

# *Ashley Ridge Varsity Guard*

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2011 General Information Packet

# About the ARHS Winter Guard

The Ashley Ridge Winter Guard is a dynamic marching performance arts organization comprised of band students attending Ashley Ridge High School. The group was founded in 2010 by Jessica Hinkel and former Ashley Ridge band director Sue Alexander. The group utilizes a combination of dance, movement, marching, drill and equipment skills to create an exciting visual pageantry arts program. Recently the group was named SCBDA state champions in the first year of competition. Performances take place in gymnasiums and the competition season typically runs from the end of January to the middle of April. Groups start rehearsing as early as November to prepare for highly competitive local, regional and national competitions.

## Instructional Staff & Support Members

The core design, instructional and support staff includes:

Jessica Hinkel - Director / Choreographer

Josh Wise - Assistant Director / Choreographer

David A. Parsons - Visual Designer / Coordinator

Chris Alaniz - Creative Consultant

Josh Hinkel - Creative Consultant

Ben Hipp - Creative Consultant

## Competitive Associations

There are three main associations our groups performs under:

### **Carolina Winter Ensemble Association (CWEA)**

Hosts local competitions across North Carolina and South Carolina in February and March

Holds championships event at Winthrop University each Spring

Championships features around 30 percussion ensembles and over 50 indoor color guards in competition within various classifications. The Championships competition is a one day event.

## **Winter Guard International (WGI)**

Hosts regional competitions within the lower 48 states and throughout Europe

Hosts an Olympic-style World Championships event each year which is usually held near the WGI Headquarters in the City of Dayton, Ohio

Championships features over 150 percussion ensembles and 250 indoor color guards in competition within various classifications

Championships utilizes a prelims / semi-finals / finals contest which takes place over three days in mid-April

## **South Carolina Band Directors Association (SCBDA)**

Hosts the official state championship event for the state of South Carolina. This is the same organization that hosts the state marching band events. This is South Carolina's primary music educators association for band programs.

# Practice Schedule

Starting the week after Thanksgiving break, the typical practice schedule will be as follows:

Each Monday and Wednesday:

3:30 pm - 6:00 pm

There are also various Saturday practices and practices during teacher workdays scheduled throughout the season. Please refer to the full schedule at the end of this document for exact dates and times.

We ask that everyone keep in mind that the practice schedule is subject to change. Usually schedule changes occur due to school closings from inclement weather. In the event of a practice cancellation due to weather, we will usually attempt to reschedule the missed practice time for a later date. Since the indoor activity at ARHS is completely extra-curricular, every hour of practice time is extremely important to the educational and competitive success of our ensembles. Please keep an open mind in the event that practices are rescheduled.

# Competitions

The indoor guard will compete at the following competitions:

January 29 – CWEA Competition @ West Ashley High School

February 25-26 – WGI Regional Championship @ Whitewater High School (Fayetteville, GA)

March 12 – CWEA Competition @ Ashley Ridge High School (Home Show)

March 19 – SCBDA State Winter Championships @ Goose Creek High School

March 26 – CWEA Circuit Championships @ Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC)

## Important information concerning Costs and Fundraising for 2011

The estimated cost of funding indoor guard for the 2011 season is approximately \$8,000. Yes, you read that right, that figure was \$8,000. Taking this group to compete at the regional and NATIONAL level is no small task. Nearly half of these indoor expenses are associated with travel and staff costs. The other costs come from operational expenses. These expenses include paying for equipment, silks, additional weapons, paint, hardware for props, entry fees and a host of other miscellaneous items.

To cover these expenses, students' fees will be **\$250.00** per person. To make this as painless as possible for parents, we are splitting the payments as listed on the following page. We are also asking that each member raise an additional \$100.00 to help cover our trip to Atlanta. Students will also need to provide their own costume, with approval by Mrs. Hinkel. Costumes should be a **minimal** expense. Everyone should seek out period (think 1940's, Smallville, I Love Lucy) appropriate pieces in black, gray and white **ONLY**. This should be seen as an opportunity to raid some of your relative's closets and hit up local Goodwill and second-hand stores. Some students may need to purchase tights or shoes. Shoes are \$23.00 per pair and tights are \$18.00 per pair. Please do not hesitate contacting Mrs. Hinkel with any questions about costume concerns. Last year, the winter ensembles also purchased t-shirts. These should be no more than \$12.00 each.

To help ease the burden of these fees, we've set up the following payment schedule:

November 30            \$100 down payment

This initial \$100 covers many of our pre-season start up costs that must be taken care of ASAP.

December 15           \$50

January 15             \$50

February 15            \$50

Total:                    \$250

Here are some potential revenue sources that we're working on to offset the cost of participating in indoor percussion:

**Fundraising** – We will offer 2 fundraisers to help students offset their fees if needed. TBA!

If a student nets monies in their marching band student account via other fundraisers they are eligible to use those funds towards indoor dues IF the student and parent chooses to do so.

**PLEASE NOTE: IF A STUDENT HAS OUTSTANDING MARCHING BAND FEES THEY CANNOT BE OFFERED A SPOT IN EITHER INDOOR ENSEMBLE. IF YOU HAVE OUTSTANDING MARCHING BAND FEES AND YOU ARE PLANNING ON PARTICIPATING IN INDOOR, THESE FEES MUST BE PAID IN FULL BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10.**

# 2011 Ashley Ridge Indoor Guard Commitment Form

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Cell Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: 7 8 9 10 11 12    T-Shirt Size: Small    Medium    Large    X-Large    XX-Large

Parent / Guardian Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Cell Phone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s): By signing this document, you acknowledge the understanding of and are committing to attendance at all rehearsals and performances, and to the financial obligations for the 2011 Ashley Ridge High School winter guard. It is understood that membership dues will be \$250 for all members. I understand that I am committing to the performance schedule for the season, understanding that my commitment requires my attendance at the events listed in the calendar provided in this packet. I also realize that all outstanding marching band fees must be paid before I can participate in winter guard

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): By signing this document, you acknowledge the understanding of and are committing to your child's attendance at all rehearsals and performances, and to the financial obligations for the 2011 Ashley Ridge High School winterguard. It is understood that membership dues will be \$250 for all members. I understand that I am committing to the performance schedule for the season, understanding that my commitment requires my child's attendance at the events listed on the calendar provided in this packet. I also realize that all outstanding marching band fees must be paid before my child can participate in winter guard.

Parent / Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This form is due back signed by Tuesday, November 23rd.

# Calendar of Events

*Disclaimer: Events are subject to change and/or be added/deleted as needed*

Week	Date	Item	Location	Times	Details/ Conflicts
1	Monday, November 23	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
2	Monday, November 29	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
2	Wednesday, December 1	Practice	ARHS	12:30PM-6PM	Cleaning/ Making/Painting floor cover
2	Friday, December 3	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-8PM	Drill Camp
2	Saturday, December 4	Practice	ARHS	9:00AM-5PM	Drill Camp
3	Monday, December 6	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
3	Wednesday, December 8	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
4	Monday, December 13	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
4	Wednesday, December 15	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
5	Monday, January 3	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
5	Wednesday, January 5	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
6	Monday, January 10	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
6	Wednesday, January 12	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
6	Friday, January 14	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-8PM	Drill Camp
6	Saturday, January 15	Practice	ARHS	9:00AM-5PM	Drill Camp

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Times</b>	<b>Details/ Conflicts</b>
7	Wednesday, January 17	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
7	Friday, January 21	Practice/Parent Performance	ARHS	3:30PM-8PM	Parent Performance will begin at 7PM
8	Monday, January 24	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
8	Wednesday, January 26	Practice	ARHS	1:00PM-6PM	
8	Saturday, January 29	CWEA SHOW	West Ashley HS	ALL DAY	
9	Monday, January 31	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
9	Thursday, February 3	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
10	Monday, February 7	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
10	Wednesday, February 9	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
11	Monday, February 14	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
11	Wednesday, February 16	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
12	Monday, February 21	Practice	ARHS	12:00PM-6PM	Camp before regional
12	Wednesday, February 23	Practice	ARHS	1:00PM-6PM	Early dismissal/ Camp before regional
12	Friday, February 25	Travel	To Fayetteville, GA	Departure time TBD	Travel day/ rehearsal performance at HS in area
12	Saturday, February 26	WGI REGIONAL	Whitewater HS, Fayetteville, GA	ALL DAY	We will be returning to ARHS after conclusion of regional

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Times</b>	<b>Details/ Conflicts</b>
13	Monday, February 28	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
13	Wednesday, March 2	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
14	Monday, March 7	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
14	Wednesday, March 9	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
14	Friday, March 11	Show Host Prep	ARHS	5:00PM-8PM	
14	Saturday, March 12	CWEA SHOW	Ashley Ridge HS	ALL DAY	All-State Band Clinic at Furman  SAT Date - Do not sign up for this SAT Date!
15	Monday, March 14	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
15	Wednesday, March 16	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	
15	Friday, March 18	Finale Performance	SHS	TBD	We will meet at ARHS to load equipment prior to Finale performance
15	Saturday, March 19	SCBDA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS	Goose Creek HS	ALL DAY	
16	Monday, March 21	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	Concert Festival
16	Wednesday, March 24	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-6PM	Concert Festival
16	Friday, March 25	Practice	ARHS	3:30PM-5PM	
16	Saturday, March 26	CWEA CIRCUIT CHAMPIONSHIPS	Winthrop Univ. Coliseum	ALL DAY	