

Dear prospective and returning Marching Knights,

It is with great honor and anticipation that I welcome you to the Marching Knights 2024 season! Last year was our eighteenth season as the North Raleigh Christian Academy Marching Knights. In competition we were blessed with earning a 1st place finish at the Pinecrest Invitational, and a 3rd place finish at the Mustang Classic competition. We also enjoyed supporting our football team as well as helping uplift our fans. I am grateful that the Lord has allowed our students these opportunities here at NRCA.

As one of the most visible elements of NRCA, the Marching Knights mix of hard work, school pride, lots of fun, friendships, family, and Biblical principles to accomplish excellence in performance that is dedicated to the glory of God. That said, I want to outline the program expectations. Prior to returning after summer break to August camp, the Marching Knights' half-time performance is custom tailored and written to include each member in the ensemble. Thus, a firm commitment for the season and consistent attendance for rehearsals and performances is imperative. In addition to performing at home football games and potential competitions, the Marching Knights also look forward to representing the school again in the **Raleigh Christmas Parade, on November 23**. When planning your calendar, it is essential to keep in mind that these events may take the entire day.

Preparation is the key to our excellence on the field. *Band camp attendance is required.* The spring band camp Schedule is May 24, May 30-31, and June 1. The summer camp schedule is August 5 - 9 and August 12 -17. Please refer to the Marching Knights camp schedule for specific times since daily schedules vary due to field and facility availability. Additional practices for drumline and color guard are to be determined.

As with NRCA sports, Marching Knights members must complete a physical before the August band camp starts. The Medical Exam form, located on the marching band registration page, must be completed, and uploaded on the NRCA website with a hard copy submitted to the band office (Attn. Mr. Barley) by Monday, July 1. Once you print and fill out the form, you will submit it at <https://nrcaknightsathletics.com/>. Go to the tryouts/physical forms link, pre tryouts procedures, and follow the instructions below. **If you do not choose band as your activity during the uploaded process it will not register in the system. If your child needs an Epi-pen or inhaler, a new Authorization form must be filled out and submitted prior to the beginning of the August Camp.**

Please carefully review the forms in the Band Information/Registration section of the NRCA website under Fine Arts/Band. Complete the online registration process and submit all forms by June 1. The Marching Knights fee will remain as it has been at \$180.00 per member or \$250.00 for families with two or more marchers. The fee is the same for all Marching Knights members including pit, drumline and guard members. Please remit the Marching Knights fee no later than **Saturday, June 1**, to help cover our costs and reserve your place in the show.

In closing, I am looking forward to presenting our show this year and seeing how the Lord will choose to use and minister through us. We praise God for the family that the NRCA Marching Knights has become, and our prayer is that we are able to continue to draw closer to one another and the Lord. I solicit your prayers as we embark on this upcoming season and look to following the Lord with excitement for the things He will do through this organization. As we begin this new season, let us serve the Lord with gladness and pray that he shows Himself mightily through us!

I am looking forward to working with parents, volunteers, students, and staff alike during an exciting marching season dedicated to the Glory of God!

In His Service,

Le Roy N. Barley

Marching Knights Director

North Raleigh Christian Academy