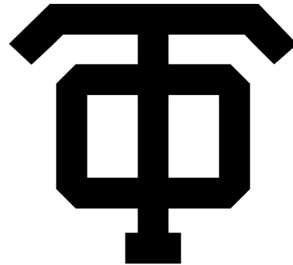


THOUSAND OAKS HIGH SCHOOL COLOR GUARD



2023 – 2024 MEMBER INFORMATION

Congratulations! You've taken the first step to becoming a member of the TOHS Color Guard for the 2023-2024 school year. We're happy to welcome you into our band family and look forward to a fun and exciting journey.

The TOHS Color Guard program is open to all genders from all grade levels. No prior experience is necessary.

Next Steps:

Go to tohsband.org and complete the Color Guard Member Application (use the dropdown menu under Performance Groups.)

Once we receive your information, you'll receive an email explaining our audition process. Don't be shy about your lack of experience, or worry about whether you can do this. If you have a normal level of coordination, a positive attitude and a willingness to work and learn new skills, you'll be fine. We can teach you everything you need to know. Always feel free to ask questions.

Questions

For administrative questions (money/forms/etc.) email tohsband@conejousd.org.

For participation questions (practices/equipment/etc.) email jpaul@conejousd.org.

Expectations (What am I getting into?):

Grades

Color Guard members are required to maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA at all times. 2 quarters of ineligibility will put your membership at risk. One of the great lessons you'll learn here is time management. It CAN be done!

Attendance

The single most important thing that color guard members can do to ensure the team's success is to attend all rehearsals and performances. This is a team sport unlike most others – everyone plays every game. No one sits on the bench. If you miss a rehearsal you hold the team back.

Color Guard is a class period in the school day. In the fall, you will also be enrolled in the Marching Band class. This replaces your P.E. class. More information about our practice schedule is available below.

All anticipated absences must be communicated, in writing, **as soon as you are aware of the conflict**. Forms are available in the band office and at tohsband.org.

If you miss a rehearsal, for any reason, YOU are responsible to learn whatever material you missed AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. DO NOT wait for someone else to figure out what you need to learn. **Ask.**

Attitude

The other critical component to your success and the team's success is maintaining a positive attitude. We have a lot of fun and there are many benefits. But it's also a lot of work. If you're positive, enthusiastic and willing to try we can do great things.

Schedule:

A detailed calendar of all rehearsals and performances is normally available at tohsband.org.

Summer Rehearsals

June Camp: June 19 & 20, 8:00am–4:00pm

Every Tuesday & Thursday from July 6 through August 3, 2:00pm – 5:00pm

We understand that you may have summer travel plans. This is not a problem as long as you communicate your absences in advance. Email jpaul@conejousd.org.

If you're in town, you're expected to attend all rehearsals.

Band Camp

Band camp is when we learn a very large portion of the fall show and participation is mandatory. If you have unavoidable conflicts, we'll need to discuss that on case-by-case basis.

Band Camp will run Monday Through Friday from August 7 – 18. Times and other details will be available on the band website.

Regular Fall-Season Schedule

The color guard will meet regularly during our class period. There are also several rehearsals a week outside the school day. The fall schedule is still being developed to accommodate the new bell schedule. Details will be available soon.

Performances

The color guard performs with the band at home football games and several Saturday field competitions. See the band calendar for details.

An updated spring/winter schedule will be distributed in the fall.

Guard Gear:

Most equipment, costumes, etc. are provided by the program. There are a few items we ask students to provide – shoes, gloves, etc. You can find and order these items at tohsband.org > News & Info > Band Web Store. If you are unable or choose not to purchase required items, loaners are available. (These will likely be used and must be returned after use.) We do not provide loaners for optional items.

Money:

The TOHS Band/Color Guard programs are largely parent-funded. All monetary contributions are voluntary and no student will be denied participation because of an inability to pay.

We have an active Booster Club that engages in fundraising throughout the year. All families are asked to participate in, and support these efforts.

More detailed financial information will be provided by the Band Director and Booster Club members. The date and format of that meeting is TBD.

What Now?

Once you've been accepted, there are a few things you'll need to do.

- Make sure that you're enrolled in the Color Guard class.
- Complete the packet of member forms. (Provided by the band office.)
- Watch for updates about summer rehearsals and band camp.
- You'll be contacted by our guard captains who can answer questions. They'll also be arranging some social "getting to know you" activities.

Questions

For administrative questions (money/forms/etc.) email tohsband@conejousd.org.

For participation questions (practices/equipment/etc.) email jpaul@conejousd.org.

Rehearsal Etiquette

Attire

Appropriate rehearsal attire is athletic clothing. Gym shorts, leggings, track pants, sweatpants, are to be dark (black, gray, navy, etc.). T-shirts are to be white (the coolest color to wear outside in the sun). Clothing should not be overly baggy as this can interfere with movement and equipment handling. Shoes should be good-quality low-top athletic shoes.

At various times we will rehearse both indoors and outside. You should be prepared for all potential conditions. Check the weather.

Preparation

Be on time and have everything you need ready to go at the beginning of rehearsal.
(If you don't know – BRING IT. It's better to be over-prepared than not have something you need.)

Make sure that you know all material that has been previously taught.

You should always bring a bottle or cooler of water. Weather can be hot at times and you will exert yourself physically. Don't let yourself become dehydrated.

Hair is to always be pulled back out of your face.

NO gum chewing. • **NO** cell phones during rehearsal.

If you need to leave rehearsal for any reason, check with the instructor before you leave.

If your parents need to pick you up before the end of rehearsal on a school day, a written excuse from your parent is required. (Email is acceptable.)

Pay attention and listen carefully to all instructions. Even if you already know what's being covered, don't create distractions for others.

Other Stuff:

Equipment

All equipment will be provided to you. Equipment remains the property of the program and is to be maintained and treated with care while in your possession. All equipment is to be returned in good condition.

Equipment will be labeled and issued to each individual member. You are responsible for the equipment issued to you and need to have it at each rehearsal. You are not to use someone else's equipment or take equipment from the room that has not been issued to you.

Costumes

Performance costumes will be provided for you each season. These are loaned to you and are to be returned in good condition at the end of each season.

Other items, such as shoes, gloves and accessories may be purchased by members. These are, of course, yours to keep. Information will be provided each season as to specific items needed. If you choose not to purchase these items, they will be provided as loaners and must be returned.

The Guard Room

The guard storage room ("The Cage") is for the storage of guard equipment. It's a small space and many people need to access it. It is not a lunchroom, dressing room, hangout room, cell phone charging station, or your personal storage facility.

Your guard equipment is to be stored in your assigned cubby.

During rehearsal you may temporarily store personal belongings **in a backpack or duffel bag**.

Personal, non-color-guard-related belongings are not to be left in the room overnight. Take your stuff home or use your school-issued locker.