



## **REHEARSAL HANDBOOK (2021)**

### **Field Organization & Expectations:**

- Performing members will organize themselves and their equipment by sections on the Front Sideline outside the 40 yard lines. All instruments, water jugs, and personal belongings (personal materials organized in a backpack) will be organized in "stacks" for uniformity.
- When rehearsing on concrete students will either "stack" their instruments in cases or place them on towels in a uniformed manner.
- All members will bring and use their Pelham Bands issued Water Jug.
- All members will have and use their Ultimate Dot Book for the entire duration of all rehearsals.
- All members will have their music with them on the sideline.
- All brass players will use black gloves at all times.
- Cell phones will be kept on the sideline or in the band hall and will not be brought onto the rehearsal field.
- All members will run to the sideline when a break is given and will run back to the rehearsal field when the break is over.
- When a Director or Instructor calls out a member or section they will raise their hand to signify that they are listening. When a section or member is asked a question they will provide feedback or affirmation of understanding.
- Field 1: Parking Lot Rehearsal Field (Asphalt)
- Field 2: Football Stadium Performance Field (Turf)
- Field 3: Baseball Outfield (Grass)

## **Rehearsal Sequence:**

### **• Step 1: DM Command: "SET"**

- This command is given in order to gain the attention of the members. Band members bring their equipment directly to performance position. The tower gives the instructions for the repetition, and the DM repeats those instructions. There should be no talking by members or staff after the "set."

### **• Step 2: DM command: "Minus One"**

- At this point the membership places their feet into the final count of previous drill movement they are about to practice. This is done to achieve the transition into the excerpt being rehearsed. The band proper will set their minus one foot into the step size and path of the previous set. Their foot that is in the final count will establish their direction change. For winds the direction change is halfway from where they are coming to where they are going unless otherwise defined. The drums in most cases will establish their final count as parallel to the yard line unless otherwise defined. If the set is defined as foot on dot then the band proper will place their anklebone from their final count on their coordinate. If the set is defined as center of body then the band proper should have their sternum over their coordinate. The colour guard should go to their final count of the previous set. This will always be different for them as their choreography is always different.

### **• Step 3: DM begins repetition.**

- The DM points to the person operating the metronome. The repetition begins after two measures of beats (in most cases), the last measure of which are conducted by the DM. If the repetition begins at the start of a movement, the DM begins without the use of the metronome.

### **• Step 4: Repetition Ends, DM Command: "Check" & "Adjust"**

- The band members finish each repetition with holding their last note and with their feet in "plus one" position. The DM cuts off of the last note and then says, "Check." At this time all members on the field go to minus one and use their eyes to look at the shape they finished the phrase in. The DM says, "adjust" and the members turn their heads to look at the shape and dot dot, if there is one, and adjust the shape if needed and return to a performance perspective. Performance perspective is defined, as having your head in the position as it would be at that point of the show. At this point the members take a mental snapshot of the shape they are in so they may learn what it "looks like" to be in the show.

### **• Step 5: Repetition Ends, DM Command: "STAND-BY"**

- The DM then says "STAND BY." At that time all members on the field direct their attention to the tower for instructions. Guard members should not spin or toss from this time until the tower gives the "FIELD" command.

### **• Step 6: Tower presents information to members.**

- This means all talking on the field (including both staff and members) must stop, and all focus should go to the instructors on the tower. All field techs should face the tower when information and instructions are given.

### **• Step 7: Tower Command: "FIELD"**

- After instruction from staff on tower, tower will then command field staff to make corrections from the field. During this time, members can also fix any mistake they made in the previous repetition, step off their dot, and

guard members can spin and toss. If there is no field time at the end of a repetition, move immediately to the next step.

- Short Field: 20 seconds with no metronome
- Long Field: 3-4 minutes with metronome

- **Step 8: Tower gives the members instructions for next repetition.**

- After information and/or field time has concluded, instructors on tower provide the instructions for the next repetition, **referencing only set numbers.** Again, all field techs should face the tower when information and instructions are given.

- **Step 9: Tower or DM command: "RESET"**

- If the tower does not designate field time, they can command, "RESET" after completing Step 6. Membership will **run** to the requested position on the field at the end of each repetition.

## **Staff Responsibilities (Rehearsals):**

- **Music Director:**

- Music Director: Mr. Ward
- Responsibilities: Leads ensemble rehearsal and dictates pacing in all music and ensemble rehearsals. Focuses on the progress of the ensemble as it relates to the rehearsal goals.
- Placement: Tower/Box

- **Caption Head(s):**

- Music: Mr. Henson
- Visual: Mr. Ward
- Percussion (Battery): Mr. Flum
- Percussion (Front Ensemble): Mr. Davis
- Color Guard: Ms. Fisher
- Dance: Ms. Lopresti
- Responsibilities: Oversees and supervises their large section. Responsible for all aspects of the musical and visual performance of their section. Oversee the Instructors/Techs assigned to their sections. In ensemble rehearsal, make comments when Music Director says "FIELD."
- Placement: Field/Tower/Box (should not exclusively be in one place)

- **Instructors/Techs:**

- Responsibilities: Techs all aspects on an individual level of the small section assignment. Focus and correct all visual errors relative to posture, technique, drill positions, and musical performance.
- Placement: Field