

# Western Winterguard Info packet 2018

## What is Winterguard?

Winterguard is an indoor Colorguard sport that consists of dancing, spinning, and performing. Winterguard competitions take place in school gymnasiums in which performers convey movement interpretations of a musical track on a giant floor. Winterguard is separate from the band and drum line. From the months of December through April we will be putting together and competing a 3:30-4:00 minute show. Competition days are on Saturdays. We will also have some Saturday rehearsals. All show and rehearsal dates are mandatory as every rehearsal is crucial to completing the show and every member is depended on by the rest of their teammates. This is a very competitive activity and we will treat it like so.

## Winterguard donations and costume fee

With out these donations our team can not be possible. Costumes, props, floors, competitions, and instructors do not make it cheap to run a Colorguard program! That is why we are asking for your fare share. If you have yet to get in your fare share please do so **as soon as possible**.

## Transportation

For Competition days there is **no bus** to transport the students. Instead we carpool to these events. We ask for volunteer parents who can transport multiple students in their vehicle.

## Volunteers

- We will need parent volunteers on all competition days to help transport the floor and the equipment to the show site who own a truck or SUV. The floor is a very heavy mat that sits on a big cart with wheels.
- We will need all the help we can get removing the floor out of the gym after every performance. Competition is timed! So this needs to happen in a timely manor. The more help the better.
- For each competition day we will need food and water donations. Snacks and water for the students before warm up, and a meal after they perform. There are vendors at every show as well so you can give your student money to buy food. Plan will be decided by the booster parents.

## Show days

On competitions days we will meet at a specific call time at **Western high school**. An itinerary will be provided for each show at the beginning of the week. Hair and make up should already be done before call time. We will gather and count all of the equipment, props, and floor, and load it into a vehicle. We will then make sure every student is accounted for and ready to carpool to the show site.

## Costume, Hair, & Makeup

Hair and makeup will be done before arriving at call time. Your student will also arrive in costume. Makeup and hair style for Winterguard is to be determined. We will provide guidelines and a picture of how it needs to look when the information becomes available.

## Rehearsal Etiquette, Policy and Mission Statement

Winterguard is a very competitive TEAM sport that takes a lot of hard work, determination and dedication. We are no different than all other sports such as football, basketball, dance ETC. We are not only teaching your student how to do colorguard, we are teaching life skills such as responsibility, team work, punctuality, work ethic, and reliability. This is a very competitive activity and all behaviors that result in disturbance of our goal will result in consequences. All guidelines are as follows...

### REHEARSAL SUPPLIES

All of the following supplies are **MANDATORY. IF YOU ARE NOT PREPARED WITH THE FOLLOWING SUPPLIES AT THE START OF REHEARSAL YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REHEARSE WITH US AND WILL LOOSE ATTENDANCE POINTS!**

- Rehearsal Attire
  - Students should be wearing comfortable stretchy clothes that they can move in such as leggings, jazz pants, and sweatpants. No jeans or jeggings. Layers can be worn as it is common for us to rehearse outside. No exceptions.
- Athletic shoes
  - We will not always be inside so you must ALWAYS have athletic shoes on hand.
- Hair tie
  - Hair must be pulled back away from the face
- Stretch towel
- Water!!!

## **REHEARSAL POLICY**

- All rehearsals are **mandatory**. **Missing a rehearsal can and will result in not being in the part learned that day.** It is very difficult and most times impossible to write a part of the show for someone who is not present. If you have rehearsal conflicts please let us know in ADVANCE.
- **If a student is not present in the rehearsal before a competition they will not be allowed to perform at that competition.** This is not only due to being unprepared but also for the safety of the team and the responsible member. You are still expected to be present, dressed and ready as you are still a part of the team and participation points are required for your grade.

## **GRADES**

School is the number one priority for every student. Without maintaining good grades, a student may not be allowed to compete in competitions and risks the chance of being removed from the team. Winterguard is considered an extracurricular activity. It is not easy to balance school and a sport but it is possible with good time management. Missing rehearsal for homework/studying is not an excusable absence. Plan ahead.

## **ATTITUDE & BEHAVIOR**

- There is a zero tolerance policy in regards to having a bad attitude. All students are to listen to their staff and captains. Talking back, eye rolling, not listening, grunts, bullying etc. are all behaviors that can and will result in a student being sent home from rehearsal and a loss of participation points. First strike is a warning. Second strike sends you home. Third strike could result in removal from the team. With that being said, rehearsals should always consist of a positive learning environment. Be kind to one another and leave drama and bad attitudes at the door.

## **COMMUNICATION**

- In all situations communication is key. If a student is to be late, absent, unprepared etc, we expect communication to staff/captains **before the start of rehearsal or as soon as information becomes available!** We are more likely to work with a situation that has been communicated about ahead of time.

## **ATHLETICISM**

- Winterguard is an athletic sport. It takes a lot of endurance, coordination, and strength to get through a Winterguard show at the level we are expecting. Lots of conditioning and strength building exercises will be incorporated into every rehearsal and participation is mandatory. If you have a health issue that could hinder your performance ability it must be communicated ASAP so that adequate show placements and alternative exercises can be put into place.

## **SHOW PLACEMENTS**

- We will place every member in the show as we see fit. Capability, skill level, attitude, and attendance are all factors that go into where and how a student will get placed in the competitive show. We want every member to feel confident with the parts that are being asked of them. This is a TEAM sport and every placement is for the greater good of the entire team.

## REHEARSAL KEY BEHAVIORS TO BEING SUCCESSFUL

- **To be EARLY is to be ON TIME.**
- Fast-paced, efficient, and well-organized rehearsals are the key to success
- Silence in rehearsal is required at all times. This reduces confusion and allows all members to hear instructions and corrections.
- Quick resets. The more times something is performed correctly, the better it will become.
- **Perform all the time.** Rehearse the way you want to perform.
- **Worry about your own “gig.”** It is not your job to make suggestions to the person next to you. Teacher or staff member will do so at the appropriate time.
- Take criticism and make corrections. Everyone will be wrong at some point. Don't take it personally. Without mistakes being identified and isolated, how would improvement exist?
- Push your staff by being ready to go. Always know your dot, choreography, etc.
- Never stop trying to improve your own individual performance.
- **Being good = fun.**

With my signature below, I affirm that I have read and understand the policies of the Western High School Color Guard. **I agree to comply with the above Policies and will cooperate in their implementation. It is my understanding that any deviance of these policies can result in consequences**

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Western Mandatory Dates

## Continuous Weekday Rehearsals (includes all school days)

- Tuesday 3-6pm
- Thursday 3-6pm

## Show Schedule

Feb 3- Classification @ Bellflower

March 3- Valencia

March 17- Westminster

March 24- Glendora

April 7- Mayfair

April 21- WGASC CHAMPS

For more information regarding competitions, locations, times, etc, you can visit:  
[WGASC.org](http://WGASC.org)

## Other Important dates:

### January Rehearsal

- ◆ Saturday January 13th 9am-4pm
- ◆ Friday January 26th 8am-5pm [Teacher day: No School] (floor painting/rehearsal)

### February Rehearsal

- ◆ Monday February 19th 9am-4pm (Presidents' Day: No school)

### SPRING BREAK REHEARSAL

- ◆ Friday March 16th 9am-1pm

\*\*All dates are subject to change\*\*

