

Woodbury High School Marching Royals



Fall 2020

Marching Band Handbook

GOOGLE Forms Due: Friday, October 2nd, 2020
Submit all forms ONLINE!

HOW TO REGISTER FOR MARCHING BAND:

Step 1: You're about to become part of the "Pride of Woodbury High School"

Carefully look over the information in this packet with your parent(s). Know what you're getting into! Make sure you get all of your questions answered before moving on to Step 2.

Step 2: Commit

Make a firm commitment as a part of the Marching Royals. Participation in all scheduled practices and performances is expected. Review the most current band calendar at the [band calendar webpage](#). Check the family calendar and compare dates! Should conflicts arise, contact Mr. Katzenmeyer well in advance. Please communicate pre-planned trips over the Fall Season that conflict with band.

Commitment is what transforms a promise into reality. It is the words that speak boldly of your intentions, and the actions which speak louder than the words. It is making the time when there is none; coming through time after time after time, year after year after year. Commitment is the stuff character is made of; the power to change the face of things. It is the daily triumph of integrity over skepticism. It knows the difference between being patient and being bored. It is what separates those "who can" from those "who didn't."

Step 3: Athletes and Other Activities

It is most certainly possible to do both band *and* a fall sport or activity! It's important to communicate your intentions to do both with your coach and band director upon registration. Talk with other athletes that play in the band. Upperclassmen will have the best advice for you in how to handle participating in both activities!

Step 4: Drivers Ed, other community programs, etc.

When registering for Fall drivers ed. or other community programs, be sure to enroll in the course that will not conflict with band.

Step 5: Register

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Step 6: Sign up for the "Remind 101" text service

Remind 101 is a free text communication service that Mr. Katzenmeyer, Mr. Shervey, and Mrs. Moreno will use to communicate marching band specific information. **STUDENTS** should sign up by texting @wbrymarch to 81010. **PARENT/GUARDIANS** should sign up by texting @wbrymarch2 to 81010. This is the service we will use to communicate rehearsal cancellations due to inclement weather or dangerous COVID conditions. We will also use this service for other pertinent information like performance reminders, etc...

Step 7: Get Ready

Mark your calendar for the start of practice! The first rehearsal for Fall marching band is **MONDAY, October 5th at the WHS Practice Football Field.**

THE WOODBURY MARCHING ROYALS

The Marching Royals are a group of the Woodbury's finest student musicians who perform music and movement while entertaining the masses at parades and football games supporting the Woodbury-Area community. In a very short time, the Marching Royals gained a reputation for their outstanding performances. This is due to the high standard of musicianship, showmanship, and personal efforts of every individual member. We represent the school and community in performances at parades, half time field shows, and school ceremonial functions with great pride!

ABOUT THE SEASON

The marching band season **normally** lasts from June - October. June includes kickoff rehearsals and one parade. For parade performances in June and August, the band joins forces with East Ridge HS and Park HS to form one huge South Washington County Marching Band. After some time off for summer vacation through the end of June and all of July, we get back together in late July and early August. This is when things really take off... we start our work on the fall field show in late July and learn most of the show during the week dubbed "Heat Week". We hope to return to this format in 2021.

This year, however, the season begins in October. Rehearsals will occur twice a week on Mondays & Thursdays along with 3 Friday night performances through the end of the football season. Please see the schedule at the end of this packet. Our season concludes with a banquet in late October or early November.

Rehearsals will be on MONDAY and THURSDAY nights from 5:30-7:30 PM for Woodwind/Brass/ Color Guard Members. Drumline members will be expected to attend rehearsal from 5:30-8:30 PM, due to the need to learn cadence loops and other percussion-specific skills. Rehearsals will occur on the practice football field, unless otherwise indicated. In the event of extreme weather (rain, cold, snow, etc...) the directors may cancel rehearsal. We WILL NOT rehearse inside this season at all.

BAND DUES & OTHER EXPENSES

The marching band operates much like any other fall sport, and there will be a \$30 Activities Fee paid to ISD 833 to participate this year. **This is a NEW POLICY for 2020.** Students will not be allowed to participate until this Activities Fee is paid. This will be handled online through the WHS Activities Office. In order to cover general operating expenses of a marching band, participation in group fundraisers are a required part of being a band member. Additional costs to individual band members are toward the purchase of personally owned equipment like marching shoes (\$40), gloves(\$3), track jacket (\$50), drumsticks for percussionists (\$10), instrument lyres for wind players (\$10), and other small instrument accessories. Order forms for these items will be available at the beginning of the season in early October.

SECTIONS OF THE BAND

Our marching band is made of three parts. It is the harmony and coordination of these three sections that creates product rewarding for members and spectators.

THE WIND SECTION (aka Hornline): This section is made up of piccolo, flutes, clarinets, saxophones (Alto/Tenor), trumpets, mellophones (marching French horns), trombones, euphoniums and tubas. Notably missing from the instrument list are oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, and bari sax. Due to the nature of performance and necessary upkeep of these more delicate instruments, they are not used outdoors. Most students who would regularly play these instruments in band class take on a secondary instrument or perform in the drumline or colorguard sections.

THE PERCUSSION SECTION (aka Drumline): This section is made up the marching percussion instruments. Also known as “the battery”, it includes snare drum, tenors drums, bass drums and cymbals. The drumline often rehearses separately from the band during regular rehearsal times and other sectional times and dates.

THE COLOR GUARD (aka Guard): This section adds the color, impact, pizzazz, emotion, and visual interpretation of the music that the winds and percussion perform on the street and field. This is done with many different effects, including dance/movement, flags, rifles, sabers, props and other apparatus. The color guard section is the only section of the band that it is not required to be registered in a music course at Woodbury HS. Although, many of our guard members are choir, orchestra, theatre and dance students.

MEMBERSHIP PREREQUISITE

Wind and Percussion players must be enrolled in a Woodbury High School music course terms 1-3 this coming school year. Our marching band is a small part of the comprehensive music education offered from Woodbury High School. In order to maintain the highest quality of performance and provide band members the highest quality experience, our program requires members must continue their musical education through participation in band, choir or orchestra.

While there are no tryouts for marching band, it is understood that all students share the common goal of working hard as an individual to improve the group as a whole. Our philosophy is that the more that you give to the band, the more you will get out of being part of the band. It is in this same spirit that all percussionists and guard members are assigned a position within their section to perform in the role that they are most needed and in the band.

POLICIES / EXPECTATIONS

MSHSL RULES AND POLICIES

Students are expected to follow all rules and regulations as set by the Minnesota State High School League. Rule violations will not be tolerated and may result in suspension or removal from the marching band at the director and school administration's discretion.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

You are the vital link to the success of this program. You should approach marching band with the same attitude and commitment level you would any other high school varsity sport. Absences due to illness in addition to calling the main school attendance line must be also communicated with an e-mail or a phone call to the band office (Mr. Katzenmeyer 651.425.4495, or tkatzenm1@sowashco.org). Most athletic conflicts can be worked around. Early and honest communication with the director is necessary for proper consideration of these conflicts.

The single greatest obstacle standing between us and the goal of excellence is attendance. Members sign a statement declaring your understanding of the following policy:

- ✓ Students **ARE REQUIRED** this year to fill out a [Google Form](#) detailing various requirements specific to preventing the spread of COVID 19 at marching band rehearsals. Students will not be permitted to attend rehearsal without filling out [THIS GOOGLE FORM](#) before 5:30 PM. Student section leaders and the directors will verify that a student has completed the form before rehearsal can start.
- ✓ Students who are unable to attend the rehearsal, the day of, or days leading up to a performance will be unable to participate in that performance. This decision is completely at the discretion of the marching band staff and ultimately the director. That member **will** be expected to accompany the band to the performance and assist the band in a non-performance role.
- ✓ **Do Not** schedule doctor/dentist visits during rehearsal times. The local orthodontist's office has dubbed Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons "band days" because so many members schedule their appointments on the only days of the week we never rehearse. Students must understand that they are the ones that will end up taking responsibility for their parent's actions if they were to accidentally schedule appointments during a rehearsal. It is part of becoming a responsible young adult. In the event that appointment conflict with rehearsal is unavoidable, it is the student's responsibility to communicate clearly and honestly with the band director and/or section coach well in advance.
- ✓ Students **are not** excused from marching band rehearsals/performances for work. Period.
- ✓ Everyone in the marching band attends every performance. EVERY MEMBER IS A STARTER. A missing student means a hole in the formations, a missing solo/harmony part, missed changes or revisions in the drill, music, tempo, alignment... For these reasons, our band is a group of extremely committed individuals. Members hold themselves to these guidelines because of the personal commitment they make to the ensemble and to their fellow band members.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

Individual practice is a required part of being a performer in the marching band. Individual growth as a musician comes from the time spent in both rehearsal and the practice room. Members of the marching band take great pride in their achievement over the course of a season. The philosophy of our marching band staff is to provide members every possible means to achieve personal musical and physical goals. Our staff is extremely dedicated and is more than willing to provide all members with extra help. Be courageous and ask for extra help when needed.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Due to COVID-19, band members will be placed in PODS on the field this year. It is absolutely crucial that pods DO NOT interact with one another during rehearsal. Based on recommendations from MDH and the MSHSL, pods are to be no larger than 25 students. This means that students will arrive at rehearsal, join their section leader in their pod, and remain with that pod throughout the entirety of rehearsal. **STUDENTS MUST NOT COME WITHIN 12 FEET OF ANY MEMBER OF ANOTHER POD.** This is for the express purpose of contact tracing in rehearsal. Drumline will be one pod, color guard will be another, and all brass and woodwinds will be divided into pods of 25 or less.

FOOD, GUM, TRASH, ETC

We must keep our practice areas clean and ready for the next practice. Most areas are shared with other groups/activities. Gum is NOT ALLOWED, EVER! It's simply unsafe to play your instrument and chew gum. Each section of the band will be assigned days to clean up after practice. Do not show up to a practice or performance with bags of fast food! You will not be ready to perform your best on time. Any students arriving late to rehearsal with Caribou Coffee in hand may be mocked and/or otherwise ridiculed by the director in coordination with other staff members.

This policy is a guideline. Under extenuating circumstances, the director may find exception to this policy at his or her discretion

SECTION LEADERS & DRUM MAJORS

Section Leaders are an integral component of a successful marching band. Students wishing to become a Section Leader must complete an application and participate in an interview. The Drum Major(s) direct/conduct the Marching Band. From the first rehearsal to the final note of the final performance, the job of Drum Major is never ending. Drum Majors must be current members of the school band, choir, or orchestra program. Drum Majors are selected after a process which consists of a written application, interview, vocal command and conducting audition. Leadership tryouts occur in late April.

INSTRUMENTATION

Marching Band is a great opportunity to learn a secondary instrument. We can achieve a certain level of excellence with our “natural” instrumentation; however there will always be balance problems in the sound of the band due to a shortage of performers on certain instruments. For woodwind and brass players, there is a serious expectation that members will perform on instruments determined by the musical staff and band director which will contribute to the enrichment of the ensemble as a whole. For example, a band of 100 saxophones could not achieve the level of excellence that our ensemble strives toward. For members of the percussion section, instruments are assigned by the percussion staff and the band director, again based on what is in the best interest of the ensemble as a whole. All who are excited and willing to make a switch (even for MB only) should indicate on the instrument line of the registration sheet.

SCHOOL OWNED EQUIPMENT

Woodbury High School provides the following instruments for use during the marching band season (District #833 rental fees apply): Tubas, Baritones, Mellophones, Valve Trombones, Percussion Equipment and Guard Equipment.

All school owned instruments/equipment will be issued to you by a band director. If you choose to use a school owned instrument for the marching band season, there is a school district fee of \$100 for the school year + \$10 for rental over Summer Vacation. You will be financially responsible for the condition of your instrument. ANY repair costs resulting from carelessness, irresponsibility or mistreatment will be paid for by the student or students responsible. Repairs are costly and time consuming, but often must be completed in time for a performance. Please inform a staff member as soon as possible if repairs need to be made. Remember: it is your responsibility to take good care of our instruments so that they can be used for years to come!

Note: Percussion and color guard equipment fees collected for use of school equipment does not come close to covering the dollar amount spent in maintenance and replacement of said equipment under normal use conditions.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS

High school students each handle the rigors of their coursework differently. Eventually, every student will feel the weight of homework along with extracurricular commitments. Music students at Woodbury consistently make up more than half of the top 10 GPAs in the school. This is no coincidence. Your personal academic progress is important to the success of the entire marching band. You must make sure that your school assignments are up to date. Poor time management is not an excuse to miss marching band practice. Plan ahead and get it done.

PARENT HELP

One of the biggest success stories we've created at Woodbury High School is the support of the Woodbury Royals Band Boosters! If each parent contributes a small amount of time and talent to the band, it will assist in keeping costs reasonable for students, provide necessary logistical support, and give parents a chance to get to know each other. Parents help the band in many ways: cheering in the stands, fundraising, first-aid, photography, equipment moving, uniform specialists, etc.... Most of the parent volunteer coordination throughout the season is taken care of by our booster group (Woodbury Royals Band Boosters, Inc.).

In years past, friends of the marching band have donated their time and talents in many ways. Here are a few examples of how family, alumni, and friends have helped the marching band:

- ✓ Sewing flags and uniforms for our Colorguard
- ✓ Monetary contributions
- ✓ Corporate donations or matched donations

THE WOODBURY ROYALS BAND BOOSTERS, INC.

The Woodbury Royals Band Boosters (WRBB) are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to supporting the Woodbury Band program. They support our band program in many ways. During the marching season the booster coordinate all of the help a marching band requires. Many of the time and resource consuming aspects of running a marching band remain in the background thanks to the many parents that donate their time. Without their help and generous support, our marching band simply could not function as it does today. The boosters need your help! Whether you are willing to chair a position, or take on even the smallest project, we need your help to support the band! www.whsbb.org.

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COVID-19 Altered Fall Schedule adapted for the October-November season for 2020

_____ 1. Rehearsal: Monday, October 5 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ 2. Rehearsal: Thursday, October 8 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ 3. Rehearsal: Monday, October 12 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ 4. Rehearsal: Thursday, October 15 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ **5. Friday, October 16: HOME FOOTBALL PERFORMANCE (Stillwater). Report to the grassy knoll in uniform at 5:45 PM. Inspection will be OUTSIDE at 6 PM next to the grassy knoll. Students will perform at 6:30 PM, and be able to leave immediately after the performance (likely around 6:45 PM).**

_____ 6. Rehearsal: Monday, October 19 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ 7. Rehearsal: Thursday, October 22 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ 8. Rehearsal: Monday, October 26 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ 9. Rehearsal: Thursday, October 29 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ **10. Friday, October 30: HOME FOOTBALL PERFORMANCE (East Ridge). Report to the grassy knoll in uniform at 5:45 PM. Inspection will be OUTSIDE at 6 PM next to the grassy knoll. Students will perform at 6:30 PM, and be able to leave immediately after the performance (likely around 6:45 PM).**

_____ 11. Rehearsal: Monday, November 2 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ 12. Rehearsal: Thursday, November 5 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ 13. Rehearsal: Monday, November 9 5:30-8:30 PM

_____ **14. WEDNESDAY, November 11: HOME FOOTBALL PERFORMANCE (White Bear Lake). Report to the grassy knoll in uniform at 5:45 PM. Inspection will be OUTSIDE at 6 PM next to the grassy knoll. Students will perform at 6:30 PM, and be able to leave immediately after the performance (likely around 6:45 PM).**