

Crockett High School Winterguard

2018 season



Welcome to the Crockett H.S. Winterguard program!

In this packet you will read about the philosophy, expectations, and policies of the Crockett H.S. Winter Guard. The information described below will help you understand what it means to be a part of this program and what kind of commitment is involved in joining the group. By signing this contract you are confirming that you are 100% on board with the program and will fulfill your commitment to the group.

What is Winterguard?

Winterguard is the sport of the arts. It derives from Color guard which is an outdoor based sport that competes with the Marching band. Unlike Color guard, Winterguard is performed inside, in a gym or arena where the performance is a mixture of equipment manipulation, acting, and dance moves, choreographed to pre-recorded music.

PHILOSOPHY

The Crockett H.S. Winterguard is adopting a new philosophy for rehearsal and performance. It is simply stated:

BE YOUR BEST

Success, as we measure it, is striving to be the best we possibly can be, every day, every practice, and every performance. The only group we want to beat is our own performance of yesterday. In competitions, judges are simply people that put down numbers and rank-order the groups. They are trained in either music or visual techniques but still have their personal preferences and opinions. No two people totally agree about performances, and judges certainly are no exception to this. For example, some people prefer precision or “cleanliness” above general effect and excitement, and vice-versa. Trophies and awards, when they happen, are “frosting on the cake” and enjoyable, but they are not our goal. Performers have almost total control over their own preparation and performance.

EXPECTATIONS

Program rules and expectations are based on three concepts:

SHOW RESPECT, BE PREPARED, ADHERE TO THE RULES

If these expectations are followed regularly, your child’s Winterguard experience will be rewarding, enjoyable, and successful.

SHOW RESPECT: Respect yourself. Respect others. Respect the school facilities, equipment, and uniforms.

Good behavior, self-discipline, and positive attitude are expected of all Crockett High School Winterguard Program members.

Uniform, equipment and props must be cared for, put away properly and brought to rehearsals and performances as requested.

Uniforms are determined to make the guard look “professional.” They must be worn properly, and guard members must conform to *hair and jewelry requests*

BE PREPARED: Guard members are responsible for doing their best, working on their individual skills, and practicing. Rehearsal time is NOT practice time; Instructions are received in rehearsal based on the assumption that the student is already at an adequate level with the routine BECAUSE they practiced on THEIR OWN TIME.

If a student misses instruction time during rehearsal, then they are expected to learn from another student BEFORE the next rehearsal and they are expected to be prepared at the same level as the other students.

BE ON TIME: Students should arrive at the building **15 minutes before** rehearsal/call time is scheduled to begin in order to get equipment, get to the right location, and be ready to start on time. They are not allowed to 'prepare' during rehearsal time.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

EXPECTATIONS: You have made a **commitment** to be in the winter guard for the season. Everyone is counting on you. In order to have successful rehearsals and performances, it is essential that we have full attendance. **The absence of one person not only affects that person, but also the entire group.** The critical factors of uniformity, balance, precision, spacing and alignment cannot be improved or maintained with absences. **Students and parents must submit a note via email, phone call or text about an absence at least a WEEK in advance.**

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE: Unexcused absence from a performance is unacceptable and results in automatic dismissal from the ensemble. Unexcused absence from a rehearsal will result in removal from the next performance on the first offense. A second unexcused absence from rehearsal will result in automatic dismissal from the ensemble. Absences, tardiness or leaving early because of work or homework are **NOT EXCUSED.**

LEGITIMATE EXCUSES: Legitimate excuses for rehearsal absences are *illness, accident/emergency, serious illness/death in the family, and doctor's appointments.* If possible, contact the band office and Dulce to leave a message prior to an absence from a rehearsal or performance. A **request** to be excused from a future event must be turned in at least *two weeks prior* to the date and will be considered by the director, pending the legitimacy of the case presented.

ASK: If you are not sure or have a request, problem, or question, **ask** one of the directors **before** the event occurs.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

In order for our program to function, we require a fair share fee from our students to be able to pay for: equipment, uniforms, floors, circuit fees and instructors. Without payment from **all the students**, the program becomes stunted and cannot compete within our circuit.

The fees for the winter guard season include the following:

\$50 participation

\$30 uniform fee (winterguard jacket)

Fees are due at the end of January 2018

Please contact the directors if there are any questions or concerns regarding fees.

Competitions

The Crockett H.S. Winterguard will compete in a competition circuit in the greater Austin Area. The competition circuit adheres to U.I.L. specifications which requires students to be academically eligible for competitions by earning, at least, a C average. Students will lose eligibility if they receive a grade lower than a 70 and will not be allowed to perform with the rest of the team. Students may regain eligibility if their grade improves by the next progress report at the next three weeks mark.

Eligibility is the students responsibility and their position on the team depends completely on their eligibility standing. Students will not receive a starring role in the production if they do not demonstrate appropriate academic standing as they would not be allowed to compete per U.I.L. rules.

Competitions will be held on Saturdays beginning in February at different schools in the Austin Area. Schedules will be posted the Monday before the competition. Students will receive a schedule for the competition on the Tuesday before every competition.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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