



MEMBER HANDBOOK 2023

(aka Tour Survival Guide)

Welcome to tour!

Tour will be one of the most profound, important, and exciting experiences of your life! Tour brings great challenges and great rewards. It will not always go as planned, it will be exhausting, and it will involve excitement and new experiences. Mistakes will be made - some yours, some not, and there will be days you'll wonder how or why you got into this.

Please read this guide carefully - with your parents - so we start together. Advance preparation and planning on your part is important. This information is given as expectations, not suggestions. It will set you up for success.

Tour operates smoothly when everyone does their share, plus a little bit more. If you see something that needs to be done, it is now your job to do it. "We" take care of "Us." Always strive to do just a little more and do it just a little bit better.

Be flexible, have a great sense of humor (*especially when it's not funny*), be positive, and be creative. It is important we can count on you, just as you need to be able to count on us and everyone else around you.

Colts are respectful, responsible, selfless, compassionate, positive, determined, relentless, and self-assured.

Our goal is to operate in a way that leaves you free to concentrate on the achievement of excellence and not worry. We are proud of our tour operation, and we expect you to do your part.

Have a great summer, and before you leave, make sure you give your family members a big hug and thank them for making this possible for you. Welcome to the Colts and welcome to tour!

Sincerely,

Vicki MacFarlane
Colts Director

P.S. Parents, we need your help on tour! We are still light in the kitchen at times, especially during Spring Training. Please help or suggest someone! More information is available at <https://colts.org/about-volunteer>

WELCOME TO TOUR!

Two Rules:

- Do not break the law.
- Do not embarrass the organization.

That pretty much covers it, although we will spend the next dozen pages preparing you for tour. A good rule of thumb is if you think about doing something, and you're not sure it's a good idea, then it is probably not a good idea.

Drum corps is not easy. For most people, tour can be the most physically and mentally demanding experience of a lifetime. We are here to support you through this growth process. No change comes without some level of stress and anxiety, and we are all in this together. Your preparation in advance of tour leads to your level of enjoyment on tour.

We have a great reputation in the drum corps activity, and our reputation is especially important to us. Please remember you are now this organization. It takes years to develop a great reputation, and seconds to destroy it.

OUR PHILOSOPHY AND EXPECTATION:

There is a big difference between a problem and an inconvenience.

Success on tour, and in life, hinges on knowing the difference. Have a positive, "we'll work it out," attitude in every situation, no matter how "dire" it first appears. There will be challenges and inconveniences, but very few problems.

You were selected because you are a motivated, responsible, and success-bound individual. Tour is operated to a large extent by the members, with direction from staff and support from volunteers. Internal leadership is critical, and it is an important part of the growth our members experience.

Important contact information

- Colts website www.colts.org
- Colts office phone 563-582-4872
- Vicki (Director) cell 563-564-9016
- Vicki email colts@colts.org
- Kathleen (Operations) cell 609-442-9034
- Kathleen email kathleen@colts.org
- Jeff (Exec. Director) cell 563-599-8553
- Jeff email jeff@colts.org
- Accounting email accounting@colts.org
- Volunteer email volunteers@colts.org
- Drum Corps International www.dci.org

Colts Virtual Cooktruck <https://coltscooktruck.blogspot.com/>
Colts Cooks, Parents, and Volunteers on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/645013565510681>

PARENTS - TO REACH US you may call the office, send an email or text, or call our cell phones directly. The office is staffed all summer, but we often have more calls than ears. Please leave a message! Texting or email is best, and we can respond faster than a phone call. Check the website often for updates and news. The Colts Virtual Cooktruck is linked from the website and will have the daily schedule, menus, weather, a map of where we are, and other tidbits from the day.

REALLY IMPORTANT THINGS:

If you have a problem or a suggestion, discuss it with the right people. If it's bothering you, it's important, and be sure you discuss it with someone who can do something about it. At the same time, complaining to people who can't do anything to solve a concern is not helpful to the corps.

Good idea: Always think of the whole - what is best for the greatest number of people? If you have a question or wonder about anything at all, please ask us!

Intentional misuse or abuse of property or equipment, or stealing of property or equipment, is not tolerated. This includes any item, no matter how "insignificant," belonging to any member, another corps, a housing site, or a community.

We must be able to trust each other in every way. We leave a school cleaner than we arrived, and we are known as a trustworthy group. This reputation is earned over decades.

A legitimate complaint from a housing site once upon a time involved using school computers without permission. Caution: Trick question ... logging onto a school computer to check email or Facebook isn't a big deal - heck, some of us are computer science majors, right? **Answer: IF IT'S NOT YOURS, DO NOT TOUCH IT** - computers or anything else.

School Computers: *UNLESS GIVEN SPECIFIC PERMISSION, NEVER TOUCH OR LOG INTO A SCHOOL COMPUTER, NO MATTER HOW HARMLESS IT SEEMS.*

"On campus": You may not leave a housing site without permission from a tour director or corps director. No matter how good it smells, you may not go around the corner to McDonalds or Dairy Queen - you must eat with the corps during the day. You may be given some freedom after shows. Treat yourself after a performance, not before.

During laundry or free days, you may leave with family and you may bring a friend with you. Check out with the tour director and know what time and where to be back.

ALCOHOL There will be no alcohol consumed by a member of any age until the corps is dismissed for the season. This includes laundry and free days. We have a broad age range and do not want unnecessary issues during our season.

Proper Clothing

Please wear appropriate clothing in appropriate places. Every member MUST have a t-shirt with them at all times. While indoors at any facility and in the food line, wear a t-shirt. Appropriate t-shirts (and any other apparel) mean they do not contain references to alcohol, guns, profanity, or sexual or offensive language or graphics. Many sections wear special section shorts, and each section determines the color and style. Each member buys their own.

Normal people work in schools during the summer, and they don't always understand our rehearsal attire. We may ask you to put on more clothing in a rehearsal. If we ask, please cooperate by putting on a t-shirt and rolling down the shorts. Yes, we know it's about tan lines, however, this is important, or we wouldn't ask you to do it or spend time on it.

Injury Or Illness

If you are sick or injured, report to the wellness team, to your lead instructor at the time, or to the kitchen truck. We will take care of you. Doctor runs are typically done just after breakfast, or at any time in event of emergency. We will error on the side of caution when deciding what care to seek for you.

June and July heroes become August holes. Your participation is at the discretion of the Colts, and you generally must be in some rehearsal to successfully perform in the evening show. Changes are made each rehearsal block, and you could hurt yourself or someone else without rehearsal.

Smoking: Please don't smoke at all. If you do smoke or vape, you must be 18 or over, and you may not smoke or vape on school property, including parking lots and fields. There is no vaping allowed on the buses or in dorm rooms.

Travel And Truck Stops

We travel mostly at night and stop every two to three hours for bathroom breaks, driver stretches, and fuel. You may get off the bus to use the restrooms, but unless you have been told otherwise, you may NOT make purchases. We cannot travel efficiently if 150 people buy things. Volunteers and staff may make purchases because this number can be checked out in the time we have, and they get less sleep. We know it's not fair.

Memories

Good idea: Lots of pictures! Consider keeping a journal. There will be a day when you are 40 years old when you will be thankful for photos, show programs, and keepsakes.

Church

It is rare, but on occasion members may find the possibility to attend a Sunday AM church service prior to rehearsal. Logistics, rehearsal, or crews interfere with this possibility.



THE EQUIPMENT TRUCK



The truck is our lifeline. Things and people can get hurt on the truck if you are not careful and diligent. We must be efficient, coordinated, and organized (if everyone does things just a little differently, it does not work and is not safe).

- EVERY piece of equipment has an EXACT place.
- Safety is key. There is a 5-foot drop from the front door landing to the ground.
- The aluminum steps on the front door MUST be set up correctly so they don't collapse. If you have not been shown how, please don't set them out.
- The truck must be shut and locked in time for departure. Make sure your stuff is loaded on time. It's a long ride with your equipment on your lap.
- Hang uniforms on the truck. No uniforms are to be stored in bus bays or on the bus.
- The handles on the outside of the truck doors must be tucked back and latched when the doors are open. If they are not, the doors get caught in the wind and become weapons.
- Padlocks are hung unlocked in its handle, not anywhere else. If there is no handle, put the lock to the right side of the trailer, visible from where the lock goes.
- No garbage, no matter how insignificant, is to be left on the truck. If you see garbage, throw it away.
- No food or beverage should be brought onto or stored on the trailer.
- All members, especially front ensemble, MUST wear close-toed shoes while loading or unloading. Open-toed shoes are dangerous. Protect your feet.
- Please do not bother the sleeping driver for a key. Drum majors and some members have keys.
- When the truck is closed for departure, there is to be no reentry to the trailer prior to departure. The truck driver cannot tell that someone opened the back door again from their cab. In an emergency, see the tour director, corps director, or pit section leader. Under no circumstance should a door be reopened.
- Please do not shout, drum, clank, or warm up near the semi-tractor (the part with the motor). The driver is sleeping during the day and often at the show, too.

THE BUS - HOME ON WHEELS



We have 3 member buses. Each has its own name and legacy. Work with veterans to know which one will fit your style. They are distinct communities and cultures. Bus events, such as prom and staff look-alike night, are sometimes held.

Aside from getting along with your seat partner, there are several things you can do to make living with your 55 closest friends a little easier. Most importantly is respect. Respect each other, and each other's space and stuff. The seat is yours, along with a reasonable amount of the space under and over the seat. Divide space accordingly.

Get off the bus **only** when instructed to do so. Information is shared each time we stop before you get off the bus.

We do not spend time doing roll call before we pull out. Sit in your seat and be sure your seat partner is there. ***It is your responsibility to ensure your seat partner is on the bus before we depart!*** Be CERTAIN it's your seat partner and not just a rolled-up blanket! Yes, it's happened... If you get off the bus, take your cell phone with you, just in case...

Bus Restrooms

Each bus has a restroom that is not to be used (only for an emergency). If there's an emergency, tell the driver right away. (If you don't notify your driver, we'll all know eventually. Picture tank chemicals, summer heat, a stuffy bus, and your "contribution.") Restrooms are not for storage or garbage. Empty seats are to be used for people, not "stuff."

Bus Captains

Each bus has two captains who will assist with or handle any issues, monitor cleanliness, and provide information. Bus captains are appointed, part of the leadership team, and are largely responsible for what happens on the bus. They must keep the seating manifest and maintain a bus-cleaning routine. Bus captains get off the bus first at housing sites to find out information, and then relay these details to the rest of their bus. Captains wait until cued to release members from the bus upon arrival at shows or housing sites. Passengers are not ever to get off the bus until guided to do so by the tour director. Every vehicle must be parked in the Colts convoy prior to passengers entering parking lots. The tour director will cue the bus captains to empty buses once it is safe to do so.

Members are responsible for appropriate behavior. If a situation arises where behavior needs correction, it is likely time for a new bus captain or passengers. It is important to address or report anything you may not be comfortable with to someone you feel safe with who can address the situation appropriately, even if that rises above the level of the bus captains.

Bus Seat Assignments

Bus seats are selected during Spring Training. Line up a seat partner in advance. The most veteran member selects seats for both of you. (One or more years of Colt Cadets counts as one year of seniority for this purpose). You may change seats within your bus with the approval of your bus captain and the new seat partners. We generally do not allow bus changes – see the tour or corps director with questions. Students 16 years of age or younger have more specific rules that are addressed by the director on an individual basis.

Good idea: Bring a pillow and blanket for the bus.

Good idea: Sleep across the aisle (not down it). Members may sleep on the floor, but never in the racks. If you sleep on the floor, you assume the risk of being stepped on, and you must get off the floor each time we stop.

Don't ever walk or stand on armrests, even if you are trying to avoid stepping on somebody (the edge of the seat is ok).

Bus lights usually are turned off soon after departure. **Bus sleep is critical to summer survival.** Most nights, you'll be asleep before the lights are off, but if you do stay up for a bit, please be quiet and get sleep as soon as possible. Formal "lights out" is one hour after departure or the first rest stop.

Special Note For Percussionists

Drumheads and practice pads are designed to be hit with sticks. Bus armrests, windows, other people, gym floors, table tops/sides/legs, and the like, are not.

Your Belongings

The Colts are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged belongings. We do not control public access to our areas, especially in housing sites. We do not lock the bus or the bays. Do not bring anything you can't afford to lose, and don't leave anything important on the bus.

If you leave items on the bus, set it on your bus seat (such as your bus box). The floor and the overhead racks should be empty for cleaning so the bus can be swept regularly.

A bus box is a plastic box with a lid for snacks, stationery, or a book. It **MUST FIT UNDER** your seat, which has a 9" clearance and is about the width of your butt. You might want a small plastic shower caddy with suction cups on your window to hold small stuff you use often. Never spray colognes, perfumes, hair sprays, or deodorants on the bus.

GENERAL TOUR INFO

Message Board System

The day's schedule and important information is posted on the kitchen truck. Information will change during the day, and you must check every meal for updates.

Lost And Found

We do not operate a lost and found. Certain items of value left behind (phones, glasses, wallets) will be kept by the tour director. Other items (towels, shampoo, shorts) are thrown away by cleaning crews before we depart a housing site.

Laundry

Members do laundry every 14-16 days, typically using 3-4 laundromats simultaneously, dropping a busload at each one. The process takes about 3-4 hours, and is a nice break from tour, too. Keep a dirty clothes bag in your suitcase, not loose under the bus, and remember dirty clothes use WAY more space than clean clothes. Pack smart.

Good idea: Do not bring liquid laundry detergent with you. It can spill, it's heavy, and it smells. If bringing pods, consider a plastic container. Bring a roll of quarters or cash to get change. \$20-\$30 is ideal. Another Good idea: Trash bags or a laundry bag in your suitcase to hold dirty laundry. This helps keep your clean clothes clean. Throw in a dryer sheet to keep "tour fragrance" in check.

What To Wear, What Not To Wear

Only wear shirts from the companies endorsing us - Remo, Zildjian, Yamaha, Innovative, Fruhauf. You never know when a sponsor will be at rehearsal, or if we have media coverage. While we encourage you to support other corps, do not wear anything with another corps name while you are with Colts.

Adults On Tour

The adults who travel with us are there to support you. Whether driving, teaching, cooking, or fitting uniforms, please respect the fact they are working hard for you and mean well. Respond to their direction and always say thank you!

Souvenirs Of Your Summer

- Keep a journal!
- Get autographs on a show shirt, drumhead, or a program. (If you wish to use a drumhead, save an old head. *Never use a new drumhead.*)
- Carriers, brass parts, flags, uniforms, and weapons are NOT souvenirs. They belong to the corps and are for sale. See the director to purchase any of these items.

Grocery Stops

Every 2-3 weeks we have WalMart stops for toiletries, snacks, and other items. On any day, a corps runner may assist with needed purchases. During spring training, an address will be provided so that items can be shipped to you.

Tour Itineraries

We will prepare several itineraries during the summer. The itineraries will be posted on the web site and distributed via email. We invariably wait for late information from a few show sponsors. The itinerary contains housing and show details, departure and arrival times, mail drops, free days, laundry days, grocery stops, and other information as needed.

Money You Need

The amount of money you need for personal spending is entirely up to you. Some members have spent less than \$100 for 90 days and others spend that much in a week. A rule of thumb is \$3-\$5 a day. Please keep in mind that much of your shopping will be done online.

There are a few things for which you definitely need cash: laundry (\$15 a time), free days, and souvenirs. You need personal meal money for free days. We suggest you carry a limited amount of cash. Carry a credit card or an ATM/cash card. Our souvenir stand will cash personal checks or run your debit card for cash. If you plan to use a check, have it made out to you, not the Colts.

YOUR FEET

Your feet are your life in drum corps. If you injure your feet, there is little chance to heal, even with time off. Consider going to a specialty store and consult the DCI shoe list for input. Cross trainers (or trail runners) are often the best bet. **(DO NOT buy free running shoes.)**

- Your rehearsal shoes are the most important things you select for the summer. You will be on your feet constantly; your shoes must support and protect.
- Plan on needing **at least 3 pairs of tennis shoes**. This is essential to your health! If you need to cut corners, do it somewhere else.
- You need excellent athletic shoes, with plenty of support, in the right size, designed for this type of use. You do not have to spend crazy money for good shoes.
- You WILL wear shoes any time outside the gym for any reason for any length of time. You will wear shoes when getting off the bus, no matter how sleepy you are.
- Athlete's foot can be a problem. Treat it immediately.
- Bring foot powder. Wear flip-flops in the shower.
- Keep your feet dry and bring plenty of socks. Always wear socks in rehearsal and change them frequently.
- Keep toenails trimmed in a straight line across your toe, especially the big toe. Ingrown toenails are painful, and difficult to treat on tour. The medical treatment is not pretty or pleasant, and it's totally avoidable.

PHONES & ELECTRONIC GEAR

We allow cell phones and personal media players. They will be with you on the bus, in the school when you're there, and in your field bag when you're in rehearsal. We do not allow computers. While we don't ban tablets such as iPads, we

would discourage you from bringing one on tour. Do not bring anything you can't afford to have stolen, lost, or broken. The Colts claim no responsibility for your belongings. If you need use of a computer, see the tour or corps director at any time.

Only charge electronics on the bus or in the gym. All phones, media players, etc. are to be taken with you to rehearsal in your field bag. Any electronic devices left in the school during the rehearsal day will be gathered by the tour staff for safekeeping unless a rogue local gets to them first.

Good Idea: Bring a small power strip to share. Put your name on every piece of electronic gear including power strips and chargers. Tape your own spare charger to your power strip.

Steer clear of personal communications during rehearsals. Check messages at mealtimes. Keep your phone off as much as possible. If you encounter local media on tour, steer them directly to a staff member or the director.

A note about social media: With modern communication you can write posts, display photos and recordings, and share at the touch of a button. When you post, be very careful to what and how you say anything. Each time you post, you are now a spokesperson for the Colts to the world.

Ever play "telephone"? If a bus rubs a street sign, and you say "accident," the "accident" is now shared with panicked parents, freaked out friends, and all of DCI. The "accident" becomes a rumor-driven bus fire with a plunge off a cliff and possible fatalities. Please be sensitive to what you are saying and how it may be interpreted. Be sensitive with photos too, as context is important to provide. Ideally, send private emails or messages with any sensitive or personal information.

Good idea: Write your name on everything you bring. Many things look the same for 200 people. A sharpie is your friend.

DORM OR HOTEL ROOMS

Dorms and hotel rooms are assigned 2-4 people per room. Only same sex individuals will be allowed together in any room. Co-ed socializing must happen in lobbies or other common areas. At lights out, all members should be in their assigned rooms with lights turned out. Distributed keys are the responsibility of each member, and any lost key charges will be charged to the individual with the missing key.

MAIL DROPS

We arrange for incoming mail every few weeks. Bus snacks, a miss you letter, card, favorite teddy bear, or extra spending money are all appreciated. Before you leave, round-up friends to write to you. Do NOT mail liquids. Yes, it is fun to actually receive mail on tour. Absolutely *do not send anything directly to a random housing site.*

Mail in plenty of time! Express mail (overnight delivery) is

USUALLY reliable and also traceable. If it doesn't arrive in time, have it forwarded to our next mail drop.

Daily Mail Drop Location May 26-June 26, Address as:

COLTS - Member Name
(Western Illinois address to be updated soon)



Once-a-week Mail drop Location June 27-July 15, Address as:
Member Name
C/O Colts
2300 Twin Valley Drive
Dubuque, IA 52003

Further mail drops will be announced on the web site.
July Mail MUST be USPS delivery and addressed as:

*HOLD FOR COLTS DRUM & BUGLE CORPS
(MEMBER NAME)
GENERAL DELIVERY
Insert address of post office
Insert City, State, Zip of post office*

GYM/SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

Sleeping areas are separate and distinct for male and female students (transgender students are handled on a case-by-case basis after consultation with the student; nonbinary students will sleep according to sex assigned at birth). You are expected to be on the appropriate side of the gym and in your bed before lights out. We must maintain a 6-foot neutral zone between males and females in sleeping areas.

Students are to sleep only one person per bed on a single bed (double mattresses are not allowed). There is no lying in bed with another student at any part of the day or overnight. There are also to be no lying down back rubs. In the event of hotel rooms, beds will remain one student per bed in double rooms, and two students using sleeping bags or air mattress.

While we have a great deal of trust in our membership, and we have expectations of respect and responsibility, many of the fundamentals we outline are to make sure we deliver great impressions to our host communities. Our procedures are built not just to safeguard our membership and organizational culture, but to strengthen the immediate impression we leave on those who observe us when we visit, rehearse, and rest.

MEMBER RELATIONSHIPS

PDA (public displays of affection) are not allowed. Please remember, we are guests and must leave positive impressions. Underage relationships are not tolerated, nor are they legal. The only exception to this is limited to pre-existing relationships (prior to move ins) with the consent of parents and the executive director. Please see the corps director in advance of tour with any questions.

FUEL FOR YOUR BODY

The physical duress your body will be under is unlike anything most have EVER experienced. Dehydration can be an issue, and you need much more fluid than normal. You must satisfy thirst before you feel thirsty. Drink more than you are thirsty for, especially prior to the next rehearsal block.

Dehydration

A personal **one-gallon water jug** is required for the frequent water breaks during rehearsal. Put your name on your water jug! There are at least 75 identical to yours.

You must drink fluids before exercise and throughout the day. Your body will use 8-16 ounces of water every 30 minutes at our level of exertion. If you begin to get a headache, you may be getting dehydrated and must immediately replace fluids.

Watch to see if your urine is becoming darker than normal as a warning sign of dehydration. If you experience discomfort in the restroom, please tell us RIGHT AWAY. Bladder infections can happen on tour.

Carbonation and caffeine worsen dehydration, so only drink water and juice on tour. Post show, a carbonated or caffeinated drink is permitted, but must be coupled with double the amount of water to remain properly hydrated (12oz caffeinated tea needs 24oz water to replenish).

Medical Form And First Aid

We ask each member to bring your own standard medical supplies, but if you need something basic, we likely have it available. *A suggested personal medical kit* includes Ibuprofen or anti-inflammatory, band-aids, pepto, cold medicine, cough drops, antibiotic cream, aloe, and Gold Bond.

Please be absolutely accurate and honest with all the information requested on the medical history form. We need all the information to take care of you in an emergency.

Medical Treatment And Insurance

Be sure you have medical insurance, and make sure the information on your medical form is current. Carry an insurance card in your field bag. There may be situations in which insurance will not cover clinic visits or prescriptions. In this case, you should be prepared to pay for it. We are not able to file insurance claims for you.

If your insurance requires pre-authorization, we will make every effort to contact parents and/or insurance, but we will not unreasonably delay treatment trying to do so. If your insurance is limited as to location, please get a supplemental policy for summer, at least for emergencies. Parents – we use our best judgment in this regard, and we do what we think is in the best interest of your child.

OUR MEAL PROGRAM



We have one of the finest food programs in the activity and you can help us do a great job for you. The kitchen volunteers have the toughest schedule of all, so please be supportive and thankful.

Our meals are planned for summer exertion. Even if you aren't hungry, eat every meal and some of everything. Your normal caloric intake must be increased substantially to keep up with what we do, and our menus provide what your body needs.

Your volunteer kitchen crew will prepare and serve over 60,000 meals this summer to support you. It is hard, demanding, and exhausting work. These amazing parents and volunteers will do almost anything for you and all they ask for is a thank you and a smile, even if you're having a crappy day. ALWAYS THANK THE COOKS!

Guidelines for the food program

- We offer a regular or vegetarian entrée (we do not offer a vegan option due to the nutritional demands of tour).
- We respect and accommodate food allergies, as long as you are not in danger while touring with us. We do not support special "diets."
- Unlimited peanut butter and jelly is served every meal.
- Use only one cup per meal. You may refill endlessly.
- Save your plate for seconds. Seconds are almost always available but wait until everyone has been through once.
- Never stack garbage. If you see a full container, take it upon yourself to switch out the bag. Don't make it "someone else's" problem.
- Juice is for meals only (not for your water jug).
- You have 45 minutes to get through the line for meals. You may choose to shower and pack first, and have other duties, but eat within 45 minutes. The kitchen crews are on tight schedules and clean up at that time.
- There may be times you don't care for something served, but try to eat some of everything, especially the entrée.
- If you *really* can't stand what is served, grab a PB&J or two, what you will eat, and relax. Please don't complain, let us know, and eat what you can.
- Use the hand sanitizer before eating any meal.
- Members periodically bleach wash personal water jugs. Brass has periodic "mouthpiece boils." Jug bleaching and mouthpiece boils are mandatory and essential.

Great leaders pick up trash!
And - great leaders take out the trash!

UNIFORM

Anytime in uniform, you are performing. On, or off the field, you are representing all of us, including over 2,500 alumni before you. Only the highest level of professionalism is acceptable in a Colts uniform. Guide your decisions accordingly. These guidelines will help you and are very important. You are a professional performer. Impress and don't disappoint.



Uniform Guidelines

- Don't sit in uniform. If we must sit in uniform, we will do so only when a clean and dry place is available. If you must sit outdoors, sit on a towel or blanket.
- Never sit on asphalt, even with a blanket or towel. The hot asphalt will get on your garments and uniform, which will rub on your pants, which will spread to your instrument, which will make for a bad day.
- Never run in uniform. You can fall and hurt yourself and your uniform.
- Crew length plain BLACK socks for uniform wear.
- Only the provided Colts logo dryfit member shirt will be worn under the uniform. Members are issued at one or two Colts logo dryfit shirts.
- Color guard will wear their member/warm up shirt on special performance occasions.
- Our bibs fit tightly and underwear lines are not attractive. Bring BLACK spandex basketball leggings with no stripes or markings. Men often refer to these as "compression shorts." These should be long shorts, that cover the thigh and leg down to the knee. Under uniform spandex can be capri or full length. Steer towards length as much as possible. Boxers or loose shorts do not work because they get bunched up and show through.
- You should bring **black** shoe polish and a polish rag in a resealable plastic bag. Do not polish shoes indoors.
- Brass and percussion players wear member shirts under the uniform at all times. Many times you will be wearing only your uniform bibs and the member shirt (this is referred to as "halves").
- All males will want to have two dance belts. The uniforms are now a soft knit stretch, and males will be more comfortable and supported with a dance belt. Females will want black- or dark-colored sports bras for under the uniform and member shirt.
- Hair should be specifically styled for the production when in uniform. Everyone must look well-groomed in their personal chosen look. We want our look to be intentional, polished, and "crafted."
- Gentlemen should be neatly shaven in uniform. A beard or goatee is allowed but must be well groomed with the neckline and cheek lines clean shaven. Sideburns should also be shaped/trimmed for each show.

- Your hair should be its natural color for summer. Any hair coloring should be approved by a staff member.
- Any staff member may address a member relative to facial grooming, hairstyle, or jewelry. If addressed, please correct what's asked without argument. Our goal is to look as professional and uniform as possible while still allowing for individual choices.
- We will not wear shakos, making hairstyle and color decisions even more important. Draw attention to yourself through talents, not by looks.
- No makeup or foundation can be worn lower than the lower lip for brass and percussion due to the uniform bibs.
- Smoking/Vaping is never permitted in uniform.
- Drink only water while in uniform.
- There is no eating in uniform except rare instances. You will be told when it is a rare instance.
- While in uniform (and in public with or without a uniform), only use proper language (no profanity).
- Things will happen to make you legitimately upset or ecstatic, but monitor expression of feelings in uniform or while representing the corps. No matter what happened to create an emotional firestorm in your soul, restrain from emotional outbursts in public. The Colts are not having a crisis, YOU are. Keep it personal and not public.
- Never engage in negative conversation about another corps, your corps, or any facet of the drum corps activity while in public, and especially while in uniform.
- Do not carry anything in your uniform garment bag except your uniform and cloth uniform parts. Everything else, such as shoes, should be in your carry-on bag.
- Don't leave the uniform on a bus overnight unless told to.
- Be aware of your environment at all times.
- Outward displays of physical affection (PDA) while in uniform or in public are unacceptable.
- Brass players wear clean gloves with the uniform. You should have new gloves about every 4th show. Wear your performance gloves for performances, not for practice. (Old show gloves do make fine practice gloves.)
- Clean shoes and uniform parts are your responsibility, but only the corps cleans the uniforms. You may not take your uniform home without permission or purchase.
- Uniforms are a big part of the equipment truck loading and unloading puzzle. Be sure to have your uniform where it is supposed to be when it is supposed to be there.
- It is critical to hang your uniform correctly to keep it looking crisp and nice.
- Uniforms are usually taken off the truck during meals 1 or 2 on a show day and placed in the truck immediately following the show before meal 4.
- Please seek approval for facial piercings worn in uniform.
- Small earrings are allowed. Gauges should be approved. If noticeable, you will be asked to change or remove earrings or gauges immediately. We want nothing to distract from the uniform or performance character, but we offer some liberties in personal choice.
- **No necklaces, chains, or pendants other than the Colts or Colt Cadets corps triangles are worn in uniform.**

PACKING FOR TOUR

The choices you make here have a direct correlation to your quality of life on tour. Limited space requires careful planning, and in the long run you will appreciate efficiency. **All of your stuff must fit into one carry-on bag, one bus box, one suitcase, one field bag, and one sleeping roll and pillow.**

1) Sleeping bag/air mattress; pillow & blanket. Your sleeping bag or air mattress, when rolled up, must be 18" in diameter or less. Fold it lengthwise, roll it and measure it. Pillows do not go in the bays under the bus - they ride with you in your seat.

Foam pads or air mattresses are allowed in addition to a sleeping bag but cannot take up more space than a sleeping bag. **Air mattresses must have a battery-operated inflator** if you intend to inflate your bedding. DCI has asked all corps to ban the use of cots on tour due to gym and school floor damages. Cots are no longer allowed on tour.

Good idea: Bring a sleeping bag with a waterproof cover. Damp bags are unpleasant and take DAYS to dry!

2) A uniform supplies bag is more important than you may realize! Use a large size ziplock bag, cinch bag, or duffel to be with you at all times. It must fit in the overhead rack, which is smaller than on an airplane.

- You will take this bag with you every time you get off the bus at a housing site. You will carry in this bag your marching shoes, socks, gloves, change of clothes, and shower supplies.
- You will take your uniform supplies bag, full of ALL of your uniform parts and one day's worth of clothes and shower supplies with you EVERY time we enter a housing site in addition to your suitcase. This includes marching shoes.
- We cannot unload the bays just for you, and we do not open the bays at show sites. This allows you to get your suitcase to the bus for loading, while still having clothes and toiletries at your access (along with all of your uniform supplies!).
- Your bus can and will leave for any number of reasons (like fueling), and it might not return until after a show. Good thing you had your marching shoes, all your uniform parts, a change of clothes and shower supplies with you!

Good idea: Read this last section again. Marching shoes? *This will allow you to avoid one of the biggest and most embarrassing mess-ups on tour.* Imagine missing a show because your bus is getting a tire fixed because... (ready?) ...you didn't have your uniform parts or marching shoes with you. **TO BE CLEAR (last time)** Your uniform supply bag contains items to shower, change, and perform.

3) One suitcase. Only one suitcase, and you must limit the size. It can be a rolling duffel bag, if you prefer.

Size Limit – There are many different varieties and shapes possible, so use GIRTH to determine the size limit. The girth is the length of your suitcase along one side, the width across one end and the circumference at the widest point, added together. Work to get the girth as close to 110 inches or less as possible. If you put your bedding in your suitcase, then a slightly larger girth is reasonable.

Your suitcase rides under the bus with your sleeping bag. Once loaded, it will not be seen again until our next housing site hundreds of miles away.

Your suitcase can have wheels, but you must be able to carry it in one hand. Everything feels heavier at 3 am. FYI: Suitcase wheels never touch a gym floor, and sometimes cannot touch hallway floors. Schools get picky about fresh waxed hallways and gym floors. Roll it to the door, then pick it up and carry it.

Good idea: Your quality of life is directly proportional to how full and heavy your suitcase is. A suitcase about 75% full is full. You'll want room for souvenirs, and dirty clothes take up WAY more room than clean ones. Really.

Good idea: Practice pack once, then remove about 25% of what you packed and try again. That's about right. The weight changes depending on how tired you are, what time it is, how far away the buses are parked, and if it's raining.

Good idea: You can carry more clothes, find them more easily and keep them nicer if you roll them instead of fold them. Many members put clothes inside plastic ziplock bags.

4) A small personal backpack is used as your field bag, and will go with you to rehearsal with your electronics, charger, lip gloss, sunscreen, music binder, a t-shirt, etc. Things will walk away during the day if left inside a school. **TAKE ANYTHING IMPORTANT WITH YOU TO REHEARSAL.**

Other Packing Advice

Good idea: Keep all your bus stuff in your carry-on and bus box, never loose in the overhead or on the floor. There is a nasty thing called "tour spread" that can be contagious.

Drivers' sleep time is important, and they can't be constantly unlocking the bus, so we don't lock the buses. Anything you leave on the bus is fair game for neighborhood street urchins.

RAIN UNLOADS: When raining, grab ANY suitcase and ANY sleeping bag and take it into the school quickly where it's dry. We will sort it out inside, where it's dry. When everyone does this, everyone's stuff stays dry.

Don't leave your suitcase in the bus bay. **Bring it inside!**

Good idea: Bring your sleeping bag, carry-on and suitcase with you on your one and only trip into the school. If you don't, several unpleasant things can happen:

- Your stuff can get re-loaded onto another bus
- Your stuff is left in the lot and the neighborhood kids find it and keep it
- The buses unload in one parking lot and move to another, taking your stuff with them
- You get 10 minutes less sleep
- You step on people in the dark carrying your luggage
- Your bus driver has to wait on you before sleeping/fueling/getting the bus fixed or parking

A SPECIAL QUIZ:

To check whether you are planning to bring enough, pack your suitcase, uniform supplies bag, backpack, and sleeping bag as you intend to, and ask mom or dad to hide them in the basement in different places. Remember, your stuff will NEVER be found together in the parking lot. For added realism, jam the suitcase behind the furnace where it can't be seen, and where it's hard to access. Then go to bed. Have mom or dad wake you from a deep and peaceful slumber around 3:30 am. Proceed, tired and grumpy, to the dark, cold basement. You can't turn on any lights! Parking lots don't always have lights. Find your stuff.

Carry everything at once - up the stairs, out the front door, across the yard and around the house. (*Remember, you can't go to the bathroom until this walk is completed!*)

For an even more realistic test, have dad spray a light mist on your head and your belongings while you walk outside.

Upon completion of this test, you will know for sure if you have the space and weight available to pack more.

WHAT TO BRING

When deciding what to bring, remember we often have media coverage, and you must consider how that cute, but offensive, t-shirt would look when your photo runs in the newspaper, or on television news. Bring only what you can tolerate losing.

More detailed packing notes are in the next section.

- Comfortable athletic clothes to last 16 days. Clothes must be comfortable in hot, humid rehearsals - light colored, loose shirts and pants/shorts/sweats, **low cut** athletic shoes (no high tops).
- Hat for all rehearsals that covers your skull (protecting your brain from the sun)
- A blanket and warm clothes for the bus.
- Nice outfit for free time
- Two towels or shammies
- Uniform clothing (spandex, socks, undies)
- Plastic bags (trash bags and ziplock bags)
- Shower supplies - soap, shampoo, toothbrush, razors, etc. in a small, separate toiletry bag
- Sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher). *A sunscreen with Helioplex is medically recommended
- A water jug for rehearsal; a smaller bottle for the bus
- Sunglasses
- Swim attire (we may get a chance)
- Sweatshirt and sweatpants; Rain jacket
- Prescription or over-the-counter medications may be carried with you, but you must indicate use on your medical form. If you begin taking new medications, don't forget to update your medical form.

BUS BOX

The maximum dimensions under your bus seat are approximately 14 inches wide by 14 inches deep by 9 inches tall. Plan to have a plastic tub with lid smaller than this (and know this season's bus may have less space). You will keep bus snacks, a book or journal, and some other small personal items here.

SECTION NOTES FOR PACKING

FOR ALL: Big Checklist for move in –

- Wallet/ID/Insurance Card. Check bank balance and know what you have so you don't go negative (it's not fun)
- Phone and charger
- Sleeping bag or air mattress with battery powered pump; Pillow/blanket (it's here again cause it's important)
- Uniform stuff, such as Spandex!!!! & Black Socks
- Sunglasses, HAT, Section Shorts, and Sunscreen (with Helioplex)!!!

HORNLINE: You will want Wright's Silver Cream (horn polish), polishing cloth, valve oil, slide grease, Windex wipes, connoisseur wipes and black shoe polish. You will want baseball gloves to use for rehearsal gloves. Keep these items in your carry-on or field-bag. Make sure your water jug is RED and you have a black towel. You will need section shorts and a white t-shirt for ensemble.

GUARD: Make sure your water jug is BLUE. Bring any make-up and hair supplies specified by the staff. Also, you will need a hat, red bandanna, black shorts, and a black t-shirt for ensemble options. Black shorts (midthigh to knee length) are needed for warm ups. Remember pink and green are hype day colors. A red towel is desired for warmups.

PERCUSSION: Make sure your water jug is RED. Don't forget your sticks and pad! Bring some black shoe polish for your show shoes. Pack a plain white t-shirt, your section shorts, and black shorts for ensemble options.

But Really... “What the heck do I need to bring? How do I fit three months into one suitcase and a backpack??” The following packing list is written by veteran members to help you conquer packing and be prepared for summer! You may need more or less.

PACKING LIST - TOUR SURVIVAL KIT - What you’ll need & why - by veteran members

Let’s start with the **BASICS**:

- Your suitcase. When picking a suitcase, remember the size guidelines (girth as close to 110 or less as possible). Think of durability and ask yourself if you can roll and carry it (no rolling on gym floors). Leave some extra room since you often find your stuff expanding on tour.
- Uniform Supplies Bag. A large ziplock or draw string bag seems simplest, as it can often be added to your backpack or live on its own. This needs to fit in **minimal** overhead compartment space on the bus. This bag holds show & shower items.
- Sleeping pad, air mattress, and/or sleeping bag. Sheet for your air mattress if desired. Need to have a bag/carrier for your air mattress or sleeping bag or just put it in your suitcase (for loading purposes and space). Battery powered pump is a must. (please note, no cots!) Pro tour tip – find a very compact sleeping bag.
- Blanket and pillow. They will not be allowed in the bus bays. You will want it on the bus and in the gym.
- BUS BOX. Plastic box with lid. This will need to fit under your bus seat basically all tour. You can store snacks, magazines, a book, headphones, journal, etc.
- Toiletry bag. Some folks use one that unzips with a hook to hang it up.
- Laundry bag. Use a cloth bag and toss in dryer sheets (bring a small box of them) for the smell. A dozen detergent pods in a small plastic storage container or Purex sheets. Bring quarters.
- Towels (1-2). Lightweight, compact, fast drying swimmers or campers towels take up little space and dry quickly.
- Gallon sized water jug. You do not want to be dehydrated! Get the correct color - Blue for guard; Red for brass/percussion.
- Backpack for rehearsal stuff and valuables. This will go everywhere with you. Use it for dot book, repellent, sunscreen, DCT, Kleenex, pencils, music binder, drill, Advil, valuable items, etc. Make sure it is durable enough to stand the heat and varying weather. Bring a trash bag or back pack cover for rain days (for you or your belongings).
- A power strip will help you meet friends.
- Eye mask for sleeping if desired - sometimes the lights don’t turn off.
- Ear plugs (for rehearsal and/or sleeping).
- Money. Debit/credit cards work well. Wallet or small purse.

Toiletries:

- Toothbrush/paste, face wash, soap, shampoo/conditioner, razor, and anything else along those lines. You will want compact size toiletries, but not travel size. Don’t forget nail clippers and floss!
- Shower shoes. Flip flops for the shower are a must. Most places do not have the cleanest showers and you do not want athlete’s foot or any other such thing on your feet. PROTECT your FEET!
- Loofa or washcloth...it helps if you’re peeling or want to get all the dirt off from the field.
- Baby wipes or face wipes. Keep some in bus box for after shows (Especially guard with makeup).
- Pads/tampons as needed. Be prepared! The cook truck keeps some back up supplies in case you run out.
- Deodorant!
- Gold Bond. (Gold Bond makes a glide stick and a spray, as well.)
- Comb or brush. Most girls for show hair will want a hairbrush AND fine-tooth comb. Bobby pins and hair ties to match hair color. Hairspray and gel for show hair.
- Guard make up as directed by each season’s production.

Medical supplies and such:

The cook truck is stocked with basic items (Advil, cold medicine, allergy stuff, first-aid, etc). Bring meds you use on a regular basis. If you don’t need it often, don’t pack it. You can always order it, buy it at a WalMart run, or use small amounts from the cook truck.

- Neosporin and band aids
- Anti-itch ointment. I prefer the pen-sized applicator bottles of anti-itch ointment called After Bite.
- Painkillers (Aspirin, Tylenol, Ibuprofen, etc.). I suggest having a bottle of this in your field-bag.
- If you once had an injury and wore a brace, definitely bring the brace with you. Better safe than sorry!
- Prescribed medications, including inhalers. list these on your med form! If you have a controlled substance, it should be kept locked with the training team. You will sign a log when you use meds from the cook truck.

Clothing:

Most usually rewear everything at least once (wear shorts twice, wear shirts twice, wear sports bras twice, etc.). Have enough to last two weeks plus. Brass and Percussion wear white tshirts or tanks for full runs; Guard wears black tshirts or tanks for full runs.

- Gallon sized Ziploc bags to organize clothes; roll clothes to save space.
- 3 pairs of shoes. It is recommended to have one pair you wear and one back up on hand. Before your first pair wears out, order a new one to be mail dropped for your third pair. Just make sure to know the sizes and styles that work for you in advance. Having a spare for rain can help wet feet, but make sure they are still good, solid shoes. Cross trainers preferred. Do not go cheap, but three \$60 pairs are better than one \$150 pair. Inserts are a good option. Definitely consult the DCI shoe list.
- Underwear - 18 or more. Make sure they are comfortable for exercising. Sometimes you may want to change during the day, so it doesn't hurt to have extras. Bras for females - bring 10 sports bras or more with whatever kind of support you need. Don't worry about getting cute ones...they will be gross. Bring at least one regular bra in neutral color for free days. Males will definitely want two dance belts for uniform attire.
- Socks - 18 or more pairs of rehearsal socks and a 6-12 show socks. Show socks are BLACK calf length socks for brass and percussion. Keep a pair of show socks on the bus. No colored markings above the edge of your marching shoe!
- Rehearsal t-shirts or tank tops – if wearing one every day, bring 10. Lighter in color and material is better, nothing fancy. You will always want a shirt with you at rehearsal, and you must wear a shirt to enter any school or the food line. Remember that guard will need a black t-shirt or tank top for full-runs; Brass and percussion need white tshirts or tanks for full runs.
- Long-sleeve shirt(s) and sweatshirt(s) and jacket. A hoodie, and a long sleeve t-shirt should be enough for the bus and after shows and cold nights. A jacket works great too. We do rehearse in the rain, so bring something at least water resistant (a rain jacket works great, but a garbage bag can work too, but many people opt to just get wet.)
- Shorts. Section shorts, 4-7 pairs athletic rehearsal shorts, maybe a few comfortable shorts just for the bus or lounging. You can always wash shorts in the shower and re-wear these. Guard, bring at least two pairs of black shorts for ensemble and make sure you have at least one black pair non spandex for show warm-up.
- Black basketball leggings or long compression shorts – 3 pairs (smell them after 3 shows. Wash in the shower and hang to dry on bleachers. These are worn under your uniform for brass/percussion so we show no underwear lines.
- Pants. I bring 1-2 pairs of sweats/joggers for the bus, rain days, cold rehearsals, or after shows. Also, might want long athletic capris/pants if chafing is really bad.
- A couple outfits for free days/wrap up. Makeup/remover if desired. Store these in a ziploc bag with some dryer sheets.

Rehearsal Type Misc:

- Baseball caps (1-2, most have one for the summer). All sections will always wear these when outside. Guard should bring a bandanna for an added hype option. Hats can vary per your preference as long as the top of your head is covered (no visors), there is a bill or brim to shade your face, and any graphics are appropriate.
- Sunscreen! SPF 45+ Lotion is recommended (especially with Helioplex. Aerosol is not recommended, as it doesn't last as long and the spray can damage the silver horn finish.
- DCT or another lip balm with SPF protection (DCT or Chopsaver are great). Hornline – Vitamin E stick for night time.
- Sunglasses...make sure you can see out the sides. The sun is bright! Sunglasses are required at rehearsals when the sun is up.
- Pocket Packs of Kleenex. Great for on the bus or the field.
- Mini Hand sanitizer.
- Dot book - will be provided. Fanny pack or a shoestring to tie it around your waist.
- Pencils. You need one EVERY REHEARSAL! Mechanical works best. (FYI bring extras)
- Binder for music and/or drill as well as sheet protectors (keep in field bag)
- Headphones, chargers, media player if desired.
- Duct-tape is very useful on tour. It can fix just about everything. (just a small amount it fine!)
- Electrical tape and a few carabiners.
- Black shoe polish/rags. Q-tips are great for getting dirt out of little crevices in shoes also.
- BRASS: Silver polish, valve oil, microfiber cloths, slide grease, BERP, batting gloves.

Optional Items:

- 2 Masks.
- XL Twin size sheets – these can work well for your air mattress or for the dorm room.
- Suction cup caddy for bus window (normally in the bath area, plastic works best). This can hold your phone, valve oil, etc.
- A small bottle of febreze comes in handy between laundry days (be careful where you spray it).
- Aloe Vera gel for sunburns. (Hopefully you won't need this, but be prepared!) DO NOT USE before going to rehearsal!
- Athlete's foot medicine (just in case). Lotrimin is great! Or tough-actin Tenactin.
- Swimsuit/Swim Trunks. You never know. These often go unused, but generally bring something just in case.
- Free day/after show shoes. Comfortable, supportive shoes that will not hurt your feet for when out of rehearsal/show shoes.

- The Colts tour shirt is nice to have or any other Colts clothes you have.
- A smaller personal water bottle for bus rides.
- Bug spray...you will thank yourself when we go to Wisconsin (or Minnesota and the South in typical seasons).

PERSONAL CONDUCT *(adapted from the staff and volunteer policies)*

The Colts Youth Organization is committed to an environment in which relationships are characterized by dignity, honesty, courtesy, respect, and equitable treatment. This includes a commitment to create and maintain a positive organizational culture and climate which:

- is welcoming of difference and diversity and is based on inclusivity
- encourages members, staff, and volunteers to disclose and discuss incidents of bullying or harassment in a non-threatening environment
- promotes respectful relationships across the entire organization
- is free from any form or threat of harassment.

Discipline And Consequences

While we will deal with small daily dynamics (such as someone late to a block or interpersonal disagreements), it is critical we understand how to address and how we handle any form of harassment. Our environment and our culture are critical to our success on all levels.

Significant discipline or behavior issues are rare. Issues which do arise are handled in an equitable way, at the lowest possible level of authority. Illegal activities, activities deemed to be a danger to someone's well-being, or actions damaging to the organization will be handled as we see fit, including involvement of legal authorities and/or immediate dismissal. In such a rare event, travel costs home are the responsibility of the member or their family. Although we would not abandon anyone, tour logistics are not always convenient. Please also remember we say regularly "there are no secrets on tour." Would we turn you into the police? Potentially. Would we send you home COD? Absolutely. Just don't do it. There's too much at stake for you and for us.

Please note our "chain of command" or hierarchy is the same as our reporting mechanism:

Member to Section Leader, to Drum Major, to staff members, to Caption Head, to Tour Director or Operations Director, to Corps Director, to Executive Director, to Board President. Anyone at the Colts is able to go to whomever they are most comfortable, and anyone is welcome to jump straight to the top of this list.

HARASSMENT AND RELATED MISCONDUCT

Harassment is incompatible with the values, traditions, and purposes of the Colts Youth Organization. The Colts expressly prohibit harassment of any kind under any and all circumstances. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, the following types of related misconduct: abuse, bullying, hazing, hostility, sexual harassment.

All people involved with the Colts, including members, staff, and volunteers, are responsible for helping to avoid and eliminate harassment and misconduct. Any person who feels they have been the victim of or a witness to harassment or misconduct, by anyone within the organization, or who becomes aware of any incident that is or may be a violation of this policy, must promptly report the alleged incident to either the Tour Director, Operations Director, Corps Director, Executive Director, or the President of the Board of Directors.

The Corps Director, Executive Director, and/or President, as appropriate, will ensure a prompt review of the circumstances occurs and appropriate measures are taken to resolve or correct the situation in an expeditious manner.

If a person is determined to have violated this policy, immediate and appropriate action will be taken, up to and including dismissal from the organization, and a referral to appropriate law enforcement authorities, as needed.

Failure to report, supervisory inaction, or retaliation against anyone who has reported a possible or actual violation of this policy may be cause for action up to and including dismissal from the organization.

PROCEDURAL STEPS

If you observe or question a situation and aren't sure of its appropriateness, personally check with your Section Leader, Drum Major, Staff Member, Caption Head, Tour Director, Operations Director, or Corps Director.

If you feel you are a victim of harassment, here are the steps to take:

1. Advise the offender to stop their conduct—that you do not appreciate their actions/words
2. If the conduct persists, advise your section leader and/or drum major
3. If the conduct continues advise the tour director, operations director, and/or corps director

A person who has committed an act of bullying/harassment may be subject to removal from the corps if, after being advised to cease their conduct, continues with such conduct.

Members have an affirmative duty to be proactive to prevent and intervene when they witness acts of bullying/harassment.

HIGHLIGHTS AND CRITICAL REMINDERS

Professionalism: You are here because you are a professional - an individual with above average abilities and standards, so we assume there will be no issues. Regardless, there are zero tolerance items which would cut your tour short: theft, illegal drug use, use of alcohol, weapons (not the spinning kind), assault, harassment, and failure to disclose medical information. We strive to ensure an educational and enjoyable experience for everyone. Violation of these policies or repeated disciplinary issues may result in the involvement of authorities and termination of membership. We care about you and your future!

Housing Site Etiquette: When we hit the road, we stay in a wide variety of locations. The Colts are known for excellence in housing care. We pride ourselves in being welcomed back. With that, here is a reminder of a few of our key housing site dos and don'ts:

DO:

- Wear a shirt at all times indoors
- Take cleaning seriously!
- Wear shoes until you go to bed
- Secure belongings when you go to rehearsal

DON'T:

- Leave the housing site without letting staff know
- Use tobacco products on school grounds
- Go somewhere random in a building
- Touch a computer.

Bus: Bus captains help handle bus issues or disputes. Never use the toilet on the bus. Please make sure you let your seat partner know if you get off the bus. Follow directions so we can be efficient in getting down the road. Each day the buses need to be cleaned (we need you healthy), so please place your items on the seat so floors may be swept.

Cell Phones: Each night, phone calls stop at lights out. You need sleep; you'll have time to call the next day. Cell phones will also be turned off during rehearsal. Your instructors have social media and we see when you're posting status updates. Do NOT post after lights out. Please do not post anything pertaining to the show. We respect copyright laws and trust you will as well. Don't post anything derogatory about anyone on tour or another corps. Not only is this unprofessional, but it can make for an awkward remainder of tour. Rumors hurt everyone. Keep track of your phone and charge it only within the sleeping area. Label your phone and charger.

Hydration: Drum corps is an immensely physical activity. You need to drink more water than you think. Remember as soon as you feel thirsty, you're already behind on water intake! Avoid carbonated/cafeinated drinks and drink plenty of juice at meals.

WELCOME TO THE RED TEAM!!!

MEMBER HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGMENT 2023

Social Media Responsibility

The Colts maintain a positive reputation that enhances belief in the mission of the organization. As a contracted member of the Colts Drum & Bugle Corps, I hereby acknowledge when posting information and images through social media, I understand I am representing myself, the corps, other members within the organization, Drum Corps International (DCI), and the drum corps activity as a whole. Any posts will promote the positive reputation and mission of the Colts, and will not contain information or images that discredit, disgrace or embarrass the Colts Youth Organization, its members, Drum Corps International (DCI), or the drum corps activity as a whole.

Model Release and Authorization

As a contracted member of the Colts Drum & Bugle Corps, I hereby assign and grant to the Colts the right and permission to take, use and publish images, photographs, film, videotape and/or sound recordings of me, with or without my name, for any editorial, promotion, illustration, art, advertising, publicity or any other lawful purpose. I hereby waive any right I may have to inspect or approve the finished product or products, or the advertising copy or printed matter that may be used in connection with, or the use to which it may be applied.

Member Handbook Agreement

I acknowledge I have read and understand the responsibilities of membership described in the Colts Member Handbook, including the Social Media Responsibility and Model Release and Authorization outlined above. Additionally, I agree to comply with the Colts outlined procedures. My membership within the Colts may be jeopardized by actions not in compliance with the terms of my Contract of Membership, the Colts Member Handbook, and any other outlined Colts procedure.

Member Name (please print): _____

Member Signature: _____ Date: _____

Students under the age of 18 when signing this document must have parent or guardian signature:

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____