



**Fishers**

**Winter Guard**

**Handbook**

**2019-2020**

## **Welcome**

Congratulations! You have chosen to be a part of the Fishers High School Winter Guard Program! In this handbook you will find all the rules and regulations for the Fishers High School Winter Guard Program. If you have any questions or concern about items in the handbook please see the director.

The Fishers Guard program embodies the vision, mission, and core purpose set forth by Fishers High School. Fishers High School education community will nurture a culture of excellence and empower students to become lifelong learners. Our mission is to promote respect, foster pride, and inspire excellence. Our core purpose is to prepare lifelong learners who positively impact an ever-changing world.

## **Membership**

### *Auditions*

Auditions for the Color Guard program take place at the end of April and early May. Color Guard members begin in the Fall season as a large visual ensemble performing with the Fishers Marching Band.

The winter brings the winter guard competitive season--Our Fall Color Guard is broken up into two competing teams. The A guard and the World guard. The A guard does consider new interested members in the winter season. The World Guard members must have done the Fall season prior to compete in the World Guard.

### *Facebook and Remind*

Facebook will be used by both groups to help send out choreography videos, show videos, additional studying material. All guard members will be automatically added to the Facebook page.

Remind is a great tool that information can be instantly texted to your phone! Parents you are also encouraged to sign up! Email: [kyamanda739@gmail.com](mailto:kyamanda739@gmail.com) if you need the code to get signed up to the Remind 101.

## Financial Responsibilities

### *Dues*

Student dues cover expenses related to uniforms, flags, props, equipment, transportation, contest entry fees, and staff. Varsity dues are \$1000(+\$300-400 trip fee (\$1,400) and Junior Varsity dues are \$650. Due dates are as follows:

	<u>Varsity</u>	<u>Junior Varsity</u>
January 1:	\$250	\$160
February 1:	\$250	\$160
March 1:	\$250	\$160
April 1:	\$250	\$170

The World (Varsity Guard) will have a field trip fee ~\$300-400 for attending WGI World Championships, the Chicago Regional, and the Kentucky Regional.

Additional Costs: Show Shirt – Approx \$10-12  
Body Tight - Approx \$20  
Gloves - \$15  
Weapon Line- Rifles \$35  
New Members Only: Warm Up - \$80

If you need to make other arrangements, please just let us know. WE CAN work something out. **Please contact the Student Accounts representative at [studentaccounts@fishersband.org](mailto:studentaccounts@fishersband.org) to make alternative arrangements.** Accelerated payments are always accepted.

### *Fundraising - Student Account*

Sponsorships are the easiest way to help defray the cost of each student. Sponsorship letters will be provided for the students to take to local businesses, friends, and family. Students will receive 100% of money raised by sponsorships. Please see sponsorship form for additional information.

Please see the Fishers Band website for fundraising opportunities including SCRIP, Connor Prairie and Lucas Oil Stadium Concession opportunities, and Trash Bag Sales.

### *Fundraising - Guard Account*

The guard may host fundraisers during the year to go to the general account. These may include but not limited to, Bake Sales, Car Washes, Online Sales, etc. These are in place to help keep the individual membership fees as low as possible. All students are expected to participate.

They will also participate in Snap Fundraising (sending emails and raising funds).

### **Attendance**

**Attendance to all rehearsals and performances is MANDATORY.**

If a student misses a rehearsal for ANY reason, it is the responsibility of the student to learn what was missed outside of normal rehearsal hours by working with a captain or veteran member in the student's own section. Failure to do so could result in student's allowance to perform.

### *Excused Absences*

Excused absences include, but are not limited to contagious illness or fever, major family events, or religious obligations. All absences other than illness need to be pre-approved at the beginning of season. Please send Kylee an email ASAP if you think you may have a conflict ([kyamanda739@gmail.com](mailto:kyamanda739@gmail.com))

**ALL** unexcused absences will be reflected in the student's allowance to perform, and repeat violations could lead to dismissal from the group.

*If a student is unexcused from the rehearsal the day of a performance, the student will not be permitted to perform that day.*

### *Tardiness*

If a student is running late to rehearsal, then it is the responsibility of the student to contact a leadership member or director.

### *Injury*

The director should be notified of any health or physical ailment immediately. We will do everything on our end to prevent injuries! Every member is encouraged to bring any extra equipment or protection if you'd like to feel more comfortable performing your tricks (knee pads, helmets, sneakers during rehearsal, etc.) You're welcome to wear whatever extra gear you want.

If an injury takes place during rehearsal, we will take care of it and notify you if it's a major

injury. Kylee is CPR certified (as of 07-01-2019) and can help in case of an emergency until proper help arrives.

### *District Policy*

A student may not participate in extracurricular activities, practices, employment, or after-school functions unless the student attends the last four periods of that school day. Student absent all day, due to illness, may not attend an extracurricular activity that day. If extenuating school or family circumstances result in a student's failure to be present the required four completed periods, an exception can be made. Reasons may include: approved college visit, FHS field trips, medical emergency, and funeral.

*Communication is the key. We understand that emergencies happen.*

*Please contact the director immediately about potential absences, illness, and injury.*

### *Conditioning*

Proper conditioning will help all students with preventive injuries! We will lead conditioning such as warm up, stretch, strengthening, and cardio activity with the students, in order to facilitate a strong personal performance and to prevent injury.

### *Equipment*

Equipment will be provided to you by the guard program. Always to be returned by the end of the season. You are welcome to purchase your own equipment to keep! Ask me if you have any questions about the best products to get!

Take care of your equipment :)

### *Rehearsals*

You are welcome to attend and watch any rehearsal you'd like. We are always doing new and different things each rehearsal, but typically Thursday nights are good nights for ensemble (large chunks with music). You'll be able to see more of the awesome members performing the show.

## **Performances**

### *Trip Etiquette*

- Please remember you are representing Fishers High School. Be respectful of other groups, each other, and applaud for each performance. Do not talk bad about any group as you never know who is sitting or standing around you.
- Always follow instructions from directors, staff, and chaperones.

- We are ambassadors of the HSE School District, Fishers High School, and the Fishers Band Program. Always conduct yourself appropriately and professionally. You are here to do your job--a performer with this guard and team.
- After performances, the guard will sit in the stands together. The buddy system will be used if going to concessions and the restroom.

### *Uniform*

- Hair and makeup designs will be determined by directors. All students must comply with the look to the best of their ability for the purpose of uniformity. Please follow the instruction of the staff to their exact specifications.
- Students-if you're unsure if a visual change (hair color, hair cut, piercing, etc.) will affect the show, just ask!
- Do not eat or drink anything other than water in uniform.
- ALL members must have the Member Jacket. It can be ordered through the school store posted early season to the FB page and sent out in an email. The Member Jacket really helps our staff and chaperones be able to spot the members. It says Fishers Guard on the back in all caps and red font. :) Pants can be anything you own that is all black (sweats, leggings, etc.)
- Varsity members are asked to wear contacts in replacement of glasses due to the level of physical demand.

### *Buses*

- Respect chaperones, bus drivers, and event personal just as you do the staff.
- All HSE district bus rule apply.
- Bus will be clean at the end of the trip. Remember Mr. Kohler's Golden Rule: *Pick up trash.... even if it's not yours.*
- Keep hands to yourself.
- All students are required to ride the bus to competition. If a student would like to ride home with their parents, then a handwritten note must be given to the head chaperone PRIOR to leaving for the performance. Student must be seen leaving with THEIR OWN parent/guardian by a Chaperone. Students may not leave with someone else's parent even if consent is given. The only exception will be those students carpooling to another school event. It will be the responsibility of the student leaving to make sure their equipment and uniform make it back to the school the day of the performance.

### **Code of Conduct**

Since Winter Guard is a Fishers High School activity, Guard members MUST adhere to all rules and regulations as set forth by Fishers High School and Hamilton Southeastern Schools.

- Superior, attentive conduct is mandatory at all rehearsals and competitions. Full cooperation with the Guard staff and faculty is expected.
- There will be no use or carriage of illegal substances, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco in any form at any time.
- Violent actions or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated. Guard members are to keep their hands to themselves.
- Guard members will refrain from any questionable behavior or action. (aka, avoid the perception of wrongdoing!)
- Vulgar and profane language, in any form, will not be tolerated.
- Guard members are to act courteously and dress appropriately at FHS, host schools, busses, and festival facilities. Students are to show respect for all people, property and local rules at all times.
- Guard members will respect the equipment they are using including but not limited to sound equipment, poles, silks, rifles, sabers, uniforms, props, carts, and transportation vehicles.
- Guard members who carelessly damage equipment will be responsible for the replacement cost of the damaged equipment.
- Guard members must be in place, with their equipment, ready to rehearse prior to the beginning of every rehearsal.
- Guard members will follow all bus driver rules during transport. Disruptive or distracting behavior will not be tolerated.

*Any Guard member who fails to abide by this code will be subject to Hamilton Southeastern Schools' disciplinary policies and procedures and will forfeit their membership in the Fishers High School Winter Guard.*

### **Parental Support**

Congratulations Parent! You are now a member of the Fishers High School Band Boosters! The Fishers Winter Guard would not be successful without the support of the Boosters. The Boosters meet the 2nd Monday of every month at 7pm in the FHS Band Room.

### *Communication*

Communication will be done through e-mail. Email is the most effective way to update and inform. E-mails will be sent to both parent and student e-mail addresses. BOTH parents and students are expected to check for information on a daily basis. Please make sure that the email on file is the e-mail that you will be able to access on a daily basis. If a parent or student does not have access to their email, please let the director know ASAP so that an alternate form of communication can be applied.

We also have Remind 101 for text messages and Facebook Parent Member page for communication and alerts!

*Parents, if you have questions, please ask your student first.* (Students, please make sure you are passing along all information to your parents.). If the student is unable to answer, please contact the Head Guard Parent. If you feel that you have a question or problem that you are not comfortable discussing with the Head Guard Parent about, please email or call the director.

### *Parent Volunteer Opportunities*

**All volunteers will need a criminal background check on file with the district.**

**Please see the Band website for instructions on background check instructions.** We will be using Volunteerspot to sign up for volunteer opportunities.

- *Chaperones*- At each rehearsal and camp, parent chaperones will be used to help keep the day moving efficiently. 1 chaperone will be assigned to each rehearsal and on camp days the rehearsal will be split up into shifts. Typically referred to as the "nurses' station," the job consists of everything from giving students a band-aid, icepack, or ibuprofen for a headache. Chaperones will have the student medical forms and will log everything in a medical record book. Parents do not need to have any medical background to volunteer. For each contest, 2 chaperones will be needed to ride the bus and be with the kids throughout the day. These parents will have free admission to the contest.
- *Food* - Since contest days are typically long, making sure the students eat at least one good meal is vital. Parents will be asked to help seek out donations.
- *Tarp crew/Transportation* - During competitions the guard only has a certain amount of time to set up their tarp (floor) and equipment, perform their show, and then exit the stage. The more parent involvement with the tarp crew, the more the students can relax before and after their show. The guard will also need parent volunteers to help transport the floor to and from competitions. Parents that transport the floor will be given two admission tickets for the contest. Because Fishers High School is a large school with limited gym space some rehearsals will be at alternate locations (Sand Creek Elementary). On these days, the floor and equipment will need to be moved from FHS to the appropriate rehearsal location. Any parents that own trucks or trailers and would be able to assist the guard would be greatly appreciated.



- *Uniforms/Flags* -Keep the students looking their best is a very important job. Parent volunteers will help maintain and repair uniforms and flags.
- *Fundraising*- Please see fundraising section under financial responsibilities. Any parent or student has additional fundraising ideas, please email the HGP.
- *If any parents have any other special talents or other resources that would benefit the program, please let the director know.*

**Chad Kohler**  
 Director of Athletic Bands  
[ckohler@hse.k12.in.us](mailto:ckohler@hse.k12.in.us)

**Kylee Hubbard**  
 Color Guard Director  
[kyamanda739@gmail.com](mailto:kyamanda739@gmail.com)

*Other instructors may be introduced to the students strictly by means of furthering the progress of the guard. These instructors will be of all ages, come from different backgrounds and have different skills. All guard members are to treat these instructors and guests with respect.*

## Fishers Winter Guard Handbook Agreement 2019-2020

### **Student Statement**

I hereby certify that I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the contents of the Fishers Winter Guard Handbook. I recognize and fully understand the rules and regulations by which I may participate. I understand and agree that membership in the Fishers Winter Guard is voluntary, extracurricular, and contingent upon my fulfillment of these requirements, and I am prepared to accept the consequences for any violation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

### **Parent/Guardian Statement**

I, hereby, verify that I have read and understand the contents of the Fishers Winter Guard Handbook. I recognize and understand the rules and regulations by which my student may participate. I understand and agree that membership in the Fishers Winter Guard is voluntary, extracurricular, and contingent upon my student’s fulfillment of these requirements and I acknowledge that my student will have to face the consequences of violating the contents of this handbook.

I understand the payment schedule for the Varsity/Junior Varsity. By signing this document, I agree to pay the Winter Guard dues in full per the outlined payment schedule (or otherwise agreed upon payment terms). I understand that even if my student leaves the program at any time during the season, I am still required to pay the dues in full.

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date

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Parent/Guardian Print