



# Port St. Lucie H.S. Color Guard MEMBERSHIP CONTRACT

Congratulations, \_\_\_\_\_!

You have been offered the position of Full member of the Port St. Lucie H.S. color guard for the **Fall 2015** marching band season. Your membership in the color guard program is contingent upon reading, understanding, and agreeing to the terms and conditions outlined in this membership contract. Please read carefully and sign below.

1. I agree to be **present**, and **on time**, and **stay for the entire scheduled block**, for ALL practices, rehearsals, sectionals, camps, performances, fundraisers and any other events in the guard's schedule.
  - a. If I need to be absent, tardy or leave early, I must clear this *beforehand* (including other school activities, such as sports), with either the color guard instructor or Miss Warshany *only*. I understand that missing rehearsals may result in being pulled from the next performance.
  - b. I understand that there will always be rehearsals before shows and contests, and that some weekend rehearsals may be called as necessary to properly prepare for upcoming performances. I agree to attend these rehearsals.
  - c. I agree to attend all performances. The fall schedule of performances should be available by mid-summer and will be posted on the website.
  - d. I understand that the schedule may change. These changes will be mentioned at rehearsals and posted on the website.
  - e. I understand that work is not a valid excuse for missing rehearsals, performance, fundraisers or other scheduled events. I agree to arrange any work schedule around my band and guard obligations.
2. I agree to take responsibility for knowing and performing anything taught to me to the highest level. This includes dance and equipment basics, choreography, and performance material. I understand that if this does not happen, my parts may be minimized or eliminated.
3. I agree to participate in all rehearsals and performances, in whatever capacity the guard staff thinks best for the color guard and band as a whole.
4. I agree to learn, to be open to new ideas, to try at all times, and to never say "I can't." I agree to give 100% at all times during rehearsals and performances.
5. I agree to follow instructions from staff and do what is asked of me the first time.
6. I agree to follow proper rehearsal etiquette:
  - a. I agree to come to rehearsals and performances prepared, by bringing all necessary items to *every* rehearsal. This includes a full bottle of water, pencil, dot book/card, charts, equipment, sunscreen, guard gloves and appropriate clothing/shoes (see below). I understand that I am to bring my guard equipment to *every* rehearsal, including sectionals, daily band class and ensemble, even if the rest of the band is not bringing their instruments to the field.
  - b. I understand that rehearsal will begin promptly, and I need to be ready to go at the appointed time. This means that I cannot show up to the rehearsal site at the minute practice starts, and then proceed to change clothes, go to the bathroom, etc. I understand the first part of rehearsal is a body warm-up, which is essential to preventing injury and keeping me healthy. I further understand that it is rude to walk into a rehearsal late. Therefore, I agree to be on time, and if I need to do things before I can begin practice, I agree to be there early enough that I can take of those things before the rehearsal start time.
  - c. I agree to follow the dress code. I understand that this dress code serves to protect me from injury.
    - i. Appropriate clothing for rehearsals includes fitted, stretchy, comfortable workout clothes.

- ii. Examples of appropriate clothing are: yoga, sweat or jazz pants, cotton or lycra leggings, or knit shorts (not denim, khaki or other woven fabrics) for bottoms; and fitted t-shirts, knit shirts/tanks, or leotards for tops.
  - iii. The following are NOT allowed: jeans, khakis, dress pants, oxford shirts or other shirts of woven fabric, excessively baggy clothing regardless of fabric (including huge or oversized t-shirts), or any other clothing that would not allow you to spin, dance and march full-out.
  - iv. I recognize the importance of foot health in this activity, and I understand that I must wear dance sneakers or low-cut, flexible tennis shoes, with socks, to all rehearsals. Flip flops, sandals, clogs, heels, boots, etc are not allowed, because of the potential for injury. I agree not to ever walk around outside barefoot.
    - v. I agree to wear my hair in a way that won't interfere with my work, such as a ponytail or bun.
    - vi. I agree to wear my guard gloves when we are spinning equipment.
    - vii. I understand that the staff may ask the guard to wear certain things to some rehearsals, i.e. all black, and I further agree to comply with these requests as they are brought up.
  - d. I understand that during rehearsals, I need to focus on the task at hand, put the rest of the day behind me, and listen to my instructional staff. I agree to take corrections gracefully and apply them to my work from that point forward.
  - e. I understand that I need to use the restroom before rehearsal begins or during breaks. If I do not, I understand that I will need to wait until the next water break or the end of rehearsal.
  - f. I understand that there is to be NO complaining, bad talking, or talking back to the staff. If I have an issue with a staff member, I will do as they say for the remainder of the rehearsal, and talk to the staff member *after* the rehearsal or performance in a calm and rational manner. It is never appropriate to argue with a staff member in the middle of practice, rehearsal or warm-up. Insubordination toward staff, student leaders or adult volunteers will not be tolerated.
  - g. I understand that there is no talking on the field or in sectional block. The only exception to this rule is if you are asking a question. I may ask questions only to instructors, band directors, section leaders or drum majors, and then only after raising my hand and being recognized by one of these people. No exceptions. (This also means that you may not correct others on the field – let the staff do their job, please.)
  - h. I understand that self-discipline is expected.
    - i. When an instructor must take time out of sectionals or ensemble to work with an individual, all other guard members need to practice on their own until the instructor is able to resume the full rehearsal. This is not time to get water, talk to my friends, goof around, or otherwise waste time. I agree to use this time to get better, and to be patient, as my time might be next, when I am the one that needs the individual attention.
    - ii. I agree to make self-corrections when I have a break, such as timing, forgetting work or drill, dropping, wrong hand placements, etc.
    - iii. I agree to run any major mistakes made during a performance on my own, until I get it right, after the show.
    - iv. I agree to practice on my own, outside of rehearsals. I understand that color guard is my “instrument” for the fall marching band season, and that just as the musicians are expected to practice at home until they can play their parts at an acceptable level, I need to practice my parts until I can perform them proficiently.
  - i. I understand that flags must be rolled before placing them on the ground. I will not carelessly throw my flags or weapons on the ground, or otherwise mistreat my equipment, or any equipment of the guard or band, including field props.
  - j. I understand that section leaders are responsible for leading rehearsals when staff is not available, such as in daily band class. I agree to treat them with respect.
  - k. I agree to drink only water during rehearsals. I understand that sugary drinks are not allowed at rehearsals.
  - l. I agree to wear sunscreen of at least SPF 30 during daytime outside rehearsals, including mini camp and band camp.
  - m. I understand that gum is never allowed at any rehearsals or performances, ever.
7. I agree to follow proper performance etiquette:
- a. I understand that hair, make-up and uniforms must be worn exactly as specified. No variations are allowed unless specifically approved by the color guard instructor.

- b. I understand that all uniform parts (including hair and make-up) must remain in tact while we are at public performances. I agree not to wander around with only part of my uniform on.
  - c. I agree to not wear anything that is not part of the uniform when we are in uniform. The only exception is being able to wear a jacket in the stands on cold nights at football games.
  - d. I understand that there is absolutely NO swearing, running, eating, gum chewing, drinking anything except *water*, or inappropriate behavior while in uniform. I understand this is to protect both my uniform and the band's reputation.
  - e. I understand that I am not allowed to walk around by myself, especially in uniform, at any type of performance. I agree to always have at least one other person with me, never wander around alone, and to abide by the buddy system.
  - f. I understand that I represent the PSLHS band and guard programs, and that anything I do reflects on them. I agree to refrain from doing anything that will embarrass the organization.
  - g. When visiting other places or traveling with the band/guard, I agree to represent myself in a way that reflects positively on the school, band and color guard. I understand that we will be in the habit of leaving any housing, rehearsal or dressing facility cleaner than we found it.
  - h. I agree to treat members and staff from other schools, and their facilities, with the utmost of respect.
8. I understand that there are NO CELL PHONES allowed in rehearsals or performances. Cell phones must be turned off AND kept in my bag, out of sight.
  9. I understand that there are some financial obligations including fees for band camp and paying for certain uniform parts. I agree to pay any monetary amounts owed to the school or band boosters. I understand that there are fundraisers and other options to help cover these costs if I am unable to pay them in full, and that it is my responsibility to fill out any forms and complete any paperwork by the appropriate deadlines if I wish to apply for this assistance.
  10. I agree to participate fully in all fundraisers.
  11. I understand that color guard is a section of the marching band, and that marching band is a class.
    - a. I understand that I will receive a grade for this class.
    - b. I understand that I need to sign up for band class for the first 9 weeks of school.
  12. I agree to have an updated contact/medical form on file at all times. If any of my information changes, such as in a move, a new medical diagnosis or medication, or a change of insurance, I agree to fill out and sign an update form immediately.
  13. I understand that if I do not fulfill these agreements outlined above that actions may be taken, such as:
    - a. Extra work at rehearsals
    - b. Staying late after rehearsal or otherwise making up time, at the discretion of the staff
    - c. Minimizing or eliminating my parts in the show
    - d. Reduction in grade for band class
    - e. Termination from the color guard program

By signing below, I certify that I have read, agree to, and promise to fulfill all obligations and abide by the code of conduct, as stated in the three pages of this membership contract.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent/guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

 ***Welcome to PSLHS Color Guard!*** 