



# Mountain Range High School Winterguard Handbook and Contract – 2018/2019

Dear Winter Guard Students and Parents:

Welcome to another year of the Mountain Range High School Winter Guard! We are extremely excited about what is in store for this upcoming season. The information contained in the following pages is intended to acclimate you to what winter guard is and how it works, as well as to answer any immediate and (hopefully some) future questions that you may have regarding the winter/color guard program here at Mountain Range HS.

Please read through this handbook very carefully and take note of all pertinent information, especially the time commitment, payment and policies that is required. Once you have read and understand all of the content inside this handbook, please fill out the last page of this contract with your first payment.

## MRHS Winter Guard

### **Administrative Staff**

Guard Director:

Jeremy Orsini

(720)208-6200

[Jeremy.Orsini@gmail.com](mailto:Jeremy.Orsini@gmail.com)

Band Director:

David Evans

(303)503-1574

[eva016086@adams12.org](mailto:eva016086@adams12.org)

### **Instructional Staff**

Jeremy Orsini – Director

Kat Craig – Tech



## About MRHS Winter Guard

The Winter Guard at Mountain Range High School operates under the guidance and support of the Band Director and the Mountain Range Band Boosters. This program was developed as an avenue for young students to further their knowledge and education in color guard and dance, as well as to provide an opportunity for new students to experience what color guard is and the positive impact it can have. The ensemble is a member of and competes in a statewide circuit run by the Rocky Mountain Color Guard Association (RMCGA), a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement and celebration of success in color guard.

The goal of the ensemble is to provide each student with high level of education in equipment work, dance, and performance. Through the achievement of high standards of education and performance, we develop in each member a strong sense of personal growth and accountability, responsibility, confidence, compassion, dedication, work ethic, perseverance, and time management.

## Policies and Procedures

### **Attendance**

All members are expected to attend every rehearsal and performance – on time. Typically, we ask that members plan to arrive *at least* 10-15 minutes prior to the start of each rehearsal, as transporting equipment, setting up, etc, takes time and rehearsals will begin promptly at the time advertised.

It is *required* of the students to attend **every rehearsal and performance**, as this activity does not have “alternates” or “stand-ins” and missing even one member can have a huge impact on the ensemble. With that being said, we also understand that things do come up and conflicts arise which cannot be worked around. Communication with the ensemble director AND band director is **REQUIRED** from the student and/or parent **two weeks prior to the rehearsal/event in question** (of course, we understand that emergencies also occur, in which case we simply ask that a parent/guardian send communication to excuse their member’s absence within following the date in question).

If a student misses a rehearsal the week leading up to a show that has not been “excused”, they will still be required to be at the show but will not be able to perform. This is because our show will constantly be growing and evolving, and with that, new or changed drill and new or changed work will be getting put in. Therefore, if a member of the ensemble misses a rehearsal before a show, they can be put at risk of getting injured and can put their team mates in the same danger.

If a student cannot make a show performance, their spot on the floor may be impacted due to the circumstance of their conflicts.

### **Academic Requirements (Eligibility)**

The Mountain Range High School Winter Guard is happy to open its doors to all students interested. However, as an extra-curricular activity, it should be understood that a student’s ability to participate and perform with their team is a privilege, and that in order to keep that privilege, they must maintain a positive academic standing.

Students involved in any aspect of the band program are expected to hold themselves to the school’s eligibility system that is set in place. Grade checks will be completed on a bi-weekly basis in order to ensure that we are providing each student with the help and assistance they

need, as well as to resolve any problems before they become too big. We have this set in place because we feel that it is important to us that our members achieve excellence in and out of the ensemble.

Grades will be due during the practice of weeks of shows. No grades will be accepted past Friday at 11:59 PM. To be eligible to compete you must maintain a 2.0 (straight C's) with NO F's.

If a parent or staff member of the ensemble feels it is necessary, we will "bench" the member of the ensemble. This means that they will still be required to come to rehearsals, but instead of getting to rehearse and perform with everyone else, they will be completing work and studying to help get them back on track.

### **Conduct**

All members of the winter guard are expected to maintain a high level of sportsmanship and respect for themselves and their peers throughout the season. Students must show unconditional respect for all instructors and teachers in and outside of the activity, and must remain professional at all times. Failure to respect and follow these rules of conduct will result in the student's dismissal from a rehearsal or from the team.

Parents must also maintain professionalism at all events regarding the ensemble including, but not limited to, shows and performances. Parents must follow all parking rules, show good sportsmanship, and follow ticketing rules at *every school or venue* we travel to. Failure to do so can result in the penalizing of the team.

"Show mode" is a very important piece to our professionalism and how not only we represent ourselves, but also represent our high school, and our circuit. Show mode starts as soon as we get out of our cars and start unloading at shows. The students need to make sure they stay focused. When we find our spot at a show it needs to look organized and put together. When we walk to warmup there is no talking. This is a little different than what has been done in the past and is also different than some other units. I want us to perform and represent ourselves as professionals, as well as be a guard that leads by example.

### **Facility and Equipment Maintenance**

All students are expected to maintain a high level of equipment functionality and facility cleanliness. Proper equipment care and storage is extremely important as we pay for every piece of equipment we use and borrow (and these purchases are NOT cheap). Please alert staff members immediately if you notice any equipment being misused, mis-stored, or broken in any way. If a student is seen deliberately misusing any piece of equipment (rifle, flag, silk, sabre, costume, tarp, etc.) they may be held responsible for any or all of the cost of repair or replacement. Once again this is also something where we understand that some equipment breaks over time, so yes accidents do happen and the staff will do everything we can to make sure we can take care of it.

All students are expected to clean up after themselves and each other, and to leave each space they use as clean, if not cleaner than it was when they entered it.

### **Ensemble Requirements and Needs**

Our circuit requires 2 volunteers per unit to work either state or the WGI Denver Regional. These are EXTREMELY important. I would suggest that we get the volunteers for the regional

so that way when state comes around everybody can just watch and enjoy the shows and watch our team put their best out on the floor.

Another NEED for parent volunteers for drivers. For every show we are planning on carpooling to and from the show. I will need plenty of volunteers for drivers. I'd personally much rather have too many people than not enough drivers for any and EVERY show.

### **Fees**

All members will pay the full membership fee of \$275 for the 2018/2019 winter guard season. We will **never deny a student participation because of their inability to pay fee in whole or in part.** If a student needs assistance in paying their membership fee, they or their parent/guardian must communicate this need directly to Jeremy Orsini **AND** the David Evans. To help alleviate the up front cost, our payment schedule is as follows:

**Tuesday (11/27) Contracts Due)**

**Saturday, December 17: \$60**

**Monday, January 28: \$60**

**Monday, February 18: \$60**

**Monday, March 18: \$60**

**Monday, April 8: \$60**

You may choose to adhere to this schedule, pay in full, or any other payment plan set up through the ensemble director, the band director, AND the band boosters. The \$275 fee must be paid in full by the final due date in April, unless otherwise worked out. If a payment arrangement is not made and a member misses a payment they will need to be at rehearsal but they will be benched until an arrangement or payment is made.

If there are any question regarding any information in this handbook please feel free to contact the Color Guard Director, Jeremy Orsini at either of the contacts listed at the front of the packet.

### **FUNDRAISING**

Fundraising is a GREAT way to help offset these fees. There are a couple different fundraisers that happen year around. These are the King Supers shopping cards and the Escrip program. We will also be trying to organize a couple other fundraisers. If you have any recommendations, connections, or ideas please contact Jeremy.

# Calendar of Rehearsals/Performances

**PLEASE NOTE:** All dates, times, locations etc. are subject to change. Any changes will be communicated with parents and students as soon as possible. Please put these dates on your calendar now and plan to attend all rehearsals and events! (Shows will not be announced for another month so as soon as we can see which ones would make the most sense for us to go to. The listed shows will help give a general idea of what the plan is but are subject to change.)

-----**2018**-----

## November

Try-It-Out: Wed. 11/8

Auditions: Tues.11/14, Wed.11/15

Parent Meeting (**Mandatory**): Wednesday November 14 for all accepted members

Regular Rehearsals Start: Mon. 11/26 and Wed. 11/28

## December

*Regular rehearsals run every Tuesday and Wednesday, 5pm-9pm, Saturday 8-12*

(Tentatively rehearsal Saturday Dec 23... I have to see if the school is open)

## WINTER BREAK

January 4 – Winterguard Camp

-----**2019**-----

## January

*Regular rehearsals run every Tuesday and Wednesday, 5pm-9pm, Saturday 8-12*

Rehearsals will start Jan 9 and run regularly scheduled

**Saturday January 26:** RMCGA ‘evaluation show’

## February

*Regular rehearsals run every Monday and Wednesday, 5pm-9pm. Saturday 8-12*

**Saturday February 16:** Northglenn HS Competition

**Saturday February 23:** Mountain Range HS Competition

## March

*Regular rehearsals run every Monday and Wednesday, 5pm-9pm, Saturday 8-12*

**Saturday March 3:** Monarch HS Completion

**Saturday March 17:** Lakewood HS Competition

## April 2015

*Regular rehearsals run every Monday and Wednesday, 5pm-9pm, Saturday 8-12*

**Saturday April 13:** **STATE!!!**

## **Handbook Acknowledgement/Agreement**

By signing this page, I am stating that I have read this handbook thoroughly, and that I understand and agree to all of the terms and conditions set forth for the upcoming winter guard season at Mountain Range High School, especially with regard to attendance, time commitment, academic standards, and fees. If a student quits or is kicked off the team, they are still held liable for all fees and costs of the season and will not be refunded.

I also understand that failure to adhere to these policies can result in my, or my student's, removal from the ensemble.

**Please return to Jeremy or Mr. Evans by Saturday Dec. 2nd**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_