



Member Handbook

Welcome to the 2015 Colt Cadets!

We are happy to have you as part of the Colts family!

Dear Colt Cadet,

Welcome to what will surely be a fantastic summer! We are happy you have chosen to join us in a theatric production of. . .

Fire & Ice

Colt Cadets 2015 musical selections:

Inferno | Robert W. Smith
Firebird Suite | Igor Stravinsky
Cuban Fire | Stan Kenton
Ice Dance | Danny Elfman
Russian Christmas Music | Alfred Reed

The Colt Cadets explore the apocalyptic dilemma of Robert Frost as they journey through their 2015 program, *Fire & Ice*. From the heat of Robert W. Smith's "Inferno," to the enchanting sound of Danny Elfman's "Ice Dance," you can feel the disparity created by this critically-acclaimed American poet through the music of some great contemporary composers.

"Some say the world will end in fire, some say in ice..."

Design

Matt Mulvanny*, *Director*; Andrew Eaton, *Assistant Director*; Brian Zeglis, *Program Coordinator & Percussion Arranger*; Terry White, *Brass Arranger*; Julie Rohrabough*, *Guard Designer*; Ted Reicher*, *Drill Designer*

Brass

Randil Jeffreys, *Caption Head*; Christopher Carroll, Kent Crawford, MJ Halco*, Kendall LeJeune, Pat McGehee*, Brianna Moehnke*, Paige Schneweis*

Percussion

Alex Albertson*, *Caption Head*; Kolby Palmore*, *Battery Coordinator*; AJ Collins*, Melissa DaPonte*, Travis Hattery*, Melanie Holdorf

Guard

Julie Rohrabough*, *Caption Head*; Theresa Birch, Jessica Dunkel*, Melissa Lyon*

* *designates Colts Alumni*

Show Information

The music, drill, and guard work in our show is designed for you personally! We strive to balance the personal goals of our membership inside an effective program that is particularly enjoyable to you and our audience. We have a staff of specialists in their field to write for you and work with you.

GREAT LEADERS PICK UP TRASH!

Drum Corps is life.

The performance is not limited to what happens while you are on the field in front of a crowd; it is everything you do without an audience which truly defines your success. **Character is defined by what you do when you don't think anyone is watching.**

This handbook contains information that is very important. We want you to read this handbook thoroughly and keep it somewhere safe.

You need (right now!) a 3-ring binder and 50 plastic sheet protector pages (for when it rains!). All of your materials can be placed into plastic sheets. Things you should have in your binder:

- Music
- Drill Charts
- Staff and Member Phone Lists
- Rehearsal/Travel Schedule
- Travel Itineraries
- Any additional information

This makes it easy to change, add or remove pages and protects your materials.

It is to your benefit to know what is expected of you as a member. If you have questions about anything that is included in this handbook, talk with the director or another staff member. Do not be scared to ask! We may have missed something or weren't clear enough.

Important and Useful Tips for a Great Summer:

Work hard when it is time to work.
Relax when it is time to relax.
Always do your best.

Communicate with all around you – instructors, parents and members.

Member Guidelines and Expectations

The following information allows us all to work together towards the same goal using with the same set of guidelines, expectations and responsibilities. Please read thoroughly.

Always Be RESPECTFUL AND RESPONSIBLE.

Remember we are creating a place for you to be successful.

We expect a high level of responsibility. You will be surprised at how much you can accomplish and the pride you will develop. Remember success and learning often occurs as a result of being able to accept mistakes. Learn from these mistakes rather than hide from them!

Leave a good impression. You are always representing “you.” In addition, any time you are with the corps, wearing a corps shirt, in your uniform, or wearing your member jacket, you are also representing the Colt Cadets, the Colts, the City of Dubuque, and the State of Iowa. Your actions can leave a positive or negative impression on fans, other corps, and school officials. The impressions you make *will* have an effect on the organization for years to come. It takes years to build a reputation, but only seconds to destroy one.

Use common sense in everything. If you have to ask yourself “is this a good idea?” the answer is most commonly NO.

Be courteous to everyone, especially other Colt Cadets. No put-downs. We all want to have a good time and everyone deserves respect. There is simply no time for drama. Time spent dealing with drama is time not spent getting better.

Follow the instructions of staff, parents, and other adults.

Smoking, alcohol, drugs, self-inflicted injury, and sexual acts are prohibited and are grounds for immediate dismissal. Public displays of affection are not tolerated when traveling with the corps. Perception is reality! Think proactively about the decisions you make and how they impact the organization and your peers.

Members who have problems dealing with expectations will have consequences. Consequences will be determined by staff and the director. Inappropriate conduct or actions may result in removal from performances or the corps

Attendance

Be on time. If you are not early, you are late!

ABSENCES need to be brought to the director's attention as early as possible so rehearsal plans can be developed to accommodate a balance of everyone's needs. Your consistent attendance is crucial to the success of the Colt Cadets. There are no back-up players! When a student is missing, a piece of our competitive program is missing as well. Unexcused or unreported absences are not tolerated.

Please communicate via email or cell to the director prior to any absence. We obviously understand in the event of an emergency – just let us know as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly.

Communication:

If you or your parents need to get in touch with us:

Colts Office: 563-582-4872

Email: office@colts.org

Matt's Cell Phone: 443-614-3446

Email: matt@colts.org

matt@colts.org is the best way to reach the director. Email is checked regularly and is the fastest way to most answers.

REMIND101:

Remind101 is an application that allows teachers to communicate with all of their students simultaneously via text message. The director will create a Remind101 group for students and a group for parents to be utilized during the summer. This will allow for students and parents to be notified of sudden changes in schedule, or in the event of an emergency. Simple instructions on how to receive these messages will be distributed closer to summer.



Guidelines for Housing and Show Sites:

Wait for instructions, listen to instructions, follow instructions.

When we arrive at our housing site, wait for instructions before unloading or getting off the bus. After you are taken to your sleeping area, claim your space, lay out your sleeping bag and sleep.

Lights out will occur as quickly as possible, generally 15 minutes after arrival.

Be neat at overnight stays (not being “tidy” is called “tour spread”).

Please remember - Nothing at a school is ours and should be left alone. For example, never touch school computers – ever.

We pride ourselves on a reputation of leaving housing facilities cleaner than we found them. It is important we maintain a positive relationship with all schools, so we are invited back in future years. While staying at schools, food and beverages are NOT allowed in gymnasiums. Water is okay, but you must be careful not to spill, and take responsibility to clean up any spills asap.

ALWAYS wear shoes. No bare feet allowed, not even in school buildings or on the gym floor. One stubbed toe or one twisted ankle could put you out for the season!

Play your instrument only when you know it is okay. Many towns have noise ordinances, playing instruments after certain times could be breaking the law! Assume a noise ordinance is 9:00pm.



Each morning, a new schedule will be written out on the side door of the red equipment trailer. Get yourself in the habit of checking this board at each meal throughout the day for any changes or messages. You are responsible for informing yourself on when and where you need to be someplace. “I didn’t know” is not a reasonable excuse. If you are confused, ask an adult!

STAY IN “THREES” - If you are given free time (like after a show, etc.) ALL MEMBERS MUST REMAIN WITH AT LEAST TWO OTHER MEMBERS AT ALL TIMES. Do not leave the entire group unless a staff member or other adult has been notified.

No laptops, iPads, or tablets should be on tour at any time. iPods and phones are allowed, but they should be kept in a backpack that is carried with you at all times. You are not allowed to have phones or iPods on the field during rehearsals. Leave them in your backpack.

Respect Tradition:

We encourage you to purchase souvenirs from other drum corps but please do not wear these when you are with the corps. Please only wear clothing from our endorsers when with the corps: Innovative Percussion, Sabian, Remo, and Yamaha. Colts and Colt Cadets apparel is also accepted. When in doubt, plain clothing is the best way to go!



When Traveling:

We travel on 2 coach busses, boys on one bus, girls on the other. Members will pick their seats at the beginning of the season. This will become your assigned seat and you will have a seat partner. A few parents will ride in the front seats of each bus.

Your main suitcase will be stowed underneath the bus. You should bring a carry-on bag and a "bus box." Once a bus bay is loaded and closed, it is not re-opened until after we arrive at the next housing site. Make sure you have everything you might need for 24 hours!

Your carry-on bag MUST have:

- All uniform gear: Member shirt, show shirt, black socks, marching shoes, show gloves, other personal uniform items (head bands, hair spray, etc).
- Change of clothes and shower supplies: In the event that we do not have time to access the luggage bays, you will be glad you have a change of clothes, shower materials, and your toothbrush. You will NOT have access to luggage bays when we are at show sites.
- Sweatshirt, sweatpants, blanket: It can get cold on these busses!

Your **bus box** is commonly a small plastic container that fits under the seat in front of you. Students use the bus box to store snacks (healthy!), games, and other personal items. The bus box will remain in your seat at all times, and not come into a housing site.



A small bag or backpack is recommended for a "field bag" which you bring with you to all rehearsals and store drill, music, dot books, valve oil, etc.

It is your responsibility to make sure:

- All of your equipment is loaded onto the trailer
- Your corps uniform is properly hung and stowed in the equipment trailer
- Your carry-on bag is on the bus (and fits in overhead compartment)
- Your suitcase (1 regular size) and sleeping bag is loaded in the bus bay

Remember: YOU MUST CARRY EVERYTHING YOU PACK!

Do not over pack, 1 suitcase should do it. Space will be tight. At times it might seem impossible to fit a trips worth of clothes into one suitcase. Here are some helpful tips:

- Make sure you pack plenty of underwear, socks and sports bras (ladies)
- Common attire for a rehearsal day is light colored shirt and athletic shorts. During hot days, students may chose to rehearse without a shirt (don't forget sunblock!). Because of this, you might find that a single rehearsal shirt will last you two or three days. (*shirts are REQUIRED when we are inside any facility, and when we are outside ALWAYS have a shirt with you*).
- Pack one pair of jeans for free time or casual performances.
- Pack a few pairs of athletic shorts, but know if you are running short on clean shorts, they are very easy to clean in the locker room showers.
- Pack liquid items (shampoo, body wash, etc.) in ziplock bags to prevent spillage



A bag that is 75% full is full enough. Dirty clothes take up more space than clean ones. Also, you might choose to purchase items (souvenir shirts, etc) throughout the summer. Make sure you have a place to put them!

Laundry Days:

We will never go more than 14 days straight without giving you an opportunity to do laundry. Members are responsible to do their own laundry when we stop at a laundromat. Pack a roll of quarters and detergent in a safe place for extended trips (ie. July 20 - Aug 8). Pod detergents are recommended. Pack these in a sealed container to prevent spillage! Full time housing students will be provided laundry days every 2 weeks throughout the summer.



On the Bus:

- Get on and off the bus only when instructed
- Follow directions of the adults and bus driver at all times
- The restroom on the bus is not to be used!
(Go before we leave and anytime you can!)
We will stop every 2-3 hours for bathroom breaks.
If you have an emergency, tell a parent.
- You may have healthy snack foods on the bus.
- Pick up the trash around you after every trip (even if it isn't yours). If your bus seat is dirty, we will take you out of rehearsal to clean it.
- Do not put water jugs in overhead storage areas (it can fall and hurt someone or leak).
- "Lights out" on late night trips will occur 1/2 hour after departure
- Members are not allowed to make purchases at rest stops. Parents should not make purchases for members, either. There may be rare exceptions approved by the director.
- No forts are allowed on the bus.
- DVD Players and video games may be brought on trips. All electronic devices must be used with headphone. Movies should be rated G to PG-13 and video games should be rated no more mature than T.



During Meal Time - EAT.

Meals are not optional. When we eat, you are expected to eat. When we eat with Colts, you are expected to eat with the Colts. It is important to have energy. This is not the time to diet.

Vegetarians and members with allergies should make notes on their medical form. Members cannot spontaneously "claim" to be a vegetarian during a meal simply because they do not like what is being served. Peanut butter and Jelly is available at every meal.

Seconds is offered at the discretion of the cooks, and only after everyone has been through the line. Keep your original plate and cup if you would like seconds. Do not take new ones.

Drink lots of liquids. You cannot drink too much water. If your urine is not clear, you are not hydrated.

Pay attention to schedules, you will often have more to do than just eat. If we are departing the housing site that day, packing up some of your belongings during lunch will make dinner pack and load much easier.

Always say thank you to the people who prepare your meal and serve you.



WE WE TRAVEL - We will encounter many inconveniences, but very few problems.

There is a difference between an inconvenience and a problem. We will deal with many inconveniences, but very few problems. Your experience as a Colt Cadet will help you learn to recognize and solve any inconvenience, before it turns into a problem.



WHILE IN UNIFORM:

Remember manners and who you are representing. Wearing your uniform is like wearing a big billboard with the corps name on it. Speak respectfully.

Never not run in uniform

Before a performance, keep your reds folded neatly.

After a performance, stay in uniform as directed.

Shakos (uniform hats) are to be left with your instrument when on break.

Do not sit on the ground! Sit on your gauntlets if you don't have an option.

No cell phones should be carried when in uniform unless you are told it is ok.

Drink only water while in uniform. No drinks or food in uniform (on occasion, we will eat wearing blacks – but never our jackets or guard tops).

No profanity in uniform.

Be sure that all parts of your uniform get returned to the proper place, hung neatly.

Please be respectful and well mannered when NOT in uniform as well. It is important to leave a good impression whenever you are in the public eye, even in the most stressful of situations.

What you do as a member of this corps not only affects you, but also the entire drum corps, and the entire drum corps activity as well. Make us proud.

Colt Cadet Duties

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES *(one or more per member, assigned at move-in)*

Rehearsal

Field Lining
Podium (Drum Majors)
Scaffolding Up
Scaffolding Down
Props
Field Markers
Drill Box
Glove Bag
Parking Lot Clean Up
Section Loading

Housing Sites & Cleaning

Kitchen Set Up/Tear Down
Locker rooms
Trash Duty
Restrooms
Gym
Halls
Outside

Bus

Luggage Loading
Bus Clean Up

The only way we can travel efficiently and successfully is if each member takes responsibility to making sure their specific job assignments are handled. Everyone needs to take responsibility for himself or herself, help out others when needed, keep track of their own things, and learn their show. Some of the extra things we have to get done need one or more people who can make sure they are done right. This is one way we all learn responsibility. We will achieve our best if each person takes responsibility for her or his assigned job and completes the job well.

Tour Packing Essentials: A Checklist

-PUT YOUR NAME ON EVERYTHING!

Main Suitcase:

- Athletic Shoes (no high tops)
- Underwear (15 pair)
 - We recommend snug fit for boys and sports bras for girls
- Black spandex shorts for under uniform pants (at least 3 pairs recommended for all members)
- Socks (15 pair)
- Extra long black socks for shows (8 pair)
- Rehearsal Shirts (10)
- Athletic Shorts (8)
- Extra baseball cap or bandana
- Detergent Pod and Quarters for laundry days
- Plastic bags to store dirty clothes
- Surge protector for charging electronics
- Pillow, Sleeping Bag, or Air Mattress with blanket can be packed in a separate smaller bag. (battery powered air pumps please, no plug ins)

Bus Carry-On:

- Change of clothes
- Sweatpants and sweatshirt
- Bus Blanket
- Uniform parts (member shirt, black socks, gloves, shoes, spandex)
- Show Shirt
- Small water bottle
- Shower and Toiletry Supplies (don't forget deodorant, nail clippers, etc)
- Towel
- Any prescription meds (please inform us of these on the Medical Form)
- Flip flops or sandals for bus and for shower
- Hair spray and head bands
 - Brass and percussion members with long hair must put their hair in a sock bun for shows. Colorguard members will have hair and make-up needs as well

Rehearsal Bag:

- Sunscreen and SPF rated lip balm (we recommend DCT)
- Dot Book (index card notebook for drill coordinates)
- Pencils
- Drill and Music Binder
- Sunglasses
- Baseball Cap (bandana for color guard)
- Rehearsal Gloves for brass players (baseball batting gloves will last all season!)
- Extra shirt
- Rain gear for inclement weather
- Goldbond Powder and/or feminine products
- Phone & Charger



Bring some walking around money if you would like souvenirs or concessions at shows. Full time housing students will also take 2 or 3 trips to Walmart to refill on essentials throughout the season.

Finally, you will need a 1 (one) gallon water jug for rehearsal. Red in color please.

