Soddy Daisy HS Indoor Ensembles Handbook

Philosophy of the Soddy Daisy High School Indoor Ensembles:

The indoor activity is a vital part of the growth for the visual program within the SDHS music education department. It is also a primary means for each individual performer to grow as a young adult. Participation in performance organizations encourages initiative and leadership in the students. It stimulates goal-oriented thought processes, as well as creating an appreciation and respect for the efforts of others. Most of all this organization is designed to assist students to develop a sense of responsibility and respect for themselves, the organization, and in a broad sense, society.

Objectives of the Soddy Daisy Indoor Ensembles:

- ❑ To strive for excellence in every element of the organization.
- ❑ To promote a good social climate and working condition within the organization and music department.
- ❑ To develop a life-long appreciation for all types of performance art.
- ❑ To develop a performance group that is a source of pride for our students, the school, and the community.
- ❑ To perform at the highest possible level at all times
- ❑ And the most important objective of this activity is to help enhance the performers' self-confidence, so that when the season is over each member can say: "I met my personal goals, I did my best and I made a difference in something very special!"

Soddy Daisy Indoor Ensembles Staff:

Director – Joshua Light
Staff – Carrie Williams, Travis Williams, Michael Creasman

SDHS Indoor Ensembles Rehearsal Schedule:

A calendar will be provided with all rehearsal dates and times at the first rehearsal after auditions for each ensemble..
Additional Rehearsals are at the discretion of Director/Instructors and will be announced in advance.

Indoor Ensembles Fee:

$500 Fee (REQUIRED)
Student uniform will be provided (Students may be asked to purchase additional items to go with uniform)
Students will be asked to purchase shoes/undergarmets/makeup/etc to be able to fit the show theme from year to year.
All fees from Marching Season must be paid in full or arrangements must be made with the band director/treasurer to pay fees in full before a student is allowed to participate in auditions for the group.

THE INDOOR ENSEMBLES WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR TRANSPORTATION TO CONTESTS. WE WILL CARPOOL TO ALL COMPETITIONS TO SAVE ON TRANSPORTATION COSTS FOR ALL STUDENTS AND TO HELP PARENTS WHO CANNOT ATTEND

Auditions:

Auditions are open to any student at Soddy Daisy High School grades 9-12. Students who have never auditioned or been a part of the group may audition for the Indoor Ensembles. Students who have marched in the Indoor Ensembles before must have been a member of the fall marching band/color guard to be eligible to audition. Students who have scheduling conflicts with classes/sports prohibiting them from being in the fall marching band/color guard will be considered on an individual basis. Auditions are typically held in November/December of the year.

Attendance Policies:

First and foremost – Attendance is required for each rehearsal and every performance.

Rehearsal Attendance:

All rehearsals are mandatory.

- ❑ For necessary absences, excuses will be granted on an individual basis in **advance** of the rehearsal to be missed.
- ❑ If you are ill and stay home from school please have your parents notify Mr. Light of your situation during the school day, it is not acceptable to have another student inform the staff. It will be your responsibility to learn any missed equipment work or changes. We will not use rehearsal time to re-teach work. The band room number is 423-332-8828
- ❑ If you come to school on a rehearsal day, you are expected to be at rehearsal, no exceptions other than the following; **serious illness or hospitalization of the student, death in the family, religious holiday, or other reasons deemed excusable by the band director and winter guard director. (This must be approved prior to the rehearsal in question).**
- ❑ Employment will never be an excused absence.
- ❑ If you feel under the weather (minor illness) you are excepted to come to practice. It will not be mandatory for you to participate in all activities, but by being there you will not miss vital information or changes.
- ❑ Doctor and Dentist Appointments are to be scheduled around band rehearsal. If an appointment has been scheduled prior to the time the rehearsal schedule is received and can not be rescheduled, please notify the band director and the winter guard director before the first rehearsal.

Performance Attendance:

All performances are mandatory!

- ❑ If there is a performance date in which you have a conflict it must be discussed with the band director and indoor staff as soon as the conflict occurs.
- ❑ Absences from performances are only excused in the event of an extreme emergency: serious illness or hospitalization of the student or death in the family. In this situation please contact Mr. Light.

NOTE: An unexcused absence from a performance will result in automatic removal from the indoor organization.

These are very specific guidelines for Attendance, we only want people in this organization that are going to be 100% committed to the program. Please understand these requirements will be strictly enforced.

Conduct / Behavior Guidelines:

- ❑ All members are expected to follow the instructions of any teacher, staff member or chaperone *without question* unless said instruction is a violation of civil laws or moral standards.
- ❑ All school rules and policies are in effect at all band functions.
- ❑ Any member possessing or using any controlled substances, which include tobacco, drugs and alcohol, during any band function is subject to immediate removal from the organization, referral to the school authorities, and if applicable, the appropriate law enforcement agency.
- ❑ All members will travel by carpool with the unit leaving from the school. At contests, students will be released only to parents or guardians. All students must be signed out by the parent from the director/lead chaperone before they are able to leave. Please be aware of this policy it is for your protection as well as ours. Students will not be released until the director/instructor say the students are free to leave from the contest. Parents must then sign out their students through the indoor staff or appointed parent volunteer before that student is allowed to leave the contest site.

Indoor members are expected to use good judgement and respect for others at all times while representing the organization. Proper language should always be used, public displays of affection should be at a minimum, respect for others feelings should always take priority and all emotions are to stay in control whenever the unit is in the public eye (Happiness is the only emotion we share with others!)

Contest and Rehearsal Etiquette:

- ❑ Do not talk during another performance.
- ❑ Do not leave or enter the stadium during another performance.
- ❑ Never make fun of another unit, they practice just like you and they are doing their best, just like you!
- ❑ Always give your support for another unit- before the show starts, during their performance and after each performance. This is the place to make some friends that will last a lifetime.
- ❑ During warm-up times you must stay focused. Do not speak with your friends, just smile and make it clear that now is not a good time to talk. Getting your mind in the right place is the most important part of warm-up.
- ❑ Always be polite to the host school and chaperones. Clean up after yourself wherever you go and make sure to say thank you to anyone that helps you.
- ❑ Again, use your best judgement in every situation. If there is a problem go find a director or staff member immediately.
- ❑ Facilities must be kept clean at all times; this includes the guardroom. Make sure to clean up trash and be responsible with your equipment. All facility including guardroom must be cleaner than when we arrived.

Parents:

Parents are an important part of the Soddy Daisy High School Band Program, and have a vital role to play. Without the assistance and cooperation of Band/Guard parents, there would be no chance for the level of success we want the programs to reach. There are many things parents can do:

- ❑ Volunteer for parent committees. There are different tasks which we need your assistance, and everyone can find the niche that suits them best: Chaperone, uniforms, transportation, equipment handling, sewing, meals and publicity are just a few of the areas we need filled for this season alone.
- ❑ Assist your child by helping her be prepared and punctual for every rehearsal and performance.
- ❑ Notify the director if your child is to be late for performances or rehearsal. This should be done in advance unless in absolute emergency situations.
- ❑ Show your interest and support in your child's performance skills by enthusiastically attending every performance possible.
- ❑ Discuss with directors and staff anything that will help them understand and better serve your child.

Staff and Chaperones:

Everyone on the staff of the winter guard has been selected due to the skills and qualities they possess and for their benefit they can bring the band program, and should be considered an extension of the directors. They are to be treated with the highest level of courtesy and respect.

Chaperones are also extensions of the authority of the directors. Without the dedication of our chaperones and other adults that assist with the band, we could not travel or perform in the way we do. These people work hard, and the only payment they receive is our appreciation. Be respectful, polite, and cooperative and remember the words, "Thank You" cost you nothing but are highly valued by the recipient.

If you disagree with something a chaperone asks you to do, you are not to argue with the chaperone. You are to do as you are asked and then inform a director as soon as possible. This policy will be strictly enforced. (In the extremely unlikely event that a chaperone's instruction would cause you to violate civil law or moral standards, the student should ask to be taken by that chaperone to the director, immediately). If a chaperone has to report a student for being uncooperative or for any other reason, that student is subject to removal from the group.

Attitude:

Those who have positive attitude, regardless of their individual skills, will always have a place in the SDHS Winter guard. Regardless of your ability, if your attitude is not positive, if you are not doing your personal best to make the group successful, you should not be a part of this program. In fact, students who do not project an attitude that is positive and cooperative will be given the opportunity to change their personal perspective or else leave the organization. ***If you are not a team player you will not make the team.*** Those who have pride in themselves will generally project a positive attitude.

Characteristics of a positive attitude include a generally cheerful outlook towards rehearsals and performances, cooperation in the preparation and maintenance of equipment and facilities, and an eagerness to do what is necessary to be successful. In short, the ideal member is someone who is always willing to give his or her best for the good of the organization.

They said . . .

They gave me a flag, and I waved it,
They gave me a rifle but I did not shoot it, I spun it
They placed the saber in my hand and I threw it.
They asked me to dance, and I laughed.

They said I would have to practice long hours.
They said that my body would be sore and bruised.
They said they would scream and yell.
They said, "One more time" at least 25,000 times.

They said I would be able to do this impossible task.
They said I would learn to perform and learn the equipment work.
They said all this hard work would be worth it.
They said I had to follow ALL the rules.

They said I would make friends that would last a lifetime.
They said I would laugh so hard I would cry.
They said I would have a new self-confidence.
They said I would meet the goals I set.

They said this would be an experience of a lifetime…
***They** were right!* *- D. Gilbert*