



THE MARCHING KNIGHTS

“Commitment to Excellence”

is a firm commitment to the following:

Eligibility

Any NRCA student in grades 9-12 is eligible to try out for the Marching Knights whether or not they are enrolled in the band as a class. Although marching band is a high school activity, middle school students may try out with the director's approval. Middle school students not enrolled in band as a class are not eligible to participate in marching band. Middle school students who are taking private instruction on piano may be considered for pit percussion upon director approval and recommendation from their piano teacher even if they are not in band as a class.

Attendance

Our group achievement is dependent on the contribution of each individual in performance as well as rehearsal. *A conscious decision has already been made to keep required rehearsal and performance times to a minimum.* Members have the opportunity to enjoy participation in an ensemble that maintains a tradition of excellence with a fraction of the time commitment required by similar ensembles. With this in mind, you owe it to the group to be *present* and *punctual* for every rehearsal and performance. As a member, you have an obligation to the group, so please plan your schedules accordingly and ***be conscious to maintain your academic eligibility.*** If a major life event warrants excuse, the “Marching Knights Excuse Request” form (found under the band link on the NRCA website where you completed your marching band paperwork) must be submitted as far in advance as practically possible. Consequences for unexcused absence or tardy may include: being *sidelined* for performance(s), reassignment of parts, loss of roles, loss of position or privilege, and or even *dismissal* from the ensemble among other things. Attendance infractions during camp will *forfeit the free admission* for the August amusement park reward trip (that is normally covered by the band). Remember that group excellence is heavily dependent on the most fundamental elements of personal character. Dependability and responsibility are critical to the success of the group. ***Attendance is at the core of your commitment therefore the rehearsal and performance schedules should be heavily reflected on before any student or parent signs the membership agreement.***

Be Prepared!

Be sure to have everything you need (instrument, music, drill, uniform accessories, etc.) for every rehearsal and/or performance. Keep up with all schedules, announcements and official group emails so that you will know how to be prepared. It is expected that members are committed to knowing their music and drill and will seek help from staff or leadership when needed.

Chain of Command

If you have a question, ask your section leader. If the section leader does not know, ask a band captain or field commander (they know everything). Use the chain of command and follow the chain of command. If your section leader or an officer asks you to do something, assume the request is from the director.

Respect

Respect is critical to the operation and function of any organization. For this reason, the utmost respect is to be shown to all members, officers and staff. Respect must flow up and down the entire chain of command. Remember that it is not all about you! (Philippians 2:3)

Rain

There is a very good possibility that you could get rained on this marching season. Do not assume anything is cancelled unless you get your information directly from a field commander, staff member or an official group email sent by the Marching Knights communications coordinator.

Performances and Travel

Please remember that the ***group will travel together as a group to and from all off-campus events.*** For those rare occasions that a member *must* return early, a prior written request must be given to the director at least a day in advance for approval. **Members should not leave a rehearsal, performance or any group activity before their parent/s checks them out with the director.**

Uniforms and Equipment

When in uniform, you represent your band, your school and the Lord Jesus Christ. For this reason, members are not permitted to wear uniforms haphazardly. *Only full uniform is acceptable unless the entire group receives specific "dress down instructions"* from the director, field commander or band captain.

School uniforms and equipment are expected to be treated ***better*** than if they were your own. Uniforms are expected to be kept performance-ready at all times and must be neatly stored in the provided bags. Uniforms should never be stored wet! In cases of abuse or neglect, members will be charged for any lost or damaged uniform or equipment components. Any uniform or equipment problems must be brought to the attention of the appropriate band officer as soon as possible and also documented on the appropriate form ***immediately following the performance or practice in which the damage is discovered.*** Seasonal uniform accessories such as t-shirts, hats, guard jewelry or

similar items must be safely and securely maintained during the season or replacement cost will fall upon the student.

Students will be fined \$5.00 for any portion of their uniform or equipment that is not properly stored or returned following a performance or rehearsal. This includes garment bags and hangers before and after a performance. Due to limited facilities, the band room cannot be used for storage of personal items throughout the season. Students may also be fined for personal items not properly stored or not claimed in a timely manner. (See next page for a complete list of fines).

Drumline and Guard

The guard and drumline members are not only key to the overall success of the Marching Knights but are in every respect a specialized “ensemble” of their own. For this reason, there may be extra rehearsal requirements outside of the full ensemble time. These will be scheduled with group consensus to create as little conflict as possible but may require a sacrifice that is beyond that of other members. It should be noted that, due to the extra requirements and specialized instructions, *Drumline and Guard members are generally not able to participate in a fall sport and still fulfill the necessary practice and performance obligations.*

Your stewardship of God's blessings is valued and essential.

(1 Cor. 4:2)

Thank you for your help!

Students are responsible for the basic care and maintenance of all assigned equipment and season accessories, such as hats, shoes, T-shirts, guards, jewelry, etc. Damaged or lost items will be assessed according to replacement costs.

A fine system is utilized to help emphasize some of the most basic yet crucial policies and procedures aimed at protecting equipment and ensuring group effectiveness. Fines will be assessed as follows:

\$1 Fines:

- Unattended personal items (music, books, bags, instrument accessories, etc.)

\$5 Fines

- Uniform infractions (improper storage, care, reporting or maintenance)
- Instrument care infractions (improper storage, care, reporting or maintenance)
- Marching/personal shoes left in room.
- Unattended instruments out of defined storage areas
- Unlabeled instrument cases (personal or school). Instrument labels must include:

School

Name

Address

Phone Number

- **ALL FINES DOUBLE** if not paid within one week.



2024 Marching Knights Schedule

Please note that you should never assume a weather cancelation. Always verify through official group communication or as instructed by directors, captains, or your field commander.

May/June 2024 (Spring Camp)

School Day Rehearsal Schedule begins 8/20/24

Date	Time
May 24 (Friday)	3:30 pm – 6:30 pm
May 30 (Thursday)	1:30 pm – 6:00 pm (lunch on your own)
May 30 (Thursday)	<u>Parent Meeting</u> (Student Life Center at 5:00 pm)
May 31 (Friday)	1:00 pm – 5:00 pm (lunch on your own)
June 1 (Saturday)	8:00 am-5:00 pm

August 2024 (Summer Camp)

** A water bottle should be brought to every camp and school day rehearsal**

August 2024 (before school starts)		
Aug. 3 (Saturday)	LEADERSHIP CLINIC	Clinic for all section leaders and Band/Guard Leadership (time TBA)
Aug. 5-9 (Monday-Friday) 8:00am-5:30pm (bagged lunch)	SUMMER CAMP WEEK 1	Full Ensemble
Aug. 10 (Saturday)	AMUSEMENT PARK TRIP	(Departure time TBA / Admission included in band fee)
SUMMER CAMP WEEK 2 August 12-17 (Monday-Saturday)		
Band (Hornline)	Mon, Tues, Thurs	2:00-6:00pm (lunch on your own)
	Wed. (to allow for church activities)	2:00-5:30pm (lunch on your own)
	Friday	2:00-8:00pm (lunch on your own / bagged dinner needed)
Drumline/Guard (Times contingent upon instructor availability)	Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri	12:00-6:00pm (lunch on your own)
	Wed (to allow for church activities)	12:00-5:30pm (lunch on your own)
Full Ensemble	Friday	2:00-8:00pm (lunch on your own / bagged dinner needed)
	Saturday	8:00am-3:30pm (bagged lunch)

August 2024 (after school starts)

Aug. 20 (Tuesday)	Full Ensemble	All after-school rehearsals will take place on Wednesday evenings 3:30-5:30 pm, and Fridays 3:30-8:00 pm, when a game is not scheduled. When weather cooperates and group progress is exceptional, some rehearsals may be eliminated or shortened. Morning Rehearsals: Our goal is to have 2-3 rehearsals per week from 7:00am-7:45am every Tuesday, Thursday, OR Friday contingent upon Class Trips/Activities (4 are scheduled for the first week) Drumline and Guard will have additional rehearsals (TBD)
Aug. 23	Rehearsal or Football Game	3:30 pm*
Aug. 30	Rehearsal or Football Game	3:30 pm*
September 2024		
Sept. 6	Rehearsal or Football Game	3:30 pm*
Sept. 13	Rehearsal or Football Game	3:30 pm*
Sept. 20	No Rehearsal (class trips)	
Sept. 27	Rehearsal or Football Game	3:30 pm*
Sept. 28	Competition (Venue TBA)	3:30 pm*
October 2024		
Oct. 4	Rehearsal or Football Game	3:30 pm*
Oct. 5	Competition (Venue TBA)	
Oct. 11	Rehearsal or Football Game	3:30 pm*
Oct. 12	Competition (Venue TBA)	
Oct. 18	No Rehearsal	No School
Oct. 25	Rehearsal or Football/ Homecoming	3:30 pm*
Oct. 29, 31	Morning Parade Practice	7:00 am – 7:45 am
November 2024		
Nov. 13	No Afternoon Rehearsal (NCCSA)	
Nov. 5, 7, 12, 19, 21	Morning Parade Practice	7:00 am – 7:45 am <i>(Note: Drumline/Guard may have extra rehearsals and some November rehearsals may be eliminated for the horn line depending on progress)</i>
Nov. 6, 20	Wednesday Afternoon Parade Practices	3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Nov. 23	Raleigh Christmas Parade	Schedule TBA**

*See game/rehearsal schedule for details

**Band Members should not schedule any other activities on these days since these are major performances and final schedules are not posted until right before these events. Quite often, the band is expected to arrive at the school early and may not return until 11:00 pm (except for the Parade where we will be done by 4pm). Consider these FULL DAY events. It is imperative that seniors schedule their SAT and ACT tests accordingly around major performances.

Marching Knights Game/Rehearsal Day

Typical Game Schedule *(times approximate)*

3:30 pm	Afternoon Rehearsal/Video
5:00 pm	Break
5:15 pm	Pizza Provided (Band members provide dessert)
6:15 pm	Uniform inspection/Tuning/Lineup
6:45 pm	Pre-game Lineup at field
7:00 pm	Game Time

Balance of half time and 3rd quarter free. Follow the 3-2-1 rule: Three minutes on the clock left in the third quarter, head to the stands, two minutes on the clock, back in the stands readying instrument/equipment, and at one minute left on the clock, ***the band is ready to play!***

**Please remember that it is members only in the band section!*

Post-game: All uniforms must be neatly hung after the game and helmets wiped down and boxed. All uniforms and accessories must be checked in before leaving. Members just check out with a section leader or band captain before leaving. There will be a \$5 fine for uniform/procedure violations. Fines not paid within one week will be doubled.

Friday Night Rehearsals

3:30 pm	Afternoon Rehearsal/Video
5:15 pm	Break
5:30 pm	Pizza Provided (Band members provide dessert)
6:15-8:00 pm	Field Rehearsal

2024-25 SAT/ACT TESTING DATES

Dates subject to change by the administering authority

SAT Dates

- June 1, 2024 Reg. Due May 16
- August 24, 2024
- October 5, 2024
- November 2, 2024
- December 7, 2024
- March 8, 2025
- May 3, 2025
- June 7, 2025

ACT Dates

- June 8, 2024
- July 13, 2024
- September 14, 2024
- October 26, 2024
- December 14, 2024
- February 8, 2025
- April 5, 2025
- June 14, 2025
- July 12, 2025