



Monarch High School

Monarch Indoor Percussion Commitment Form

2011/2012 Season

Welcome to a new Indoor Percussion season! After our accomplishments last year, we are excited to begin another season. Monarch Indoor Percussion (MIP) is a large commitment and this letter will try to outline that commitment specifically.

Most of the students and parents who have been involved in Drumline have had extraordinary attitudes and shown a very high level of commitment. This level of commitment has paid off. A lack of attendance always hurts the group in the end. This year we will expect the same level of commitment from all Drumline (MIP) members in both practice and fundraising alike. Below is a list of policies regarding attendance at practices and performances, behavior, tardiness, attitude, and fundraising responsibilities.

MIP Policies:

1. As in all school activities in Boulder Valley School District at Monarch High School, School Board policy applies. Drumline is one of the most visible groups Monarch High School has; therefore, we must always behave appropriately. All behavior must fit the BVSD guidelines. This pertains to respect towards adults, contraband, substance abuse, travel policies, personal appearance and physical relationships with other students. In all cases School Board policy will apply for disciplinary measures. In any case of inappropriate behavior the parents will be contacted and the student sent home at the parents' expense. This includes everything that we do.
2. MIP is an extra curricular activity and is under different stipulations than curricular activities. Therefore, MIP has the right to charge dues, which makes possible everything we do. If you do not intend to pay these dues, or do not intend to meet the fundraising requirements, then do not join MIP. Dues must be paid by the due date. Membership will be terminated if dues are not paid, even though this affects the entire ensemble.
3. Attendance at all rehearsals and competitions is Mandatory! When you sign this contract you are stating that you have seen the schedule and understand this rule. If you have serious conflicts you must consider not being in Drumline this season. There are 52 weekends in the year to do many things. Please make every effort to keep all weekend rehearsals and competitions clear of conflicts. All absences are considered unexcused unless you have spoken with Scott Reno or Colin Spear. All 5 full day rehearsals during Spring Break must be attended; if this is not possible, you should not join this ensemble. Work will never be an excuse for missing anything in Drumline. We ask that if your student is not meeting other responsibilities such as maintaining grades, household duties, etc., you not remove them from our activities as a means of punishment. Take phone privileges, car privileges, computer or game privileges away... something that affects just your student and is not a set back for the rest of the ensemble. The most important thing to remember is to communicate with the staff. Two tardies of ten or more minutes is equal to one unexcused absence. Two unexcused absences are grounds for dismissal from the Drumline. In all matters the staff will have the final say. Clare Church is the final level of appeal.

4. Appearance: While it is not our desire to rob anyone of their individuality, we do request for ensemble uniformity that for performances no one has colored hair, inappropriate jewelry, piercing that might potentially cause injury and dress that is outside the defined uniform. It perhaps does not need to be said that rings are inappropriate for any percussionist during performance. The staff will have authority on all appearance issues. Defiance of these rules will be cause for dismissal from the Drumline.
5. Though we cannot make parental involvement mandatory, we strongly encourage every parent to be involved in some way in MIP. Our needs are great this year for fundraising, props, and show help at competitions. The more help we have the easier it is for all. There are props and instruments to move, more than the students can move themselves. There is also the truck to load and drive. The need for parental help is great! There will also be many opportunities for fundraising. Please help when possible. This activity is very expensive and many thousands of dollars will be required to have a successful season. In the past an unfair burden has been placed on a very few people who have done an enormous amount of work. This year we want all to contribute equally. If you can't contribute time then you can give more money. Lynn Renbarger is the parent representative for this organization so you can contact her if you have any questions. Please make sure you are on our e-mail list because this is the most efficient form of communication. We will be tracking all Drumline students' involvement in fund-raising so you will be counseled if you are found lacking. If members do not contribute to fundraising it will be cause for dismissal from MIP.
6. It is expected that each battery and pit member will participate in at least three two-hour sectional rehearsals per month. These always have been and will continue to be run by the section leader. We will continue to let the students decide the times for these rehearsals. The same attendance policy applies for sectionals as all rehearsals. Clare Church must know and approve all sectionals.
7. We understand and appreciate how important college is and each student's preparation for their future is. College visitations are important. We ask that you schedule these visits around our schedule, or when possible, around our season altogether. If a trip must be made during the season we ask that this happens in November or December before the MIP season gets into full swing.
8. Regarding participating in other ensembles while a member of MIP...We suggest parents and students carefully evaluate both time and energy commitments associated with participating in two groups. This includes the learning, memorizing and maintaining of two different productions as well as the pressure of performing with our group, quickly changing, and then performing again. Also keep in mind the late Friday night rehearsals into early Saturday call times. We expect all students to arrive alert and ready to function to their highest level regardless of other activities they participate in, be it a percussion ensemble or otherwise. If the Monarch staff feels any student is not meeting their High School commitments and/or we feel their loyalties are leaning more heavily toward an outside group, the Blue Knights for instance, this will be addressed by both the Monarch staff and directors as well as the Blue Knights staff and directors, including the potential removal of a student from the Blue Knights World Ensemble. High School groups do not exist to serve as a feeder group for any other ensemble – that is not our function. If we are fortunate enough to have high school students talented and driven enough to earn a spot in an independent world ensemble that is to be celebrated and encouraged, but high school students are just that, and they are expected to meet all high school related obligations first and foremost. This includes, rehearsals, performances, and discussing our performance before leaving for any activities associated with any other ensemble. It is also expected that anyone participating in both groups not hold their “independent world class” status over other students or our ensemble. All Monarch class times and MIP rehearsal times are to be devoted to our ensemble's material and program. It should be known that the Blue Knights do not allow any high school student to join their ensemble if that student is not participating in their high school's ensemble, assuming said school has one.

CONTRACT

- I have read and understand all expectations listed in this contract.
- I have seen the dates for rehearsals and performances and have checked my schedule and made myself available for all listed days.
- I understand that if I do not hold to my part of the contract my position in MIP may be terminated and all funds and deposits made will be forfeited.
- I also understand that each individual is important to the whole and the whole ensemble will be hurt by my lack of commitment.
- I agree to pay the full cost for the season. Costs for the season : Including uniform, show shirt, competition water, Saturday practice snacks, regular season, and trip to Dayton: approximately \$1700. The first 3 payments are \$400 each; the March payment may be more or less than \$450 depending on how the fundraising for the group goes, as well as costs associated with the Dayton trip and regular season. The due dates are: Dec 5, Jan 2, Feb 1, and Mar 5. If I don't pay the total cost due by the due date, all funds that I have paid to this point could be non-refundable and I may be terminated from the group.
- I agree to participate in group fundraisers, such as Stauffer flyers, pancake breakfast, and Pizza Pals (a \$25 opt-out is available each time Pizza Palz is run). Additional mandatory group fundraisers may be necessary as the season progresses.
- Each member is responsible for selling \$400/month of scrip for each of 6 months (Nov-April), or reach a profit level for MIP of \$100 profit for scrip purchased. An opt out of \$100 is available for the season for the scrip fundraiser.

Once this contract is signed it becomes binding.

Student signature _____ date _____ print student name _____

As the student's parent, I have read this contract and understand the commitment my student is making and will help him or her meet his or her commitment.

Parent signature _____ date _____