



## 2024-2025 Member Informational Handbook

Directors:

Tyler Harris – [tylerr.harris@dcsms.org](mailto:tylerr.harris@dcsms.org)  
Joseph Quinnelly – [joseph.quinnelly@dcsms.org](mailto:joseph.quinnelly@dcsms.org)

Additional Instructors – Mason Hill, Jeremy Bahadirli, and Shelby Dorr

## **What is WGI?**

WGI Sport of the Arts is the world's premier organization producing indoor color guard and percussion ensemble competitions. As a non-profit youth organization, WGI serves as the leading governing body of the winter guard and indoor percussion activities. It is called Sport of the Arts because it brings music to life through performance in a competitive format. Each year, the activity continues to evolve and grow as it reaches and enhances the lives of more than 35,000 participants around the country.

*Please take some time and go to WGI's website.*

[www.wgi.org](http://www.wgi.org)



## **Where do we compete?**

Our indoor unit competes in a circuit, similar to a league in sports. While each circuit makes its own rules and has its own judges, they usually conform to those rules set by Winter Guard International (WGI). The circuit in which we participate is the Mississippi Indoor Association (MIA). MIA holds many competitions or "events" across the state of Mississippi. At the end of each season, MIA holds a circuit or state championship. This year, we will also compete in competitions hosted by WGI. We will conclude our competitive season at WGI World Championships in Dayton, OH.

*For more information about the Mississippi Indoor Association, please visit their website.*

[www.msindoor.org](http://www.msindoor.org)



### Who can participate?

The Hernando Indoor Percussion Program is open to all Hernando students in grades 9-12 who are members in good standing of a performing concert band. Placement priority will go to percussionists. We will fill additional spots with wind players who audition. Take note: all students must consider their current school band functions a **PRIORITY. This includes attendance at band rehearsals and performances in order to attend indoor practices and events.**

**\*\*\*All Band Fees Must Be Paid Up to Date\*\*\***

**\*\*\*A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required to participate\*\*\***

### Attendance Policies

Attendance at **ALL** rehearsals and performances is **MANDATORY** and is very important to every member of the group. Indoor Percussion is a co-curricular activity. Please understand that an absence from this activity has a direct effect on the **ENTIRE TEAM**.

**Emergency Absences** – These will be granted on a case-by-case basis (i.e. death in the family, personal illness etc.). In this case, please notify Mr. Harris or Mr. Quinnelly **IMMEDIATELY** via email or phone.

**Tardiness** – Students are expected to be ready to rehearse at the assigned rehearsal time. Tardiness **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**. We would like for your students to prepare for the real world, in which they will be asked to arrive for their job at least 10-15 min before their work begins.

**ALL Rehearsals and Performances are MANDATORY** – Any student who misses rehearsal, especially during the week of a performance, may or may not be allowed to perform on the upcoming weekend's performance. The student will still be **required to attend** the performance in full uniform. In the event of an **EMERGENCY**, if students need to miss rehearsal to accommodate a conflict, the directors must be notified **IMMEDIATELY**. **Due to the effect of a member missing a competition, this action could result in dismissal from the ensemble.** Every member's role in the ensemble is crucial to our success. Unlike a sports team where substitutes are available, all of our players start all of the time. We cannot rehearse or perform successfully to the ensemble's full potential without every member present. Should attendance become an issue, the staff reserves the right to remove you from the program.

### **Audition Process**

The Hernando Indoor Percussion audition is a three-day process. The schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>
  - Battery Audition Workshop – 3:00-4:00
- Monday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>
  - Front Ensemble Audition Workshop – 3:30-5:00
  - Battery Individual Audition – Starting at 3:30
- Tuesday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Front Ensemble Group Audition – 3:30-5:00
  - Battery Group Visual Audition – 3:30-5:00
- Thursday, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Front Ensemble Individual Audition – 3:30-5:00
  - Battery Group Musical Audition – 3:30-5:00

Placement decisions will be made by the directors and other members of the percussion staff. Placement priority will be given to percussionists, and remaining spots will be filled with wind players who audition for available positions. It is impossible for everyone who auditions to be placed on their first choice of instrument. Students are encouraged to trust the decisions of the percussion staff.

### **Practice Times**

Most weeks, we will rehearse on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 4:30-7:00. We will also rehearse on occasional Saturdays throughout the season. All Saturday rehearsals will be from 9:00-1:00 unless otherwise specified. There might be additional rehearsal time required during the season. A full calendar can be found with this packet as well as online at [hernandobands.com](http://hernandobands.com). Additional rehearsals will be announced at least one week in advance. Students will be required to move equipment before and after each rehearsal.

### **Behavior and Attitude**

As previously stated, in order for the ensemble to be successful, all members must be present for all rehearsals and events. Therefore, members of the program must avoid behavior and attitude issues in their classes that might affect their ability to participate. In addition, negative attitudes and inappropriate behaviors during indoor percussion rehearsals and events will negatively affect the success of the entire ensemble. Should behavior and attitude become an issue in any class, rehearsal, or at any event, the staff reserves the right to remove the student from the program.

### **Competition Schedule**

Saturday, February 1 – Olive Branch High School  
Saturday, February 22 – Collierville High School  
Saturday, March 1 – WGI Hot Springs Regional  
Saturday, March 8 – WGI Jackson Regional  
Friday, March 28 – Friends and Family Night at Hernando Middle  
Saturday, March 29 – MIA Circuit Championships in Oxford, MS  
Thursday-Saturday, April 10-12 – WGI World Championships in Dayton, OH

### **Financial Obligation**

The cost of participating in this year's Indoor Percussion group is \$900. These funds go to pay for many things for your student, i.e. costumes, percussion equipment, competition fees, travel expenses, and other materials. We strive to keep the fees as low as possible to allow as many students as possible to participate. Any new members are also required to purchase a jacket, and old members may purchase a new one if necessary. The cost of the jacket is \$50 in addition to the regular membership dues.

The price listed above is the total cost for the season. No other fees will be asked of the students other than a few meals on trips. There will be fundraising opportunities made available to the students throughout the coming months. We will also be selling sponsorships for the spring semester. Payment will be due all at once or on the payment schedule listed below. We are totally self-funded by member dues, so it is extremely important that all fees are paid on time.

Friday, October 4 - \$250  
Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> - \$250  
Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> - \$200  
Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> - \$200

Any student who might have difficulty paying these fees on time should contact Mr. Harris or Mr. Quinnelly immediately.

# Hernando Indoor Percussion Contract 2024-2025



I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print student name), hereby certify that I have read and understand the contents of this handbook. I recognize and fully understand the rules and regulations by which I may participate, and I will abide by the rules set forth by this handbook to insure a safe and successful Indoor Percussion season. I accept the condition that my commitment will create a position specifically designed for me in the 2025 show. I therefore enter into this contract in good faith that I will fulfill the entire duration of the competition season. I do not enter into this contract carelessly or superficially, but with sincere **commitment, dedication, and integrity.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print parent name), hereby certify that I have read and understand the contents of this handbook. I recognize and understand the rules and regulations by which my child may participate, and I acknowledge that he/she will abide by the rules set forth by this handbook. I understand that if for some reason my student does not finish the season, there will be **NO REFUND** of fees.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date