

PERCUSSION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a drumline?

During the second semester, the pit and battery from field season (first semester) join together and compete indoors in gymnasiums and arenas. Our drumline competes in the most competitive class – Percussion Scholastic World (PSW).

What is Concert Percussion?

Also during the second semester the pit (and possibly a few battery members) competes indoors in gymnasiums and arenas. Our Concert Percussion competes in the most competitive class – Percussion Scholastic Concert World (PSCW). Instructors may or may not decide to field a Concert Percussion each year.

What is the pit?

The pit instruments – melodic percussion – consist of the non-moving instruments that you see in front of the battery.

What is the battery?

The battery instruments consist of snares, bases, tenors and cymbals.

What is a drumline competition?

Drumlines from different schools compete indoors. They must all conform to time limits like the marching band and are judged on the basis of musicality, performance ability, effectiveness, presentation, etc.

Are second semester drumline fees included in the marching band fees I paid in September?

No. You will receive a separate invoice for drumline fees.

Does the drumline wear their marching band uniforms?

No, during second semester the drumline wears different costumes every year. The students also wear their black marching band t-shirts under their costume and they wear their marching band shoes (and black socks).

What does my student need to do if he/she will be late to practice or will need to leave early?

Make sure to tell their section leader (and instructor) ahead of time.

What is a section leader?

The student in charge of a particular section in the drumline. This year (2006), Bumper is the battery section leader and Megan Enciso and Alister Wenzel are the pit section leaders.

Who chaperones the students on overnight trips?

Parents and instructors.

Where will my student sleep on overnight trips?

In a hotel.

Are meals at competitions included in my student's drumline fees or do I need to send money with my student?

Yes, meals and/or snacks will be provided.

What is a call sheet?

A call sheet lists the time that students are to report to school on the day of a competition as well as other pertinent details (i.e., time and location of performance, expected return time, reminders on what to bring, etc.) Call sheets are posted on the MVHSmusic website several days before the competition. Limited copies may be available in the music room.

How are the students transported to and from local competitions?

On School buses.

Can I drive my student to competitions myself?

It is highly preferred that students ride the bus to and from competitions. If for some extraordinary reason this is not possible, you must advise the drumline manager, verbally and in writing, in advance of the competition that your child be riding separately.

Where do I pick my student up after a competition?

All students must be picked up at the band room. Students will not be allowed to wait for parents in front of the school.

Do the instructors know what time it is?

While at times it may appear they do not, they are indeed on top of time management. Many times our drumline will practice right up until a few minutes before the starting time. The instructors are very in-tuned to the starting time of each competition and have always had the drumline there on time.

What time can I expect my student to return to MVHS after a competition?

The anticipated return time will be listed on the call sheet – however, once the bus returns, the students have to stay to help unload the truck, put costumes away, clean the bus, etc. Your student will not be dismissed until this is done.

Who are the drumline instructors?

Jim Wunderlich is the pit instructor, Mike Jackson is the battery instructor and Jenny Jackson is the cymbal instructor .

Who is the drumline manager?

Guille Enciso.

What do I do if my student needs to take medication?

Give the prescription medication(s) to the drumline manager in a zip-lock bag clearly marked with your student's/child's name, dispensing instructions and any side effects. Dispensing of all medications, over-the-counter or prescription, will be done in a confidential manner.

Who are the sanctioning bodies of drumline competitions?

WGI sanctions the national circuit and SCPA sanctions the local circuit. Both follow the same rules.

What is "WGI"?

WGI Sport of the Arts is a non-profit organization guiding the competitive development of Winter Guards and Indoor Percussion Ensembles. WGI is governed by a Board of Directors representing the geographic areas of the country and representatives of the top color guards and percussion ensembles in the world. All WGI contests provide two divisions of competition specifically for:

- Scholastic - units whose membership comes from the SAME High School or a school that feeds to that particular High School.
- Independent - units whose members are not necessarily associated with a particular school.

The units are then further divided into classes:

- A Class - Beginning programs and performers.
- Open Class - The intermediate developmental level of performers.
- World Class - The most advanced programs and performers.

Percussion also has a Scholastic Concert Class, World and Open, for units who do not include marching in their programs. The MVHS Drumline (pit and battery) competes in the Percussion Scholastic World (PSW) Class.

What is "SCPA"?

SCPA stands for Southern California Percussion Alliance. The MVHS Drumline will compete at five SCPA sanctioned shows this season. SCPA competitions are judged using WGI rules. SCPA tells us that their "shows are a great way for WGI Championship-bound groups to compete on a national scale . . . the Alliance was created to compliment WGI Regionals/Championships, giving WGI-bound (Regional or Championship) units a more consistent read from week to week/month to month."

Who do I contact if I have any questions?

Contact the drumline manager (via email, phone, or in person) if you have any additional questions. There will be a general drumline meeting (usually in late November) to review the second semester schedule, fees, and other drumline details).

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