HERNANDO INDOOR PERCUSSION

2025-2026 Member Informational Handbook

Directors:
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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, percussion, and winds competitions. As a non-profit youth organization, WGI serves as the leading governing body of the winter guard, indoor percussion, and indoor winds 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 to view and explore WGI's website.
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 the rules set by Winter Guard International (WGI). The circuit in which we participate is the Mississippi Indoor Association (MIA). MIA holds many competitions or "shows" across the state of Mississippi. At the end of each season, MIA holds a circuit championship. In addition to MIA shows, we 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

Who can participate?

Hernando Indoor Percussion 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 percussion 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 and 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 the students to prepare for the real world, in which they will be asked to arrive for their job at least 10-15 minutes before their work begins.

ALL Rehearsals and performances are MANDATORY - Any students 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 group 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 any student from the program.

Audition Process

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

- Tuesday, Nov. 18th
    - Battery Individual Audition - Starting at 3:15
    - Front Ensemble Group Audition - 3:15-4:45

- Thursday, Nov. 20th
    - Battery Group Audition - 3:15-4:45
    - Front Ensemble Individual Audition - starting at 3:15

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 online at hernandobands.com on the Percussion page. 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/or 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 21 - MIA Olive Branch

Saturday, February 28 - WGI Madison, AL

Saturday, March 14 - WGI Jackson (DURING SPRING BREAK)

Saturday, March 21 - MIA Center Hill

Thursday, April 2 - Friends and Family Night

Friday, April 3 - MIA Circuit Championships in Oxford, MS

Thursday-Saturday, April 16-18 - 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 the students, 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 $60 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, November 18 - $300
Tuesday, December 16 - $300
Friday, January 16 - $300

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

Hernando Indoor Percussion Contract 2025-2026

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 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.

_____ _____

Student Signature Date