

THE CONCORD WINTERGUARD

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Winterguard?

Winterguard is an artistic competitive sport combining the use of flags, sabers, mock rifles, dance, and interpretive movement. Evolving from modern marching band Colorguards, Winterguard is an **INDOOR** activity with routines set to pre-recorded music. Winterguards can be found in high schools, middle schools, some universities, and as independent organizations around the country and internationally.



What is the History of the Concord Winterguard?

The Concord Winterguard has a long and successful history at both the high school and middle school (a.k.a. “cadet” class) levels. It is lead by dedicated instructors with years of experience performing and teaching Winterguard and Colorguard. The Concord Winterguard programs are members of the Carolina Winter Ensemble Association – CWEA (www.cwea.us) – who organizes local competitions under WinterGuard International – WGI (www.wgi.org).

Who Runs the Concord Winterguard Program?

The Concord High School Band Director oversees the Winterguard Program since Winterguard evolved from marching band Colorguard, and many members of the Winterguard also participate in the high school Colorguard. The Band Director does this by hiring instructors, and with the support of parents and the Concord Band Boosters. The Band Boosters, a not-for-profit group of parents and community volunteers, support the mission and administrative needs of the band program.

How Can I Be Involved?



As a Winterguard Parent, you are automatically a Band Parent! Band Parent/Booster meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7p.m. We need all parents to come. At the meetings, you'll get many of your questions answered and have opportunities to discuss fundraisers and programming.

**We ask that you give any time you have to help.
The group needs you! Your kids need you!**

What Does Winterguard Cost?

The cost of the program is shared by all the participating members. This is known as the “FairShare” of the group. The FairShare varies based on the numbers in the group, but it is usually between \$425-475 for the season. FairShare is finalized after tryouts. It can be paid in 4 installments.

The first FairShare payment of \$125 is due on December 6, 2011. It must be paid for your child to be eligible to participate in this years' squad.

What Does the FairShare Pay For?

The FairShare pays for all operating costs of the Winterguard program including uniforms, flags and equipment, instructional time, facility rental, music, and creation of choreographed routines.

What is NOT covered by the FairShare?

Personal items such as specific shoes, gloves, dance support garments, and practice equipment is not paid for by the program. Members will need money to purchase food & drinks for lunch and dinner at all the competitions. Typical sporting event concessions are available.

Are there Fundraisers to Offset the Cost?

Fundraising toward FairShare can be done, but it must be organized by parents willing to do them. The Concord High Band Boosters can provide resources to assist, but Winterguard Parents/students must initiate and take the lead to implement.



We are fortunate to be sanctioned by CWEA to host a group fundraiser, *The Concord Classic* winter ensemble competition, which will be held on February 25, 2012. This is an “all hands on deck” event and we will need all parents and students to help run the show! Mark your Calendars NOW!!

How Much Time is Required to be in Winterguard?

Rehearsals will be 2-3 times a week after school and on Saturdays. Competitions, which are **ALL DAY** are held on Saturdays from mid-February through early-April. A schedule will be provided.



Does My Child Have to Be at Every Rehearsal and Competition?

YES! As a member of the Concord Winterguard, your child **MUST** be at ALL rehearsals and competitions. This is a group activity with **NO** substitutes or “bench” players. Missing rehearsals negatively affects the groups’ ability to perform. Missing performances and competitions could penalize the entire group. Commitment to the schedule is critical to the success of all the members! Contact instructors **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** if your child will not attend due to illness. **We do NOT get notified of school absences, so you MUST contact the instructor separately from the school!**

What Are Competitions like?

Competitions are **ALL DAY** events which are hosted at other schools in the Charlotte metro area. We are given times that we must adhere to for arrival, dressing in uniform, warming-up, and performing. These times vary from week to week and they are set by the host school. We only compete against others with similar skills, but competitions feature groups of all skill levels throughout the day. This is a great learning environment for members & parents!

Members do not leave the host site unless prior arrangements are made between the parents and instructors. Members are chaperoned by other parents and must check-in regularly with them.

We Have a Conflict With a Performance/Competition Date. What Do We Do?

Inform the Instructors **IMMEDIATELY** with any known conflicts for rehearsals or competitions. Their contact information is on the next page.

SCHEDULE FOR “THE CONCORD CADETS” (MIDDLE SCHOOL GROUP)

PRACTICES:

EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY - AFTER SCHOOL FROM 4:15–6:00P

- Whenever school is in session from November- March

SATURDAYS – TIMES TBD BASED ON FACILITY AVAILABILITY.**

DEC. 17

JAN. 7, 14, 21, & 28

FEB. 11 & 18

***Some of these Saturdays will be released from the schedule, but we ask that ALL Saturdays listed above be reserved until further notice.*

PERFORMANCES:

FEB. 4TH - SUN VALLEY HS

FEB. 25TH – THE CONCORD CLASSIC (AT CONCORD HS)

MAR. 24TH – NORTHWEST GUILFORD HS

MAR. 31ST – CWEA CHAMPIONSHIPS (AT WINTHROP UNIVERSITY COLISEUM)

ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES MAY INCLUDE:

Cabarrus County “*Preview of Colors*” for all Winterguards – Date TBD

A performance for the middle school – Date TBD

A performance at a middle or high school basketball game halftime – Date TBD

Band Booster Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7p in the high school band room.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Winterguard Instructors – to be notified for any absences or conflicts

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