



2018 CINCINNATI TRADITION MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK

WHAT IS DCA

Drum Corps Associates (DCA) is a competitive drum corps circuit comprised of "all age" drum & bugle corps from all over the US and Canada. Members of DCA compete annually for the DCA World Championship over Labor Day Weekend. DCA was founded in 1964 and strives to bring the best "Drum & Bugle Corps in the United States and Canada" to its fans using entertainment as a primary goal. DCA performances are unique and represent "state of the art" in mass appeal drum and bugle corps. DCA strives to provide performers with stimulating and rewarding social experiences, to provide a competitive outlet for performers and to entertain and excite the audience.

ATTENDANCE

In order to perform to our fullest potential and pursue excellence it is expected that all members attend all scheduled rehearsals, parades, exhibitions, performances, and competitions. Drum Corps is a highly competitive activity, and the organization expends a great deal of time, energy and funding to put the corps on the field. All rehearsals are critical to the development of the type of program that Tradition wants to develop for the members and our fans. Attendance is crucial to that process. Therefore, members must agree to attend all rehearsals.

Should it be necessary to miss ANY rehearsals, the member agrees to contact the Program Coordinator and Caption Heads to obtain appropriate permission. Excessive absenteeism hurts the entire organization as well as your fellow members. If member find himself or herself in a situation that will require that they miss a significant amount of rehearsals or hours during rehearsals (which is also disruptive to the rehearsal process), the member should speak with Director, Tom Slade.

The Administration and Caption Heads reserve the right to review all extenuating circumstances when considering your request.

CONFLICTS

We realize that during the course of the year, there may be family, work or school commitments that may conflict with a corps event. Tradition is a **WEEKEND DRUM CORPS ACTIVITY**, and 99% of your time commitment will occur on weekends. An occasional event may be scheduled for a weeknight, such as local DCI contests. Other than these exceptions, all our activities will be on the weekends.

Weekend drum corps enables you to work full time during the week. Please arrange your fulltime, part-time or school-time work hours so that they will not conflict with rehearsals, competitions or other events.

If you have a conflict with your school band activities during a camp or rehearsal weekend or other scheduled event, you should attend the school band event, and then do whatever is possible to attend the rest of the camp or rehearsal. If you are going to school, your priority is school, and we support you in your educational efforts. Tradition is an extension of your educational experience and should similarly be treated with the respect it deserves. Similarly, if you are unexpectedly called into work, please do whatever is possible to attend the rest of the camp or rehearsal.

COMMUNICATION

Note: Three consecutive unexcused absences will result in dismissal from the corps. All rehearsals are required for membership in the corps.

It is not the responsibility of the Tradition organization to call you or remind you about rehearsals or commitments (unless there has been an unscheduled change of time or venue). It is your responsibility to remain current on all communication posted via email, Facebook, on the Tradition website, or verbally announced at rehearsals. Communication is vital to any organizations success; we provide many avenues to communicate with the membership; however, you must be a participant as well. Emails, announcements and member information are maintained by the corps management and staff. Important phone numbers and email addresses of the Administration and Caption Heads can be found on <http://cincinnati-tradition.org>.

CORPS WEBSITE & DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Tradition has its own website, <http://cincinnati-tradition.org>. The website is maintained by our Business Manager, Program Coordinator and Web editors, and is constantly updated with news, scheduling, etc. Our primary source for communicating with members is through the website, email and Facebook group. The Tradition website and member database is a state-of-the-art web-based application with which Tradition utilizes to maintain membership information, corps business, financial responsibilities, corps news, calendar of events including rehearsals, parades, shows and activities, membership forms plus much more. Members can access, track and pay tuition and fees on-line as well using our **PayPal** system. Members and applicants will be provided access to inner areas of the site. These areas include a real time chat area, discussion forum and private

messenger system. As with any forum, it is important to communicate with fellow members in a respectful, responsible manner; vulgarity, profanity will not be permitted nor is the website a place to post personal gripes with a fellow member or the administration. Any questions regarding the use and rules of the website should be directed to the Director, Business Manager or Program Coordinator.

GENERAL/ ON LINE CONDUCT

While the corps encourages camaraderie between other drum corps, it is important to remember you are always representing Tradition. Do not act in any manner that would be detrimental to the image or reputation of our family. This includes behavior or statements in any medium including the Internet (**RAMD, DCP, Reddit, Facebook, MySpace, Corps Repts etc.**) While your comments there may reflect just your thoughts; they are also interpreted to represent the entire corp. Think before communicating.

Members must not divulge corps policies, practices, or complaints regarding the corps in any public forum whether it be the Internet, intranet or publicly. Failure to adhere to this request may result in dismissal from the organization. It can be detrimental to the organization and to the morale of the corps as a whole. Should you have any questions or concerns please speak to someone on the Administration.

Each member must represent the Corps in a respectable and professional manner at all times; on and off the field. Always be considerate and thoughtful to your fellow members, staff, administration, Board of Directors, fans and more importantly, other corps. Since Tradition is a volunteer organization, the behavior of its members and volunteers are their individual responsibility; the Tradition Organization will not be held responsible or liable for the inappropriate behavior of any of its members or our volunteers.

Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fees are **\$800.00** for the 2019 season which is low compared to most other competitive drum corps, allows for Tradition to provide you with rehearsal indoor and outdoor facilities, music and visual educational staff, show arrangements and design, uniforms, electronics and amplification equipment, brass and percussion instruments, color guard equipment and costumes, equipment trucks and trailers, and much more. Tuition also includes all transportation expenses when buses are provided, with the exception of travel to DCA Championships, as well as fees for school/facilities when overnight is required for parades or shows. Tuition covers the expense of the member's hotel room for DCA Championships

In addition to tuition, if you lose or damage any part of the uniform, you are required to pay for replacement of the missing or damaged part. If the member does not have a pair of black marching shoes that meet the corps requirements (to be explained at our camps) you will also be required to purchase marching shoes. The expense of shoes will be each

member's responsibility and are the member's property at the end of the season. All other uniform parts are the property of Tradition and must be turned in at end of season.

The cost of replacement if lost or damaged.

- Uniform top \$80.00
- Pants \$50.00
- Under Armour Shirt \$37.00
- Shako and Plume \$60.00

Tuition can be reduced and/or earned up to **\$150** through the **Tuition Reduction Incentive Programs** outlined below. Tuition and additional expenses can be raised through family and friend sponsorships and fundraising.

Cincinnati Tradition is a 501©3 non-profit organization of the Internal Revenue Code. Note: It is prudent to take advantage of the Tuition Reduction Programs to assist you in meeting your financial obligation. Any donations you obtain through sponsorships are tax deductible for the donor to the fullest extent by law.

A \$20 deposit not applied to tuition is payable after evaluations and before taking equipment home. You will be required to sign an equipment rental/release agreement that tracks the serial number of the equipment. Note, all equipment is the property of Tradition and is **"loaned"** to you as a member in good standing for the current season; failure to return the equipment when requested will result in prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

Members are expected to pay approximately \$40 per rehearsal towards your tuition which will help you pay your tuition off by the due date. Tuition can be paid through the website **PayPal** which is recommended (note; small additional fee when paying online). It is your responsibility to remain current on your tuition and make payments on a regular basis to the tuition administrator.

Tuition will NOT be pro-rated if individual joins any time after opening day or participates on a limited basis. Each member or candidate is expected to pay tuition of not less than **\$40** at each rehearsal/camp while considering membership with Tradition.

Tuition must be paid by the first of June in order to march the season. You will not be permitted to participate unless you make arrangements to pay tuition; **No Exceptions.** If there are mitigating circumstances which prevent you from doing this, arrangements for a confidential discussion with the tuition administrator should be made as early as possible. Tuition are not refundable, unless catastrophic illness or injury preventing a member from continuing the season. After receipt of a physician's certification of your disability, tuition will be refunded on a pro-rated, case-by-case basis as determined by the Corps Administration.

As mentioned above your tuition helps the corps pay for: instruments, insurance, uniforms, equipment repair, flags, corps required overnight lodging, transportation expenses, etc.

TUITION REDUCTION/INCENTIVE PROGRAMS.

Family Discount - \$50 per person will be deducted from tuition when two or more members from the same "household" are participating; subject to a maximum of \$100 per family.

Returning Member: \$50 returning member discount Tuition/Expenses Fund Raisers In addition to the expected participation by all members in raising funds towards the current season Campaign, fund raisers will be available to members to apply towards their tuition: These opportunities can offset tuition and expenses of the individual member. A percentage of these fundraisers will be allocated specifically for the member tuition/expenses. All funds raised over the cost of tuition can be donated to other members.

TRADITION FUNDS RAISING

It is expected that all members participate in fund raising campaigns such as ticket raffles to raise funds for equipment and supplies for the organization and members as a whole. In addition to parades and fundraiser's maintaining equipment that will ensure the future of the organization is key to providing the best drum corps experience to all the members. A list of fundraisers will be distributed prior to January Camp and continually updated.

PRACTICE

Members are expected to practice at home between rehearsals in order to learn and memorize all music/work etc. and personally improve his or her expertise on the chosen instrument/piece of equipment. Rehearsals are for **REHEARSING**; we practice at home. Caption Heads reserve the right to change any member's position within the corps at any time. Some changes are necessary to benefit the corps' program and may reflect other personnel changes that have taken place. Should a change be necessary, the staff will make every effort to communicate with the member personally and try to accommodate the member to his/her satisfaction to the extent that it does not take away from the corps' performance level.

All members are expected to be on time for all rehearsals and be prepared to begin at the designated time.

REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

As indicted above, all members are expected to be on time for all rehearsals and be prepared to begin at the designated time. Since this is a weekend activity it is important to rehearse efficiently and effectively. It is not the number of hours that are "clocked in" but rather what we accomplish in the designated amount of time. In order to keep practice to a minimal number of hours, it is imperative that all members come to rehearsal well-rested, focused and ready to work. Silent rehearsals are encouraged and expected at each and every rehearsal whether it be a sectional rehearsal or field rehearsal. Cell phones should be placed on vibrate and are discouraged during rehearsal unless necessary.

All members are expected to be respectful to their co-members as well as to Staff and Administration. While we understand the need to ask questions, there is an appropriate time, place and person to address your questions or concerns. At no time should any member criticize another member. The Tradition organization has gone to great lengths to provide qualified professional instructors and technicians; these are the persons to which all questions or inquiries should be addressed.

PARADES/EXHIBITIONS

In addition to fundraising the corps makes money marching in parades and performing in exhibitions. Parades/exhibitions are mandatory; participation in same are reflected in tuition. Parades are potentially the biggest moneymaker we have; therefore, each member must make a commitment to attend parades. Because parades are not "booked" many months in advance the parade schedule will be adjusted on an on-going basis. As with payment of tuition, the more funds that the corps can raise, the more things the corps can do for YOU. If we have less, we have to make do with less. This is your corps, and the success of your corps depends upon the efforts of the entire **TEAM**.

During parades/exhibitions, you are representing Tradition, proper etiquette while performing at these events is required at all times. The Tradition performance season (including parades) is from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

PARADE/EXHIBITION ETIQUETTE

Upon arrival proceed to get equipment. It is your responsibility to make sure equipment is protected and secured from damage or theft before and after the parade/exhibition. **DO NOT BLOW OR BANG** on your instruments so you can hear and follow instruction; you are always performing and representing Tradition at all times. As a unit we will warm up together walking/marching single file to the designated area. Once in warm up area, focus on proper technique whether it be breathing, playing or marching. While marching in parade talking should be kept to a minimum since this can be distracting as well as unprofessional to the marching members and the audience/sponsor who is paying us to perform.

APPLICATION/AGREEMENT FORMS

Each member must fill out & return the following forms; forms are available on corps website: www.cincinnatiattribution.org

- **Membership Agreement Equipment/Uniform Rental Agreement**
- **Medical Release Information & Consent Agreement**
- **DCI/DCA Corps Member Audio-Visual Release Agreement**

No equipment will be handed out permanently until all forms are filled out properly, signed and submitted to administration.

Signature of member or of parent or legal guardian conveys an agreement between all parties that Tradition, it's members, executive committee, agents, board of directors, instructional staff, and all other volunteers or affiliates and anyone else with whom Tradition has agreed to include as an additional insured shall be held harmless from any and all damages, medical bills and liability, whether deemed negligent or not, which are sustained by any member while participating in the sport of drum corps. This includes all bodily injury and property damage sustained as a result of the use of any and all property, equipment, mobile equipment, vehicles (hired, owned or non-owned).

Drum corps is a time-consuming activity. Know **NOW** what you or your child is committing to for the season to avoid disappointment-either for the corps and/or for the member. If you are participating in a high school marching band your band director will be required to sign the membership agreement as well so that they are aware of any performances we will have and plan their schedule accordingly. Note: Please complete all forms and submit to administration within 30 days of joining. Electronic copies can be emailed and submitted as authorization to agree. If you are under the age of 18 parents must email forms accordingly as authorization. **EXCEPTION: MEDICAL FORM** -original signed forms are required to be on file. Please therefore turn in signed originals to administration.

MEDICAL FORM

One of the most important pieces of paper the corps can collect is the signed **Medical Release form**. Without full knowledge of a member's medical needs or problems, we cannot be expected to adequately seek care for a member when we do not know his or her medical history. All information will be kept confidential and will travel with the corps to all functions.

If an emergency arises, it may be difficult to reach either parents or other family members in order to give permission for treatment. **HOSPITALS WILL NOT TREAT A PATIENT WITHOUT CONSENT.**

The Membership Medical Information and Consent Form authorizes Tradition to seek emergency medical treatment on a member's behalf and gives permission to any qualified health professional or hospital to give emergency treatment (including injections, anesthesia, or surgery, as needed) only if the member is unable to give consent at the time of emergency. It also clarifies that payment for any and all medical expenses are not

the responsibility of the Tradition organization but will remain the responsibility of the member and/or his/her insurer or legal guardian.

If a member is less than eighteen (18) years of age, their legal parent or legal guardian must also read and sign this Medical Information and Consent Form.

The drum & bugle corps activity is a very physical one. All members are encouraged to and should consult with their physician before participating in this sport. If approved by your doctor, it is also suggested you proactively participate in a fitness/nutrition program throughout the year in order to meet the physical challenges associated with the sport of drum corp.

The Cincinnati Tradition Organization also reserves the right to request a medical release form from **ANY** other member whom they feel based on their medical history may be considered "high risk" for this strenuous activity. Failure to provide release, when requested, will result in member not participating in all aspects of the "sport" until release is provided to the Director.

EQUIPMENT/UNIFORM RENTAL USE AGREEMENT

The Membership Agreement for Equipment and Uniform Rental outlines the responsibility of the member for his/her equipment and uniform. While in the members' possession, normal upkeep of any corps equipment/uniform will be the responsibility of the member. Member will be held financially responsible for loss, theft, and damage to as a result of misuse, carelessness, or neglect of equipment/uniform.

The member agrees to return any and all pieces of equipment in the same condition, less normal wear and tear, under which it is issued and further agrees to return all equipment either upon request of a member of the executive committee or the instructional staff, at the completion of the 2019 season. The member is advised that if he or she fails to produce any property belonging to Cincinnati Tradition, or if he/ she recklessly damages any equipment (beyond normal wear and tear), that member will be charged for the full replacement value or repair cost, of the item(s) along with any collection or attorney fees incurred in the process. If the member is less than eighteen (18) years of age, their legal parent or legal guardian must also read and agree to the terms of this agreement and indicate such agreement by their signature in addition to the members'. The parent or purported legal guardian shall ultimately be held responsible for all terms of this agreement on behalf of the member.

Uniforms (which are washable) shall be kept clean and wrinkle free and will be kept in good quality garment bag for travel. Hats shall be kept boxed and away from excessive heat (i.e.; car window, in direct sun, etc.) Gloves and accessories must be kept clean and in good condition. Shoes should be polished and dirt free.

It is understood that any piece of equipment owned by the corps may be necessary for use at any given rehearsal. If for any reason, the member is not able to attend a given

rehearsal, the equipment issued to him/her may be requested to be returned so it may be used.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROHIBITED

Use of illegal drugs is **STRICTLY** forbidden and is considered grounds for dismissal. Use of alcoholic beverages is forbidden by all members under the age of twenty-one (21); we reserve the right to search personal belongings in the event alcohol use by minors is suspected. Use of alcoholic beverages is forbidden by all members before and during rehearsal time, or prior to a performance. For those age twenty-one (21) and above, we expect members to be sensible and responsible. **DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE**. Use of alcohol or tobacco is strictly prohibited at any schools the corps should use for rehearsals or any performances.

HARRASSMENT/DISCRIMINATION

The treatment of all with respect and dignity are important to any organization. Harassment of any kind and any other form of discrimination is prohibited.

The Tradition Organization has a zero-tolerance policy for harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex or gender of any member, volunteer or instructional staff. This zero-tolerance for harassing or discriminatory conduct also applies to harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, marital status, sexual preference, religion, disability or any other characteristic protected by law. Any conduct which is inappropriate, demeaning or disruptive will not be tolerated. We expect everyone to act with mutual respect and concern for each other and in compliance with our policy prohibiting discrimination. It is everyone's responsibility to avoid acts of harassment or disrespect.

Any violation of Tradition's non-harassment and alcohol/illegal drug policies will result in immediate expulsion from the corps. Expelled members are responsible for arranging their own transportation home regardless of the location of the corps and will forfeit all tuition/fees paid.

Also note, any sexual or romantic involvement between adult members, staff and volunteers less than 18 years of age is unacceptable and prohibited. Failure of any person to comply with this policy is grounds for immediate dismissal. In such cases, the Director will notify the parents/legal guardian of the minor.

DISPOSITIONAL REFERRAL PROCESS

Violations of the Tradition policies or etiquette protocols will result in a dispositional referral. These referrals follow a three-step process, with each step becoming more serious than the previous.

- **Step 1 -Initial Referral** -This step comes after ordinary attempts to address a chronic concern where previous informal attempts have failed to produce a resolution. This level warrants a meeting between the caption heads, program coordinator and administrative representative to address the concern. The tact that

will be taken is one of concern and helpfulness. The individual will be counseled, and a plan of action will be developed. If the intervention is effective, no further action will be taken.

- **Step 2 -Critical Referral** -This step comes when the initial referral has been unsuccessful at resolving the problem, or secondary problems have arisen with the same person as the one receiving an initial referral. Other concerns, including more serious infractions with policy, can rise to an initial referral at this level. This level warrants a meeting with the Director, Program Coordinator and Personnel Officer. At this level, it is pointed out that expulsion from the organization may be warranted if further infractions occur. At this level, the designation of "in good standing" is removed. If the individual is free from further difficulties, the good standing rating will be returned after 90 days.
- **Step 3 -Dismissal Referral** -This step comes when previous interventions have failed, or the infraction rises to a critical level of seriousness. This meeting will take place at the administrative level and decisions of expulsion from the organization will be final.

PARENTAL/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

The Cincinnati Tradition Organization strongly encourages parents, family and friends in supporting the activity. This support is important not only to the individual member but also to the corps as a whole. The Traditions Support Program is a vital part of the organizations success. This committee provides support and assistance to the membership in the form of sewing, baking, and cooking & food preparation on an as needed basis. Committee also may coordinate the sales of souvenirs and corps memorabilia at shows. One of the most important aspects of the Tradition organization is the feeling of belonging to the "**Tradition family**"; we warmly embrace each member's family as well. Members whose parents/family know participate and understand the organization, the member's responsibilities and scheduling tend to more successfully complete the season, and also have a more fulfilling experience with the corps.

SECTION LEADERS - LIAISON

Section leaders shall be nominated by the caption head and confirmed by Director to assist the administration in the following areas. These individuals should possess leadership qualities, be a member in "good standing", shown exemplary behavior (past and present) as it relates to building a positive team environment and be well respected by their fellow members. These individuals shall be role models to the membership and lead by example.

- Inter-sectional communication.
- Contact members in section regarding section only communication as well as any last-minute changes in rehearsal.
- Maintain rehearsal attendance for section.
- Emergency facilities attendance.

- In the event of an emergency at any facility individual responsible for making sure all members in section are accounted for at "meeting point".

SAFETY/ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES:

Tradition is committed to providing a safe environment for our members. We have adopted the following guidelines to ensure the safety of our membership.

- Sneakers should be worn at all times during rehearsal.
- Aggressive or hostile behavior (direct or indirect) that creates a reasonable fear of injury to another person or subjects another individual to emotion distress is prohibited.
- Damage or theft to another person's property is prohibited.
- "Horseplay" or other conduct that may be dangerous to others is prohibited.
- Insubordination of any like or kind will not be tolerated towards staff, administration or board members.
- Overnight lodging &/or sleeping arrangements when provided or arranged by the corps shall be set by the administration taking into consideration age & gender. All members under the age of 21 shall sleep in designated areas segregating boys and girls. These guidelines will also be in place as respects hotel accommodations whether provided at the expense of the corps or paid personally by the members. Room checks and/or curfews may be implemented to ensure the safety of all minor members.

Anyone determined or suspected of violating these guidelines will be subject to prompt disciplinary action through the dispositional referral process with penalties of up to and including possible suspension or expulsion from corps.

SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Heat Related Illnesses

High temperatures can present a dangerous situation for members and staff, but with reasonable precautions those situations can be mitigated. The health staff must be consulted for the official temperature and the proper course of action for each day. Whenever possible, the acting director and health staff should consult with each other as early as possible during an individual day in order for all concerned parties to be notified of possible changes to practice schedules/activities appropriately. The acting director will communicate any changes to the schedule or activities. The following policies are the minimum standard for all outdoor activities within the Cincinnati Tradition Drum and Bugle Corps. The use of more stringent policies is up to the director. Health staff and acting director should collaborate prior to each rehearsal to discuss specific conditions and planned activities for rehearsal. The acting director will communicate any change.

Staff should be aware of the signs and symptoms of dehydration:*

- ✓ Dry mouth
- ✓ Thirst
- ✓ Irritability
- ✓ General Discomfort
- ✓ Headache
- ✓ Apathy
- ✓ Weakness
- ✓ Dizziness
- ✓ Cramps
- ✓ Chills
- ✓ Vomiting
- ✓ Nausea
- ✓ Head or neck heat sensations
- ✓ Excessive fatigue and/or decreased performance.
- ✓

*If any of these signs or symptoms are observed notify the health staff immediately. Early detection of dehydration decreases the occurrence and severity of heat illness.

Heat Cramps

Cramps that occur during exercise.

Treatment

- ✓ Hydrate the member and replace sodium losses with a sports drink or other source of salt.
- ✓ Relax, stretch, and massage the involved muscle to reduce acute discomfort.

Prevention

- ✓ Adequate conditioning, acclimatization, hydration, electrolyte replacement, and appropriate dietary practices.
- ✓ Move member to shaded or air conditioned area to rest.
- ✓ Remove extra clothing or gear.
- ✓ Cool with cold water, fans, or cool towels. (Replaced every 23 minutes).
- ✓ Lay with legs raised above level of heart.
- ✓ Give member cool/cold fluids to drink if not vomiting.
- ✓ If symptoms do not improve within 30 minutes, call 911 or send member to hospital.

Exertional Heat Stroke

High core body temperature along with organ dysfunction. The longer the body is at an elevated temperature, the more dangerous. Temperature is usually 104 degrees or above.

Symptoms:

- Disorientation, headache, irrational behavior, irritability, emotional instability, confusion, altered consciousness, coma, or seizure.

- Hyperventilation, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, profuse sweating, dehydration, dry mouth, thirst, muscle cramps, loss of muscle function, and ataxia. Treatment:
- Call 911. This is a MEDICAL EMERGENCY!
- In meantime, initiate cooling measures “cool first, transport second”.
- Move member to shaded or air conditioned area to rest.
- Remove extra clothing or gear.
- If available, put in tub with cold/ice water; place in cold shower; douse with water from hose.
- Cool with cold water and fans, or cool towels (Replaced every 23 minutes), lay with legs raised above level of heart.
- Give member cool/cold fluids to drink if not vomiting.
- Cool until member begins to shiver OR for 1520 minutes of active cooling OR medical help arrive.

Lightning Protocol

It is imperative that all personnel are aware of lightning hazards and the specific safety shelter for their venue. In the event of lightning during a rehearsal or event, precautions must be taken to ensure the safety of both members and spectators. In any event, the health staff, in conjunction with the acting director and/or public safety officials (i.e. police) if necessary will be responsible for monitoring inclement weather.

Lightning Detection

Lightning awareness should be heightened at the first flash of lightning, clap of thunder, and/ or other criteria such as increasing winds or darkening skies, no matter how far away. The health staff is responsible for monitoring the progress of inclement weather by primarily using a Weather App. Another option is to count the amount of seconds between the flash of lightning seen and the thunder that follows, divided by 5. That number represents the amount of miles the lightning is from the site. The indicator for clearing the field of rehearsal with the weather app is 6 miles or less. In the event that members need to be removed from rehearsal site, the health staff must notify the corps director who will then notify the staff. Once the staff has been notified they must immediately comply, end rehearsal and move to a safe shelter.

Safe Shelter

Instructional staff should all be aware of the closest safe shelter to the rehearsal site and how long it takes to reach that shelter. A safe structure or location is defined as “any sturdy, fully enclosed, substantial, and frequently inhabited building that has plumbing and/or electrical wiring that acts to electrically ground the structure”. Examples of locations that routinely DO NOT meet the criteria include:

- Baseball /softball dugouts.
- Baseball /softball “covered” batting cages.
- Soccer covered benches.
- Under metal bleachers.

- Outside storage sheds; and/or
- Canopy/ awning /tent.

In the absence of a sturdy, fully enclosed, substantial, and frequently inhabited location as described above, a secondary structure such as a fully enclosed vehicle or tour bus with a hard metal roof, rubber tires, and completely closed windows can provide a measure of safety. Persons should not touch the sides of the vehicle! Persons should avoid taking showers and using plumbing facilities (including indoor and outdoor pools, whirlpools, Jacuzzis, and hot tubs) and landline telephones during a thunderstorm. If no safe structure or location is within a reasonable distance, personnel should find a thick grove of small trees surrounded by taller trees or a dry ditch. Everyone should assume the “lightning safe” position crouched position on the ground with the feet together, weight on the balls of the feet, head lowered, and ears covered. **DO NOT LIE FLAT!** Minimize the body’s surface area and minimize contact with the ground. If unable to reach safe shelter, persons should stay away from the tallest trees or objects (i.e. light poles, flag poles, etc.), metal objects (i.e. fences, bleachers, etc.), individual trees, standing pools of water, and open fields. Persons should avoid being the highest object in an open field. Members should not rehearse outside until 30 minutes has passed since last lightning/thunder is seen or heard.

Concussions

1. Staff will immediately inform the health staff of any member that sustains an injury during rehearsal that involves trauma to the head.
2. The health staff will: obtain injury details, and assess the member. If symptoms are noted by the health staff, then the member will be excluded from all participation, until such time as the member is medically cleared to return to participation. If the member is under 18, the health staff will contact the parents directly within 24 hours.
3. The health staff will notify the director, appropriate staff and include the status of concussed members in the daily injury report.
4. If the member is taken to an urgent care or emergency room the member will be accompanied by health staff. The member will then need to follow up with the health staff as well as a licensed provider for retesting and medical reevaluation before returning to physical activity/sports, unless clear guidelines are given by the licensed provider during the initial visit.
5. The member cannot participate in any performance or events until they have successfully completed the suggested full three day progression and remained symptom free. Return to rehearsal progression will be as follows:

Brass/Percussion

- Day 1: Marching basics and stand still playing only.
- Day 2: Marching basics, drill and stand still playing (no ensemble).
- Day 3: Full participation

Color Guard

- Day 1: Flag/Weapon basics, no tossing. Dance, no across the floors.
- Day 2: Sectionals, spinning on the move. Dance with across the floors (no ensemble).
- Day 3: Full participation Staff cannot override the decision of the health staff to exclude a marcher from participation.

WHAT TO BRING

Winter/Spring Indoor Rehearsals, members should wear comfortable and warm clothes. Bring: pens and paper; a water jug; all the necessary materials, such as music, mouthpieces, sticks, flags, rifles, gloves etc.; folding music stand if you have one.

Spring/Summer Outdoor Rehearsals, members should prepare for all types of weather; warm, cold or brutally hot. Bring rain gear. Bring an extra set of clothing and socks/shoes to change into if necessary. Wear a hat while in the sun. Pack sunscreen and bug repellent. Although water will be available at the rehearsal field, we strongly recommend that each member brings a personal water jug as well as personal reusable cup.

The corps breaks for lunch and dinner when appropriate to the schedule. We encourage members to pack a cooler with food items, fruits, drinks, snacks and water jug. Not only is this more affordable (cheaper) for the member, this also allows the member to rest while eating his or her meal instead of running around to fast food restaurants and ensures that most member return on time for rehearsal to resume. During rehearsals the corps does get water breaks and eating healthy snacks in between will help your stamina and endurance. All members should bring their 3-ring binders, dot books, drill sheets and any other materials necessary for your section, such as: Brass Players: mouthpieces, valve oil (inexpensive at any music store), pen, music, folding music stand. Drummers: practice pad, sticks or mallets. Color Guard: flags, rifles, sabers and other materials as directed. All members should make sure these are marked with your name.

For Competition Weekends: As above for Spring/Summer Rehearsals, plus bring: extra change of clothing -including clothing for late nights and riding home on the bus; shower and personal toiletry supplies, including towel, extra money for snacks or souvenirs bought at the show. If riding the bus, you might want to bring a blanket and pillow for comfort. On the occasion that the corps stays overnight, bring all of the above plus a sleeping bag, air mattress or blanket as preferred.

SUMMARY

Thank you for considering Cincinnati Tradition "All Age" Drum & Bugle Corps! We hope this handbook answers any questions you might have about the Organization. Please feel free to contact the Administration or any Caption Head or Staff member if you have additional questions.

Tradition is dedicated to providing the best drum corps experience to all members while providing world-class championship caliber instruction and programming.

If you are looking for a place to belong, for a place to improve your personal abilities, entertain through music, color guard/dance, achieve team goals & spirit, develop leadership skills that will allow you to become leaders within your community, for a place to meet people that will change your life forever, and very likely be a part of your life for a long time, Tradition is the place for you.