



2022-23 Fishers Winter Guard Handbook

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. If you have any questions or concerns 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 for the Fishers Color Guard program takes place at the end of April and early May. The activity is broken into two seasons -

Fall season - Color Guard - takes place outside; part of a larger ensemble (band and musicians)

Winter season - Winter Guard - takes place inside; competition season (exclusively guard).

Membership Ineligibility

A student may be placed on the ineligible list due to outstanding balance from the previous season, due to recommendation of the director and/or staff for contract violations occurring from the previous season or due to infractions of the Fishers High School Dean's Office.

Academic Standards

Any student who does not obtain a 2.0 GPA during the season will be placed on academic probation. This is to protect the integrity of our program and to help students understand that a good education is paramount to your success in life.

Cut-Time and Remind

Cut-Time will be used by this ensemble to help send informational messages as well as music and videos. All members will be automatically added to Cut-Time upon registering for the ensemble. Remind is a great tool and we send information through this frequently!

Financial Responsibilities

Student fees cover expenses related to uniforms, food, tarps, props, equipment, transportation, contest entry fees, and staff.

WORLD Guard dues are \$1200.00

"A" Guard Dues are \$650.00

Cadet Guard Dues are \$300.00

If interested in a scholarship, please use this [form](#) and email to studentaccounts@fishersband.org

There will be a non-refundable deposit of \$150 for each group due in December for the first payment. This payment secures a spot in the show.

The World Guard will have a hotel/transportation fee of \$265 to cover costs for the Chicago Regional and WGI World Championships in Dayton, OH.

fee structure	WORLD GUARD	"A" GUARD	CADET GUARD
DECEMBER 6 -	150	150	150
JANUARY 11 -	275	175	75
FEBRUARY 15 -	275	175	75
MARCH 15 -	250	150	
APRIL 6 -	250		

If your student participates with us YOU ARE responsible for ALL fees associated with the program. Similar to travel sports, if you don't pay, you DON'T play! This is a world class program and not an intramural activity.

ALSO your student may be ineligible if there exists an outstanding balance from ANY and ALL previous seasons. This may be resolved by contacting studentaccounts@fishersband.org to make a payment plan and resolve. Should you enter a payment plan and not continue, your students will become ineligible. Also if you are in need of a scholarship, please visit our website/ Guard and download the scholarship application and submit it to the Band Booster Payment box located in the bank room.

Additional Costs: Show shirt - included in fees for performers (*spirit wear will be available for parents)
Gloves \$15 *
Body Tight \$30
Member Jacket \$60*
* Only if necessary

If you need to make other arrangements, please just let us know. WE CAN work something out. Please contact the Student Accounts representative by emailing studentaccounts@fishersband.org

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 :)

Fundraising - Student Account

Please visit the Fishers Band website for fundraising opportunities including Snap Raise, SCRIP, Connor Prairie and Lucas Oil Stadium Concession opportunities, and Trash Bag Sales. We may host fundraisers during the year to go to the general account. These may include but not limited to, Car Washes, Online Sales, and so on. These are in place to help keep the individual membership fees as low as possible. All students are expected to participate.

Attendance

Attendance to all rehearsals and performances is MANDATORY due to the accelerated pace of the program. All conflicts must be shared with the Director prior to the start of the season.

The director reserves the right to make minimal changes to the existing schedule, provided they supply adequate notice to all members. Mostly these changes are due to facility or accommodation changes.

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 a change in the 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. The director will determine the validity of all excused absences.

Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to work, practice for other activities (unless pre-approved by Director), professional concerts/plays, routine doctor appointments, vacations, lack of transportation, or homework. 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 may or may 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 section leader AND director. Repeat violations will be reflected in the student's allowance to perform and could lead to dismissal from the group.

Illness

If a student is absent from school due to illness, they will not be expected to attend rehearsal. HOWEVER, to be granted an excused absence, the parent or guardian needs to email or call the director prior to the missed rehearsal. If a student misses more than one rehearsal in a row due to illness, a doctor's note will be required. If a student is not contagious or running a fever, they are highly encouraged to come to rehearsal to watch and take notes.

HSE District Policy: Students who are 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. Communication is the key. We understand that emergencies happen. Please contact the director immediately about potential absences, illness, and injury.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsal Etiquette

Always show respect for all staff, leaders, and teammates.

Be on time (5minutes early is ten minutes late), NO cell phones during rehearsal, come hydrated, bring water, refrain from talking, follow your section leader and staff, improve every second of rehearsal. Should a student demonstrate on a regular basis that they do not subscribe to the proper conduct at a rehearsal, the directors reserves the right to evaluate the student's membership eligibility, and to make a decision as to whether the student should perform in upcoming shows. The directors also reserves the right to send such a student home from rehearsal and request a parent/student conference to determine future course of action.

Rehearsal Attire

All students in the World and A Guards are required to wear form fitting black attire for all rehearsals. Exceptions will be made for "spirit days". If a student is in violation of the appropriate dress code, they will be asked to call home for the appropriate apparel. If a student is in continued violation, the student will be asked to leave rehearsal.

Conditioning

It is important to note that winter guard is a physical activity. There is a great demand placed on a student to be able to perform a complete show. It is the belief of the staff that there should be some proper conditioning on the part of the students, in order to facilitate a strong personal performance and to prevent injury. Calisthenics, stretching, and running will be reinforced at rehearsal.

PERFORMANCES

World -

January 27th - Parent Preview

January 28th - Plainfield HS

February 4th - Westfield HS

February 11th/12th - WGI Avon Regional

February 25th/February 26th - WGI Chicago Regional

March 4th - IHSCGA State Prelims

March 17th - Parent Performance

March 18th - IHSCGA State Finals

March 25th/26th - WGI Indy Regional

April 13th - 16th - WGI World Championships

A Guard -

January 27th - Parent Preview

January 28th - Plainfield HS

February 4th - Westfield HS

February 25th - Northview HS

March 4th - IHSCGA State Prelims

March 11th - IHSCGA State Semifinals

March 17th - Parent Performance

March 18th - IHSCGA State Finals

Cadet Guard -

January 27th - Parent Preview

February 4th - Westfield HS

March 17th - Parent Performance

All guards will perform together at an additional community night in March. Date TBD!

Trip Etiquette

Please remember you are representing Fishers High School. Be respectful of other groups, each other, and applaud for each performance (a standing ovation is appropriate after each performance as everyone puts so much work into what they do!). Do not talk disrespectfully about any group as you never know who is sitting or standing around you.

- Always follow instructions from directors, staff, and chaperones.
- No photos or videos will be taken on the bus.
- We are ambassadors of the HSE School District, Fishers High School, and the Fishers Band Program. Always conduct yourself appropriately and absolutely NO public displays of affection or inappropriate language.

After performances, we will sit in the stands together. The buddy system will be used if going to concessions and the restroom.

Uniform

Students will wear uniforms while at shows. 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.

If a student colors their hair, please keep it a natural color. Extreme colors are prohibited. - NO jewelry will be worn while in uniform. Do not eat or drink anything other than water in uniform.

Buses

Respect chaperones, bus drivers, and event personnel just as you do the staff.

All HSE district bus rules apply. Buses will be clean at the end of the trip. Remember the Golden Rule: Pick up trash.... even if it's not yours.

All students MUST 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 Director who will inform the head chaperone 24 hours PRIOR to leaving for the performance. A chaperone must see a student leaving with THEIR OWN parent/guardian. Students may not leave with someone else's parents even if consent is given.

Code of Conduct

- Since Winter Guard is a Fishers High School activity, 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 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, language or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated. Members are to keep their hands to themselves.
- Members will refrain from any questionable behavior or action. (This includes avoiding the perception of wrongdoing!)

- Members are to act courteously and dress appropriately at FHS, host schools, buses, and festival facilities. Students are to show respect for all people, property and local rules at all times.
- 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. Students will be responsible for replacement equipment they damage.
- Members must be in place, with their equipment, ready to rehearse prior to the beginning of every rehearsal.
- Any 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 Tiger Band program.

Communication

Almost 100% of communication will be through newsletters, Band App, and Cut-Time. BOTH parents and students are expected to check for information on a daily basis. The official Calendar is the band website calendar.

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 email or call the director.

Communication expectations from Members and Parents

It is the goal of the staff is that each student in the program receives the most rewarding and fulfilling experience. It is important to understand that there will also be times when things do not go the way you and your student wish. When this occurs, discussion with the staff is encouraged. It is the first and the most integral step to understanding and to coming to a resolution.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss

Treatment of YOUR student, Ways to help YOUR student improve, Concerns about YOUR student's behavior.

Inappropriate Concerns to Discuss

A student's spot in the drill/show, or changes to existing spot in the drill, Assigned equipment, Show design, Other studentsIf you have a concern, call or email the director to discuss the matter or set up an appointment. Please DO NOT attempt to confront a staff member or director before or after a contest or rehearsal. This can be an emotional and hectic time for both staff and parents.

Concerns with a Staff Member

The staff is selected based on their qualifications to do the job asked of them and share many years of experience between them. If a concern is raised about a particular staff member, please contact the director as soon as possible. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

Chad Kohler

Director - Fishers HS Bands
Auditorium Director
ckohler@hse.k12.in.us

Thomas Thawley

Director - Fishers HS Color Guards
thomthawley@gmail.com

...please continue to the next page for the handbook acknowledgement form...

Fishers Winter GUARD Handbook Agreement 2022-2023

...return this page to your Director

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. 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.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Print

Parent Crew interest - check a box below to specify interest

Chaperone

Food

Equipment

Prop building

Uniforms

name of parent/guardian(s) _____