Unexcused absences are those absences that have not received prior approval and are not due to a legitimate, documented reason such as illness, family emergency, or other extenuating circumstance. Unexcused absences include the following and will not be accepted under any circumstance:

- Forgot there was a practice/meeting/performance.
- Work - DO NOT schedule work on the days the band has a practice, meeting or performance.
- Driver's exams - UNLESS scheduled by Knoch School District as part of the curriculum.

- Non-emergency medical appointments - DO NOT schedule appointments on a practice, meeting or performance day.

## Demerits/Merits

### Demerits

A demerit system is the primary discipline tool utilized by both the Colorguard and Marching Band. As stated in the “Knoch High School Marching Band Constitution”:

- If a student receives a cumulation of 3 demerits, a form will be sent home with the student for parent/guardian review and signature. The signed form must be returned to the Colorguard Advisor as acknowledgement of the student’s demerits.
- If the student receives a cumulation of 5 demerits, they will be suspended from all performances for two weeks. The student is still required to attend all rehearsals and performances, but they will not be allowed to perform.
- If a student receives a cumulation of 7 demerits, they will be dismissed from the Colorguard and Marching Band, and cannot return for the rest of the season. Their eligibility for the next season will be determined by the Colorguard Advisor and Band Director.

The Band Staff has developed a pre-established list of demerits and their standard values. Demerits can be reduced at the Colorguard Advisor or Band Director’s discretion if the issue can be corrected immediately. Note that demerits are not limited to those listed in the following table:

Infraction	Number of Demerits
<b>Practices &amp; Meetings</b>	
Up to 5 minutes late	½
5 minutes or more late/early dismissal	1
Excused Absence (w/ form turned in)	½
Excused Absence (w/o form turned in)	1
Unexcused Absence (w/ form turned in)	2 + possible performance suspension
Unexcused Absence (w/o form turned in)	3 + possible performance suspension
Missing Equipment	1 ½
Improper Attire (clothing, hair, shoes, etc.)	1
<b>Performances</b>	
Up to 5 minutes late	½
5 minutes or more late/early dismissal	2

Excused Absence (w/ form turned in)	1
Excused Absence (w/o form turned in)	1 ½
Unexcused Absence (w/ form turned in)	2 ½
Unexcused Absence (w/o form turned in)	3 ½
Missing Equipment	3 + ineligible to perform
Missing, Damaged, Unclean Uniform	3 + ineligible to perform
Inappropriate Appearance (hair, makeup undergarments, etc.)	3 + possible ineligible to perform
<b>All the Time</b>	
Unsportsmanlike Conduct	3 + performance suspension/ineligible to perform
Inappropriate Social Media Conduct	3 + performance suspension/ineligible to perform
Disrespect to Staff, Parents, etc.	4 + performance suspension/ineligible to perform
Hazing, Bullying/Cyber Bullying	4 + performance suspension/ineligible to perform
Inappropriate Conduct	3
Disruptive Behavior	1
Profanity	2
Using Electronic Devices	1
Chewing Gum	½

## Merits

Merits can be earned if the Colorguard Advisor, Band Director or any other Advisor sees a student going out of their way to help others or the program. Chaperones, Parents, and Students can recommend a student receive a merit if they observe a student going out of their way to help others, or if a student positively impacts the program. Recommendations for a merit can be communicated to the Colorguard Advisor, Band Director or any other Advisor at any time. Merits will be announced in a large group setting (i.e., whole band, auxiliary group, etc.). The publicity of the announcement is meant to highlight the individual student's contributions to the program, encourage other students to engage in similar positive behaviors and exemplify leadership qualities. Merits will counteract demerits for those members who go above and beyond expectations.

\*Leadership Demotion: Demotion will be the 1st consequence of problematic behavior. These positions were awarded as leadership positions, and students in these positions are expected to lead by example. Once demoted, members are NOT permitted to try out for another leadership position the following year.\*



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## Dismissal From Team

Any team member can be dismissed from the Colorguard by the Colorguard Advisor, Band Director, Athletic Director, and/or High School Principal. If a member has been dismissed from the team, they are NOT permitted to try out the following year. Dismissal from the Colorguard may be due to, but not limited to, the following:

- 7 or more demerits
- Poor academic performance
- Bullying or hazing
- Possession of illegal drugs or alcohol
- Fighting (physical or verbal)
- Inappropriate conduct (including but not limited to PDA & excessive language)
- Inappropriate social media conduct
- Blatant disrespect for other team members, Band Staff, District Staff or Chaperones

\*If dismissed from the team, members are REQUIRED to return ALL cleaned school and team supplied uniform and equipment pieces within 3 days of the official removal date. Any missing or damaged items will be replaced at the dismissed person's expense. Report cards and diplomas can be withheld until a solution is arranged with the school.\*

## Resignation From Team

If a member of the Colorguard decides to resign from their position on the team, they are asked to provide a resignation letter in writing to the Colorguard Advisor. They are also REQUIRED to return ALL cleaned school and team supplied uniform and equipment pieces. Any missing or damaged items will be replaced at the resigning student's expense. Report cards and diplomas can be withheld until a solution is arranged with the school. Circumstances do arise when a member needs to resign due to serious illness, injury, family trauma, relocation and other events. The Colorguard Advisor has the right to evaluate each case and reach an agreement, allowing the member to try out the following year.

\*Any student who is dismissed, or voluntarily resigns from the team/Marching Band may not return to visit other members of the team or Marching Band during practices or performances.\*

# Tryouts

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Tryouts will be held in the spring of every year to select the new Colorguard for the upcoming year.

EVERY student must participate in the tryout process each year to be evaluated accordingly.

\*NOTE: Prior membership on the Colorguard does NOT guarantee a position on the team for the following year.\*

## Sign-Ups & Pre-Tryout Meeting

Tryout sign-ups will be held during the Pre-Tryout Meeting, which will be held prior to the first Tryout Practice. All students, along with a parent/guardian, who are interested in signing up and will be in grades 8-12 for the upcoming year MUST attend the MANDATORY Pre-Tryout Meeting in order to sign-up. This meeting is intended to inform candidates and their parents/guardians of the commitments, rules and regulations, and expectations associated with being a member of the Colorguard. It will also help to answer any questions prior to committing to tryouts. Students and Parents/Guardians must also read and fill out the Tryout Information Forms, & read through the current Colorguard Constitution, which will be provided at the Pre-Tryout Meeting.

\*ALL forms MUST be filled out and signed in its entirety, and submitted to the Colorguard Advisor prior to the start of the first tryout practice.\*

## Tryout Practices

Candidates will learn and practice the material necessary for tryouts. The amount of Tryout Practices, as well as the dates and times of them, will vary each year. Equipment will be provided for each candidate and will be signed in and out EACH day, allowing for practice at home. Squad choreography will be taught by the Colorguard Advisor. ALL questions relating to choreography should be asked at practice. Questions will NOT be answered by the Advisor on the day of tryouts.

\*Any missing or damaged items will be replaced at the assigned person's expense. Report cards and diplomas can be withheld until a solution is arranged with the school.\*

## Tryout Day

Each candidate will receive a number based on their sign-in number, and will wear that number during the tryout process.

Order of Events:

- Sign-in

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- 30 minutes of individual practice
  - Final instructions
  - Squad tryouts (called by number, picked randomly)
  - Callbacks (if necessary)
  - Captain/Quartermaster tryouts
  - Captain/Quartermaster callbacks (if necessary)
  - Results posted

\*Results will be posted on the cafeteria door by tryout number only. NO scores will be included in the posting. Results will be posted numerically by tryout number, NOT by score.\*

Once the results have been posted, students will turn in all equipment, which should be neatly rolled and stacked.

\*Any missing or damaged items will be replaced at the assigned person's expense. Report cards and diplomas can be withheld until a solution is arranged with the school.\*

Once the results are posted and equipment has been turned in, students are free to leave. Members making the team will be contacted with the date and time of the Post-Tryout Meeting within the following days.

## Team Selection & Size

Team size will be determined by where the natural break in score falls, NOT based on how many members there were on the squad the prior year.

Candidates who do NOT make the Colorguard have the OPTION to join the Honorguard. This is NOT mandatory, though highly recommended for candidates interested in trying out the following year.

## Honorguard

Honorguard members march at the head of the Marching Band, and are the first members seen representing our band. Honorguard members carry the following items in Parades and Pre-Game: the banner, U.S. flag and rifles. Based on the amount of Honorguard members, this is subject to change per the Band Director.

Honorguard members also assist the Colorguard Advisor, Band Director, other Advisors and Chaperones in setting up the field for practices and performances. Members will be issued a practice flag to learn any material being taught. These students are permitted to practice with the Colorguard and learn any material,

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but they will NOT be permitted to perform. Honorguard is a great opportunity to strengthen your skills. In fact, many Colorguard members started on Honorguard.

## Tryout Scoring

Each candidate will be evaluated in the following categories:

Appearance: 5 points

Material:

- Coordination & Memorization - 10 points
- Timing & Phrasing - 15 points
- Technique - 15 points
- Recovery - 15 points

Performance:

- Eye Contact - 10 points
- Posture - 10 points
- Showmanship - 10 points
- Use of Body & Equipment - 10 points

Each candidate's score sheet will be tallied by category, and a total number of points will be determined. If there are multiple evaluators during the tryout process, the Colorguard Advisor will also tally each individual score sheet to check for correctness. The candidate's score will be the average of all the judge's scores for that candidate.

The number of judges will be determined by the Colorguard Advisor, but will not exceed 3.

## Former Member Demerits

Former members who received up to 2 demerits per incident the prior year will NOT affect their total tryout score. However, former members who received 3 or more demerits for one incident the prior year will have 2 points deducted from their total tryout score per incident.

## Access To Individual Scores

\*ALL SCORES ARE HELD CONFIDENTIAL.\*

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Access to any scores, individual or otherwise, will only be granted to the Colorguard Advisor, Band Director, Athletic Director and/or High School Principal as needed. Colorguard tryout participants and their parents/guardians may request to view THEIR score only, and the request must come in writing.

All hard copy tryout materials, including scores, will be sealed in an envelope with the flap edge signed and dated by the Colorguard Advisor after the tryout process concludes, and will be submitted to the Athletic Director. The Colorguard Advisor, in the presence of the Band Director, Athletic Director and/or High School Principal, may open the sealed envelope in the case of filling a vacant captain or team position, if scores are needed to determine the filling of such a vacancy. The tryout material will be resealed, dated, signed and an explanation for reopening will be written on the envelope each time it needs reopened.

Once members of the new squad are selected, the Band Director will require each member of the Colorguard to complete and sign an “Acknowledgement” form for the Marching Band Constitution, fill out the “Marching Band Sign-Up” form AND complete and sign the Band Nurse’s “Medical Release” form before being eligible to participate in Marching Band.

## Captain/Quartermaster

The purpose of the Captain(s) is to lead the squad, and step up when the Colorguard Advisor is not available, while the purpose of the Quartermaster is to step in as the squad leader when the Captain(s) and Colorguard Advisor are not available, or when asked. These positions are leadership positions, and are to be treated as such. To be eligible to try out for a Captain/Quartermaster position, the applicant must:

- Have completed a minimum of TWO full seasons with the Colorguard. Upperclassmen will be given first consideration for a Captain/Quartermaster position, but it is not guaranteed.
- Must perform a solo tryout at the time of Colorguard tryouts, created by them.
- Exhibit quality leadership skills, honesty, dependability, responsibility, respect of authority, respect of peers, and ability to work well in Marching Band during all times leading up to auditions. While the application and audition matter, their everyday attitude and behavior will be judged on the same level.
- All leadership positions must attend all fundraisers, practices, performances, and leadership meetings.
- All leadership positions must be in good standing academically with school administration, within the Colorguard, and within the Marching Band.

Selection:

Selection for a Captain/Quartermaster position is based on a combination of ability, skill, creativity, commitment, dedication and communication skills. The number of leaders will be based on need, and at the

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Colorguard Advisor's discretion. No more than 2 Captains and 1 Quartermaster will be chosen, regardless of team size. In order to be considered for these positions, the following must occur:

- Receive an acceptable squad tryout score to secure a position on the Colorguard.
- Demonstrate technical skills.
- Choreograph a solo tryout routine (music will be provided by the Colorguard Advisor after sign-up has been completed).
- Provide at least 2 letters of recommendation (letters from friends and/or family will not be accepted).
- Complete and sign the "Colorguard Leadership Application".
- Interview with the panel of judges.

## Solo Tryout Routine

- Candidates interested in a Captain/Quartermaster position will be provided with music via email or other electronic communication following the completion of their sign-up form. Once the Colorguard Advisor receives their sign-up form, they will be provided with the music ASAP.
- Candidates must create the routine ON THEIR OWN, for the amount of time and portion of the song instructed. If the Colorguard Advisor becomes aware that the candidate did not create this routine ON THEIR OWN, the candidate forfeits their eligibility for a Captain/Quartermaster position.
- This routine should demonstrate any skills you have on flag, rifle and dance, while also keeping in mind all of the basic skills, including marching. If you can do any special tricks, you may include them if you wish.

## Captain/Quartermaster Tryout Scoring

Each candidate will be evaluated in the following categories:

Technical Skills: 15 points

Material:

- Coordination & Memorization - 10 points
- Timing & Phrasing - 15 points
- Technique - 15 points
- Recovery - 15 points

Performance:

- Eye Contact - 10 points
- Posture - 10 points

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- Showmanship - 10 points
  - Use of Body & Equipment - 10 points

Creativity: 15 points

Essay Questions/Interview:

- Essay Questions - 15 points
- Interview - 10 points

Squad Tryout Score: Out of 100

Each candidate's score sheet will be tallied by category, and a total number of points will be determined. If there are multiple evaluators during the tryout process, the Colorguard Advisor will also tally each individual score sheet to check for correctness. The candidate's score will be the average of all the judge's scores for that candidate.

\*NOTE: Captain/Quartermaster technical skills and solo tryout routines may be recorded. If so, they will be sent to the Athletic Director along with all of the hard copy tryout materials.\*

\*This constitution was last updated in March 2025.\*