

LACEY TOWNSHIP
HIGH SCHOOL
MARCHING LIONS HANDBOOK

2014-2015

Mr. Matthew G. Holmberg
Director of Bands

Lacey Twp. High School Marching Band

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-----Matthew G. Holmberg-----
Director of Bands

August 31, 2014

Dear Marching Lions and Parents/Guardians:

Here we go again! Another wonderfully anticipated season of the Marching Lions!

I look forward to the season that lies ahead of us. My door is always open for questions and concerns. My contact information can be found at the top of this letter. Please contact me if there is anything you may need to help make the season run more smoothly.

I thank the students of the band and color guard for choosing to be a part of such a great experience and I thank the parents and guardians of those students for allowing them to participate.

Sincerely,

Mr. Holmberg,
Director of Bands,
LTHS

General Rules to Follow

1. The Marching Lions is a school related activity. All rules that are in effect during the school day also apply during Marching Band activities. This includes:
 - 1.1 **The Smoking Policy** - Smoking will not be tolerated during Marching Band activities. Anyone caught smoking will be written up following school procedures.
 - 1.2 **The Drug and Alcohol Policy** - Again, it will not be tolerated. Anyone caught under the influence or in possession of an illegal substance will be dealt with according to school policy. This includes not only involving the Administration, but also the **police department!**
 - 1.3 **Respect for staff members** - Your directors, Assistant Directors, and Instructors are here to help you. Disrespect for any of the above stated individuals will not be tolerated. We, the staff, promise to treat you with respect and maturity. We expect the same in return.
 - 1.4 **Inappropriate behaviors** - Things such as fighting, arguing, name calling, insulting, swearing, harassing, mocking, etc. will NOT be tolerated. We must act as one unit in order to function effectively as one unit. Please treat each other with the same respect that you want to be treated with.
 - 1.5 Performances** - When outside of Lacey Township, we are representing not only the band and the music program, but also the entire High School, School District and Town. When we travel out of state, we are also representing the State of New Jersey. The band is one of the best forms of public relations for our school and town. We need to leave an impression of professionalism, class, and dignity. Inappropriate behavior while at a performance will NOT be tolerated. Missing a performance, without written notice to the Director from a parent/guardian will result in a conference between staff members and the student. The students' future with the band will be discussed, and a decision will be made as to whether or not you may remain in the band.

2 REHEARSALS

- 2.1 Rehearsals are held twice a week, Tuesday's and Thursday's from 3:00-6:00 PM. Additional rehearsal time may be scheduled at the discretion of the staff members.
- 2.2 Rehearsals begin at 3:00PM on the field. This means you must be in the stretch block on the Marching Band field AT 3:00PM. The band room will be open prior to rehearsal so students can gather their equipment and head out to the field.

REMEMBER THE BAND MOTTO:

To be early is to be on time

To be on time is to be late!

2.4 Lateness policy

Being late to rehearsal is discouraged. Once rehearsal has begun, anyone arriving to the field may be subject to a "learning opportunity" such as running a lap or push-ups. Also, students may have the amount of time they were late added to the end of rehearsal. *If you take from me, I will take from you!*

2.5 Attendance policy

2.5.1 Work is **NOT** an excused absence from any rehearsal at anytime for any reason. Please arrange your work schedule accordingly!!!!!!

2.5.2 DO NOT EVER ASK TO BE EXCUSED FROM ANY REHEARSAL OR ACTIVITY DUE TO AN AFTER SCHOOL JOB... **ESPECIALLY BAND CAMP!!!!!!**

2.5.3 Extenuating circumstances must be presented to the director in writing from a parent/guardian within 2 days of the students return to school. Students who know they are going to be absent from a rehearsal or performance must inform the band director in writing no less than one week prior to the absence. A PARENT MUST WRITE THE EXCUSE FOR IT TO COUNT...**NOT THE STUDENT.**

2.5.4 **CONCERTS, BROADWAYS SHOWS, SPORTING EVENTS, ETC...ARE NOT EXCUSES FOR MISSING ANY REHEARSALS OR PERFORMANCES.**

2.5.5 **THE DIRECTOR WILL MAKE A CASE-BY-CASE DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT AN ABSENCE IS EXCUSED OR UNEXCUSED. NOT EVERY SITUATION CAN BE COVERED IN THIS HANDBOOK.**

2.6 Homecoming Game - The annual Homecoming Dance traditionally follows this game. It is **AGAINST THE POLICY OF MOST EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** involved in the homecoming festivities (i.e. Band, Football Team, cheerleaders, pep club, etc.) to release their members before the end of the football game. **HAIR AND NAIL APPOINTMENTS ARE NOT EXCUSEABLE REASONS TO LEAVE A FOOTBALL GAME.** Do not make hair/nail appointments before 4:30 PM. **YOU WILL NOT BE EXCUSED!!!!**

2.7 Being Prepared

2.7.1 All students are required to have all equipment, instruments, music, accessories, dot book, and drill with them at each rehearsal.

2.7.2 All students are required to have appropriate footwear for each rehearsal (i.e. sneakers and SOCKS)

2.7.3 Failure to bring any of the above items is considered being **UNPREPARED!!!!** Frequent unpreparedness will result in a conference with the director.

5. SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

Parades, School activities, Spirit Events, Pep Rallies, etc... will occur throughout the season. Since this is part of what we do, it is important to remember that we are the entertainment and to give every performance 110%.

6. ACCESSORIES

Each band member will be provided a lyre and flip folder. This flip folder will be used for all stand tunes and football games. Students must take care of all music, the lyre and flip folder as it is all school property. Flip folders will be passed out at the beginning of each football game and collected at the end. Music should not go home with any student unless permission is given by the director. Students who lose or destroy music, flip folders or lyres may be subject to replacement costs.

Uniform Wear and Care

8. The Marching Band Winter Uniform

- A pair of shorts and the pep band T-Shirt or the Season show T-shirt **must** be worn under the uniform at all times!
- Jeans or long pants that can be seen sticking out cannot be worn under the uniform.
- **BLACK SOCKS** must be worn at all times in uniform.
- The only types of headgear that may be worn in uniform are the Shako, approved Lacey baseball hats, and subdued winter knit hats and earmuffs that meet school dress code when not performing.
- Uniforms are to remain **ZIPPED** and worn correctly until the Director tells you to unzip them.
- Following a competition, the director MAY or MAY NOT allow you to change out of your uniform jacket. THIS IS AT THE DIRECTOR'S DISCRETION!!!!
- During cold weather, ONLY A BLACK TURTLENECK may be worn under your uniform. Also long underwear, tights, or jogging pants will be permitted under the uniform IF they are in no way visible while in uniform.
- Wearing of Shakos is as follows: The brim of the shako will remain 2 fingers off of the bridge of the nose. The chinstrap will NOT go under the chin, but will rest under your lower lip. The only exception to this is the flute section, which may place the strap slightly under the chin.
- ALL LONG HAIR MUST BE PUT UP!!!! No hair may stick out from under the shako. THIS MEANS MALES AND FEMALES!!!!
- Unnatural hair color is not permitted in uniform.
- Large, dangly earrings are not permitted in uniform. Studs of conservative fashion will be permitted.
- Sunglasses are not permitted while in uniform while performing.
- Every Student MUST OWN A PAIR OF MARCHING BAND SHOES! Black dress shoes are not permitted.
- Shoes must remain clean and polished at all times.
- The uniform must remain on the hanger in a zipped garment bag at all times. The uniform must never be allowed to remain rolled in a ball in the bottom of the bag.
- While in uniform, no student shall sit on any surface until it has been properly inspected and cleaned if necessary.
- The following items **will not** be eaten in uniform: Mustard, Barbeque Sandwiches, ketchup, sauce, cheese, grease, etc... SOFT PRETZELS, SPRITE, WATER, POPCORN, ETC. **ARE** ACCEPTABLE TO EAT IN UNIFORM
- If the band is permitted to take off their band jackets during exceptionally hot games, it must remain neatly folded inside out on the bleacher NEXT to the student. YOUR JACKET IS NOT A SEAT CUSHION OR PILLOW!!!!
- Mistreatment of the uniform may result in a disciplinary measures being taken.
- Forgetting any parts of your uniform may result in loss of performance.

7. The Color Guard Uniform

- Body tights MUST be worn under uniform at all times
- BLACK SOCKS ONLY are to be worn UNDER the Body Tight
- The only types of headgear that may be worn in uniform are the approved Lacey baseball hats, and subdued winter knit hats and earmuffs that meet school dress code when not performing.
- Following the competition, the director MAY or MAY NOT allow you to change out of your uniform. THIS IS AT HIS DISCRETION!!!
- During cold weather, a BLACK TURTLENECK MUST BE WORN under the uniform if the outside temperature is AT OR BELOW 35 DEGREES! ABOVE 35 DEGREE it is at the student's discretion

- All color Guard Members MUST:
 - i. Wear hair slicked back in a clean tight bun with no "fly-aways." Male's hair must also be slicked back.
 - ii. Have natural color hair (i.e. No HOT PINK, BLUE, GREEN, ETC...)
 - iii. Neutral or no color nail polish at ALL PERFORMANCES

- NO JEWELRY IS PERMITTED IN UNIFORM (including watches and earrings)
- Sunglasses are not permitted while in uniform
- Every student MUST OWN A PAIR of black DS03 Color Guard Sneakers.
- Shoes must remain clean at all times
- The uniform must remain on the hanger, in a zipped garment bag at all times. The uniform must never be allowed to remain rolled in a ball in the bottom of the bag.
- While in uniform, no Student shall sit on any surface until it has been properly inspected and cleaned if necessary.
- The following items **will not** be eaten in uniform: Mustard, Barbeque Sandwiches, ketchup, sauce, cheese, grease etc...SOFT PRETZELS, SPRITE, WATER, POPCORN, ETC. **ARE** ACCEPTABLE TO EAT IN UNIFORM.
- Mistreatment of the uniform may result in a disciplinary measures being taken.
- Forgetting any parts of your uniform or equipment will result in loss of performance.
- REMEMBER your all-weather jacket IS part of your uniform and MUST be with you at all performances.

All-Weather Coat

Each member of the band will receive an all weather coat. This MUST BE TREATED THE SAME AS THE UNIFORM. All the same rules apply. If you are instructed to wear the over coat, you MUST do so. This insures uniformity. The coat must be kept on a hanger either on your garment bag or in the cabinet. When directed, students must take the coat along to performance venues.

Etiquette

Many compliments are received every year from different band director's, parents, and administrators on how we conduct ourselves in public. While in the public eye, please remember to be professional, dignified, and respectful. Use manners, treat people with respect and show your gratitude for favors done for you. Public displays of affection, including but not limited to hand holding, kissing, caressing, and inappropriate touching in uniform are not appropriate while in the eye of the public. It is also not appropriate during rehearsals, in the stands or ON THE BAND BUS. Please be considerate of those around you.

Music Memorization (*Competitive Members ONLY!*)

ALL MUSIC MUST BE MEMORIZED!!! You will be given ample time to learn your music (i.e. summer rehearsals and individual practice). Playing tests MAY occur for every musician on an individual and section basis. Playing tests may or may not be announced. If a student does not pass the playing test, he or she may lose 3rd Quarter break privileges until memorization IS complete!!! There are, of course, exceptions. Failure to keep your personal performance on a satisfactory level will result in a conference with the staff members to determine your future with the LTHS Marching Lions.

Third Quarter Break

- At every football game you will be given a 3rd quarter break. Please use this time to get some refreshments, use the restroom, and relax. However, you **must** be back in the bleachers when the time clock reads 2:00 left in the 3rd quarter. We must play between the 3rd and 4th quarters so you need to be seated and ready to go at the 2:00 minute warning. Failure to arrive back in time may result in loss of 3rd quarter break the following week. Also, poor behavior at any time from REPORT to DISMISSAL may result in the loss of this opportunity. Third quarter break is a privilege, not a right, extended to you by the director. Students who have their break revoked will be allowed to eat food brought to them in the stands. Also, all bathroom needs will be met.
- **Please understand that not ALL situations may be covered in this handbook. While the handbook IS thorough and addresses many topics, sometimes a problem or situation will arise that is not covered. In that case, the Band Director will make a decision and ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL!**
- **Let's make this a great season, work together, and have a great time! GO LIONS!**

This handbook has been approved by:

Mr. Holmberg, Director of Bands

MARCHING BAND CONTRACT

I hereby give my consent for my child to participate in the 2014-2015 Marching Lions. I have read the handbook and I agree to uphold the policies set forth by the Band Director.

Parent Signature

Date

Print name

I have read the Marching Lions handbook for 2014-2015 and hereby agree to follow all policies set forth in it. I further agree to make the commitment to being a Marching Lion for the 2014-2015 season.

Student Signature

Date

Print name